



August 2024

Dear Friends of UCP Heartland,

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer and for those that have kids, that the school year has been a smooth transition. UCP Heartland just completed the Fiscal Year (FY24) at the end of June. I think it is important to share with all of you the incredible impact this organization has made on the lives of children, adults, and families in St. Louis and Central Missouri. I specifically want to thank our 270 employees for their commitment and dedication to our mission and the people they support on a daily basis.

Our Autism Program has made significant strides in supporting the development of 38 children, each making notable communication gains. Remarkably, two children who were previously non-verbal, are now effectively using communication devices, while another has progressed from making single-word requests to forming three-word sentences. Additionally, through the application of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, three children have become fully potty trained, and two others have successfully integrated into regular classroom settings with their peers.



We are thrilled to announce the opening of our new South space in St. Louis! This exciting expansion complements our existing locations, where we successfully served 73 clients in St. Louis and 48 clients in Jefferson City during FY24. Looking ahead, we have set ambitious goals to serve 68 clients at CSN, 25 clients at CSS, and 54 clients in Jefferson City next year. Our dedicated team is actively building partnerships within the community, including collaborations with Kemp Lake to enhance our services.

The Child Development Center is bustling with activity and growth. This year, we proudly celebrated the graduation of seven preschoolers who are fully prepared for kindergarten. As we look ahead, our team is diligently preparing for the upcoming accreditation survey by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), ensuring we meet the highest standards of early childhood education. This space is also in the midst of facility upgrades, which will be completed soon. We are looking forward to seeing fresh paint, new flooring, lights, and cabinetry.





Year after year, the Employment team continues to build and grow, showcasing remarkable achievements. In St. Louis, they received an impressive 95 referrals, leading to 73 clients successfully obtaining employment. In Jefferson City, they received 28 referrals and enabled 14 clients to secure jobs. In addition to their daily efforts, the Employment Services team also provided 64 high school students with invaluable summer work experiences, contributing to the community and fostering the next generation of the economic workforce.

This year has been a remarkable period of growth and positive change for our organization. We proudly served 28 residential clients across 15 different locations. Notably, we assisted six existing clients in relocating to better, safer, and more affordable homes. Additionally, in the last quarter of FY24, we welcomed six new clients into the UCP Heartland family, expanding our reach and impact. Looking ahead to FY25, our plans are to fill two current vacancies and establish another home by Winter 2025, continuing our mission to provide safe and supportive living environments.



This past year, Oak Tree proudly served 74 individuals, demonstrating its commitment to supporting those in need. Among these, 7 were clients requiring emergency placement. Oak Tree remains a beacon of hope and support, offering a unique and rewarding experience for volunteers who wish to engage with our mission firsthand. Volunteering at Oak Tree not only allows you to make a meaningful impact but also provides a deeper understanding of our dedication to caring for and empowering individuals in need.

This year, our Service Navigator team has made a significant impact, assisting 337 individuals with a successful closure rate of 81%. Through our Independence Through Technology (ITT) program, we served 29 clients, enhancing their quality of life with essential modifications and equipment. We invested \$116,395 in home modifications, vehicle adaptations, adaptive equipment, and assistive technology, demonstrating our commitment to fostering independence and accessibility for those in need.



Our Youth Camps are vibrant hubs of friendship, fun, games, and community exploration, designed to create unforgettable experiences for young participants. This summer, we proudly hosted camps in St. Louis, Columbia, and Jefferson City, bringing joy and learning to a diverse group of children. In St. Louis, we served 36 enthusiastic kids, while Columbia welcomed 25 eager campers, and Jefferson City hosted 12 bright young minds. Each location offered a unique blend of activities, fostering a sense of camaraderie and adventure.

This could not have happened without the support of all of you and our communities. This year 748 donors invested over \$2.2 million in philanthropic support to help UCP Heartland and our staff reach 1,150 individuals and make this kind of impact. We are grateful!!!

2024 St. Louis Wing Ding

I want to say thank you to everyone who sponsored, bought a ticket, volunteered, judged WINGS, donated raffle items, and most importantly showed up to this year's St. Louis Wing Ding! Below is a quick snapshot of the incredible results. UCP Heartland raised \$20,000 more than last year and \$13,000 more than our biggest year to date! Thank you to the internal Development Team for their efforts in making this a wonderful evening for all.

14TH ANNUAL WING DING BY THE NUMBERS



Thank you for your support and interest in UCP Heartland. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the organization.

All the best,
Clint