Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc.
Impact Report 2016-17
No Place Like Home

extraordinary people, extraordinary programs
Your compassion made it possible

Fiscal year 2016-17 was a busy and exciting time for our agency. We welcomed new residents, opened a new community home in Girard, and experienced growth in our Options and MOVE programs. Project First Step helped more mothers deliver healthy babies and more families provide healthy home environments. Our focus is always on the care and enrichment of those we serve, so these positive developments are never just numbers to us. They are the faces of individuals who have received the support they need to thrive.

Our agency strives to provide exceptional services for individuals with all levels of intellectual disabilities. This diversity includes those who require great attention, specialized equipment and 24-hour nursing. It is our exceptional care for this group, our residents with complex medical conditions, for which EHCA is recognized throughout Pennsylvania.

Over the past 30 years, the state has transitioned from a centralized model of care to the community residence model we enjoy today. We have witnessed firsthand the positive impact of neighborhood homes on our residents’ quality of life as well as the increased acceptance of people with disabilities in our communities. Our residents needing advanced medical services still live at our main facility, a 90-year-old building that no longer provides optimal space and the modern features these individuals deserve. In addition, there are people on the state waiting list who need this level of skilled care EHCA provides.

EHCA initiated a project to build four new community homes equipped to care for residents with complex medical conditions. In February, we kicked off a capital campaign to raise funds for this building project. Along with some other prospective revenue sources, we now have the means to open new and contemporary homes to those who need them most.

The generous outpouring of community support for our individuals has been outstanding!

Your compassion, commitment, and generosity helped make all of this possible. The best way we can thank you is to continue exceeding expectations so that the intention of your caring shines on every individual we serve.

Charles R. Walczak, MBA, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

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Erie Homes for Children & Adults, Inc. (EHCA)
226 East 27th Street
Erie, PA 16504
Phone (814) 454-1534
Fax (814) 452-6723
www.ehca.org
EHCA announces Capital Campaign to build homes for individuals with intellectual disabilities and complex medical conditions

EHCA kicked off the Hope, Compassion and Possibilities Capital Campaign in February 2017 to build four homes for individuals with intellectual disabilities who also have complex medical conditions. The homes will offer full nursing care and advanced medical equipment while maintaining a safe, warm, and welcoming community home atmosphere. Once completed, the project will provide a place to call home for as many as 24 individuals.

“The project calls for building four community homes at a total cost of nearly $5 million,” said Edwin Smith, Esq., co-chair of the campaign with Ann Halupczynski. “Each home will be fully equipped to meet the medical needs of the residents. Our campaign goal is $1.5 million, slightly higher than the cost of one community home. EHCA is one of the few agencies in the state—and the only one in Northwest PA—that specializes in providing this level of medical care for people with intellectual disabilities.”

Charles Walczak, EHCA’s CEO, described two critical challenges driving the decision to initiate the project. “First, there are many people in our region on the state waiting list for services, so the need is very real,” he said. “Second, we are required to meet the state’s Community Rule, which sets the standard for integrating people with intellectual disabilities in their communities. Our goal is to exceed these standards for our current residents and provide additional capacity to address those on the waiting list.”

Because the state provides only 2.5% toward the cost of building new community homes, EHCA knew it needed to look to the Erie community and the NWPA region to help fund the project. As of June 30, 2017, dozens of individuals, corporations and foundations had pledged or donated to the campaign. This is the largest campaign goal in EHCA’s 105-year history.
2018 Management Team

Charles Walczak, MBA, FACHE  
Chief Executive Officer

Shannon Weber  
Chief Financial Officer

Peg Smith-Rich  
Senior Vice President

Jonathan Rilling  
Vice President of Marketing, Advancement & Communications

Debra Niland  
MOVE Director

Tina Ferraro  
Project First Step Director

Valerie Benjamin  
Director of In-Home Waiver Services

Veronica Wygant, RN  
Director of Nursing

Renee Newberry, RN  
Director of Nursing

Marcia Nitzczynski  
Director of Residential Services & Admissions

Kara Carone  
Director of Residential/Program Services

Melissa Love  
Director of Life Sharing & Crawford County Options

88 cents of every dollar spent went directly to programs.

Revenue, Gains, and Other Support

EHCA Foundation, Inc.

Revenue and Support

Program Revenue $ 20,748,153
Contributions from EHCA Foundation 30,364
Total revenue and support $ 20,778,517

Expenses

Program expenses $ 18,251,715
General & administrative 2,268,976
Total expenses $ 20,520,691

Change in Net Assets $ 257,826
Net Assets, Beginning of Year 3,538,860
Net Assets, End of Year $ 3,796,686

Revenue, Gains, and Other Support

Contributions and grants $ 1,943,678
Investment return 551,196
Fundraising, net of expenses 31,020
Rental income, net of expenses 6,403
Total revenue $ 2,532,297

Expenses

Program $ 123,213
General and administrative 27,586
Fundraising 201,823
Total expenses $ 352,622

Change in Net Assets $ 2,179,675
Net Assets, Beginning of Year 5,584,194
Net Assets, End of Year $ 7,763,869
This year shines extra brightly because of you.

As we look at the past fiscal year, I would like to ask you to reflect with me on the momentous events that have occurred for this agency. First and foremost must be acknowledging a Capital Campaign that will change and grow EHCA in ways that we have not seen before. By this time next year, at least two state of the art, medically equipped homes will be open and operating in the greater Erie area. Construction on two more homes will have either begun or be in the planning stages. All four projects represent this agency’s commitment to providing the best quality care for our folks in a warm and home-like setting.

The accomplishments do not end there, though. In May, EHCA welcomed its friends and benefactors to a very successful Spring Event at the Sheraton Bayfront. On August 9, we broke all previous EHCA records for donations on Erie Gives Day. On September 10, our third Victory Ride motorcycle rally was our best attended and most successful to date. There were also countless other acts of kindness and generosity given to our folks over the past year. And the common denominator in all of these accomplishments? That would be you, our generous supporters, who donated time, effort, and treasure to our mission. This year shines extra brightly because of you.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank all of you for what you’ve accomplished and for what we’ve accomplished because of you. We can all look forward to the year ahead as together we continue to make life a little better for the individuals we serve. In doing so, we will provide them with the rich and fulfilling lives that our mission calls for. Thank you for joining us in that journey.

Jerry Cannon
Board President

Home. The word sparks emotions that are both uniquely personal and universal. Home represents welcome, acceptance, security, and memories. It is a vital “H” in EHCA’s name and the focus of your generous support for our Hope, Compassion and Possibilities Capital Campaign.

By joining us in this undertaking, you have become a compassionate caregiver for those who cannot care for themselves. The new houses will be true homes where each individual receives exceptional services and creative opportunities for enrichment and community involvement. You are helping the people we serve to live with purpose and dignity in a place they will know as home. Thank you!
A year of new faces, new places, new opportunities

Some of the best work we do at EHCA cannot be measured or quantified: the warm smiles, the kind words, the helping hands, the shared laughter. Yet it is vital to take stock of what is measurable in order to document the footprints we left behind. Those are the relentless steps taken by many people—including you—that led us to where we are today.

**Programs and activities**

- Served 527 individuals and families
- 102 individuals served in residential program
- 165 mothers, infants, children, and families served by Project First Step
- 40 percent growth in our MOVE adult day program
- 241 individuals and their families served by the community-based Options program
- Added three new clients and two new providers to Life Sharing, placing individuals needing supervised living with families willing to share their homes and provide care
- Project First Step staff completed training to help mothers quit smoking and stay smoke free
- Opened a new community home in Girard
- Garden mural at main facility created by MOVE participants and art instructor Julia Horan
- Day camp, volunteering, exploring, sports events, holiday parties, art classes, crafts, and dances
- Special activities sponsored by Erie Elks, UPS, Wegmans, Young Women’s Leadership Committee, & Fairview HS boys’ basketball team

**Growth and support**

- Initiated a capital campaign to build homes for residents with complex medical conditions
- Developed strategic plans for all programs
- Increased education for DSPs in Options
- Reorganization of nursing department
- Implemented Community Participation service for Options and MOVE programs
- Enhanced medication procedures
- Implementation of PA Office of Developmental Programs system changes
- Joined with Eagle’s Nest Leadership Corp. to train area youth and employ them as DSPs
- Provided opportunities for recognition, outdoor recreation, social gatherings, and contests as part of the Best Place to Work initiative
- Annual Appeal, Victory Ride, THE Spring Event, and Highmark Walk for a Health Community benefitted the capital campaign

Assisting people with disabilities to love rich and fulfilling lives
There can be no greater gift than that of giving one’s time and energy to help others without expecting anything in return.

—Nelson Mandela

Whether you wrote a check, donated a prize, sponsored an event, or honored a loved one’s memory, you made a difference in the lives of people with disabilities. Because of you, EHCA was able to provide superior services and enriching community opportunities for the individuals placed in our care.
LECOM Medical Fitness/Wellness Center
Danielle Lee
Charla Leemhuis
Bill Lillis, Jr
Mary & Howard Lincoln
Stephen Lind
Brian Lindberg
Alexandra Linde
The Eve Joy Link Bequest
The Lino Family
Betty Lloyd
Sviatlana Locanto
Dana Lock-Bianchi
Vera Logvina-Sizov
Paul & Gretchen Lorei
Robert & Carrie Lowther
Loyal Order of the Moose #84
Rita Lutz

Gerrie Marz
Cheri Mason
Ellen & Mark Masteller
Pat & Judy Mastrian
Shawn Matson
Max & Erma’s Restaurant
Sherry Maxwell
Barb & Kevin Mazon
Josh & Olivia McCaslin
Frances McCormick
Rich & Karin McCormick
Michael McDonald
Jean McKeen
Laquasia McLaurin
Veronica McWilliams-Wygant
Jamie Mead
Clemence Mershon
Leah Merski
Pamela Michalegko
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi
Adam Michalegko-Wolf
Mill Creek Coffee Co.
Docia Hickey & Fred Miller
Gloria E. Miller
Dr. & Mrs. Forrest C. Mischler
Lisa Mitchell
Tammie Mitchell
Janet Minzenberger
Rachel Monney
Reykwona Morgan
Colton Morosky
Caraeensha Morris
Rebecca Morrison
Carolyn & James Mraz
Jillian Mrozowski
Mary Nagy
National Fuel Gas Dist. Corp.
LaMar Neal, PsyD
Joseph Nedreski
Marcia Nitzynski
North Apt Residents
Northshore Insurance Agency
Victoria Norvaisa
Nuova Aurora Society
Diane & Mark Okel
Mr. & Mrs. David Olszewski
Margaret Olszewski
Once Upon a Child
Sarah O’Neill
Elizabeth Orzel
Elizabeth Otero
Susan Ottaway
Jeff Ottney
John & Angela Otto
Taylor Palowski
Papa John’s Pizza
Christine M. Parker
Joseph Parker
Susan Parry
Brenda Pasko
Passavant Development Corp.
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Pellegrino
Pepsi of Erie, Inc.
Perry Mill Supply Associates
Dazzle Peterson
Kim Pettry
Gus & Mary Picardo
Pilewski Plumbing
John & Kim Pilewski
The Pittsburgh Inn
Michael Plyler
Timothy Plyler
PNC Foundation NWPA
Paul & Elizabeth Poland
Polish National Alliance #2031
Barbara R. Pollock
Jason Porreco & Bianchi Honda
Jeremy Powers
Judy Pratt
Precision Finishes
Premier Conduit
Presogna and Company, P.C.
Susan Presogna-Contino
Larry & Chris Proper
QVC Studio Park
Ivan Rad
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen T. Radack III
Shelby Ramey
Raymond Ct. Home Residents
Redeemed Christian Church of God
Marilyn Reiser
Barb Renker
Peg & Mike Rich
Ridge Policy Group LLC
Gloria Rigazzi
Jonathan Rilling
Natesha Roberts
Michelle M. Robertson
Rock to the Rescue
Rockwood Home Residents
Emily Rodland & Kyra Stanyard
Jack & Jerry Rosenberg
Richard & Hope Ruedy
Russian CYS Club
Jack & Diane Ruth
Stephen & Betty Rutishauser
Sherry Ryan
Dr. Ravi & Shellie Sabherwal
April Sampson
Sam’s Club - Erie
Sourpuss Clothing
Joseph & Rhonda Schember
Rebecca Schember
The Schomaker Family
Bob & Peg Schreckengost
Linda Schumaker
Betsy Schuster
Scott Electric
Carolyne Sennett
Andrew Severo
Colleen Shaffer
Mrs. Greta R. Shaffer
Susanne Shallenberger
Shambaugh Christian Church of God
Shapira, Hutzelman, Berlin, Ely, Smith & Walsh
Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel
The Sheridan Family
Shelly Sheridan
Karen M. Shrum
Derek Simmons
Shiqueta Simmons
Skyline Home Residents
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald F. Slomski
Slovak National Club
Attorney Ed & Jennifer Smith
Eugene Smith
Leroy & Karen Smith
Smuggler’s Wharf
Tammy Snyder-McElravy

MacDonald, Illig, Jones & Britton
Nancy Madara
Bill & Barb Makarowski
Maleno Developers, Inc.
Caroline Manino
Michael Marchini
Thomas Marinack
Marquette Savings Bank
Marshall’s
Michael P. Martin

Tammy Snyder-McElravy
Tributes
In Honor
In honor of Jerry Cannon
Nicole Cannon
In honor of Dr. Garcia
Saint Vincent Hospital-Allegheny Health Network
In honor of Christine Hushon
David Hushon
In honor of Joan & Vince Jaskiewicz
Mary Ellen Brice
In honor of Kathi Jaskiewicz
Don & Toni Kleps
In honor of the Jaskiewicz Family
Fraz & Bernadette Zimmerman
In honor of Amber Leasure
John & Joyce Woge
In honor of Ashley Sheridan
The Sheridan Family
Renée Uht
In honor of Kory Swantek
Dr. Leo & Linda Swantek
In honor of Carter White’s 1st birthday
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi

In Memory
In memory of Louis Balducci
Loretta Baranski
In memory of Nellie Beardsley
Susan Ottaway
In memory of Helen Bellingham
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi
In memory of Christine Berdis
James Gorski
James & Sharon Martin
Albert & Kathleen Mastantuono
Mr. Albert Mielnik
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mielnik, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Mielnik, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Miller
Marcia Nitzcynski
Process and Data Automation
In memory of Philip Boboshko
Arthur & Lucy Kurekice
In memory of John D. Capozziello
Vince & Joan Jaskiewicz
In memory of LaVerne Capozziello
Vince & Joan Jaskiewicz
In memory of David Chaffee
Vince & Joan Jaskiewicz
In memory of Samuel (Butch) DeFazio
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi
In memory of Luisa Didkiewicz
Marcia Nitzcynski
In memory of Patricia Folderoff
Northwest Savings Bank Employees
In memory of Victor Gallagher
Bob & Angela Leasure
In memory of Ronald Gray
Bobbi Jo Fye
Gannon University-Dahlkemper School of Business
Suzanne Hawryliw
In memory of Melanie Hall
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi
In memory of Kalman Horvath, Jr
Paula Michalegko & Chuck Guagliardi
In memory of Barbara Hushon
David Hushon
In memory of Anita Jaskiewicz and Matthew Jaskiewicz
Vince & Joan Jaskiewicz
In memory of Kathi Jaskiewicz
John & Carol Alberstadt
Maxine & Ted Bennett
Leo & Teresa Brugger
Tim & Laurie Brugger
John & LaVerne Capozziello
Paul & Karen Carpenedo
Susan Cermak
Thomas & Barbara Chrosiclewski
David & Barbara Double
No Place
Like Home

Seeing Possibilities, Not Disabilities