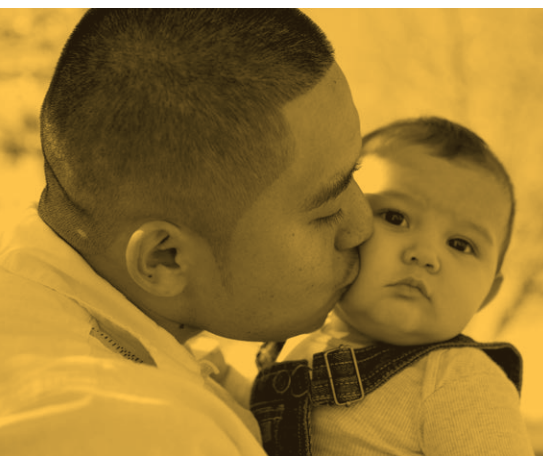


the future is bright





Youth who have suffered trauma
can become our **future** leaders

Dear Friends,

As I celebrate my 28th year with UCAN, I can say with certainty that it has been one of our most challenging and our most thrilling. There is a vibrant sense of pride and anticipation emanating from our youth and staff as we unify many of our programs at our newly constructed North Lawndale campus in summer 2016.

There are many reasons why UCAN has seen this level of success and weathered the financial storms affecting many of our peers and partners:

- First and foremost, our diverse and dynamic board of directors has provided a clear strategic vision for UCAN to remain a leader in trauma-informed therapy and violence prevention programs.
- Secondly, we've widened our scope of support and secured roughly \$2.6 million of our \$38 million annual budget from private sources, individual gifts and special event revenue. This allows UCAN a true margin of excellence in programs and services, beyond the baseline of support we receive from government sources.
- Finally, we pride ourselves on providing the utmost level of transparency when building relationships in the Chicago community. We believe this honesty shines a positive light on our efforts, even when the social services industry has been the subject of intense scrutiny.

Internally, our staff members hear stories daily from our youth about how we supported them in overcoming obstacles and finding light at the end of the tunnel. It is our goal to share as many of these successes as possible; not only to prove a potential for change, but also to counter some of the negativity conveyed in the media and shape a sense of optimism in our communities.

We cannot ignore the fact that there is much work to be done, and our city has seen its fair share of setbacks. UCAN has found answers through innovative partnerships to develop community mapping initiatives, data sharing resources, and exciting new therapies to serve youth who have suffered trauma.

It may seem cliché, but the culture at UCAN is defined by a sense of hope for the future. I want to thank you for believing in the vision that youth who've suffered trauma can become our future leaders. You have ensured that the future of our agency and those we serve will be bright.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Thomas C. Vanden Berk".

Thomas C. Vanden Berk
Chief Executive Officer

UCAN programs: a

UCAN works primarily with youth in care of the state's child welfare system and youth who have been removed from their homes for reasons of abuse or neglect. We also work with the families of these children to enhance the full spectrum of support. UCAN provides a continuum of care that enables youth to move from one program to another as their needs change, sparing them the transitions and gaps caused by moves through multiple agencies. All of our programs are united by a common clinical philosophy, which ensures that our approach to healing is cohesive and consistent.

HEALING TRAUMA

UCAN provides a core of counseling services and staff member support for families suffering separation, abuse and neglect. The nature, extent and impact of trauma are unique to each youth we serve. Abuse can be physical, sexual and/or emotional. Neglect is characterized by unmet physical and emotional needs.

- Counseling and Youth Development Services
- Therapeutic Residential Services

BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES

UCAN provides services and resources for foster care, teen parenting and family education. The goal is always to engage a young person's immediate family members in these services and provide all parties with a high level of guidance and support during their difficult transitions and obstacles.

- FamilyWorks
- Foster Care Program
- Foster Grandparents Program
- High-Risk Infant Program
- Parenting and Family Education
- Partners in Parenting
- Teen Parenting Service Network

EDUCATING & EMPOWERING YOUTH

UCAN designs these programs to assist youth in any aspect of their education, including traditional schooling, leadership training, career readiness and self-sufficiency. We empower our youth by assisting them in identifying and building on their strengths. We encourage a sense of independence for our youth and instill hope for their future.

- Alumni Services
- Career Services
- Diermeier Future Leaders Now
- Independent Living Arrangements
- Transitional Living Program
- Transitional Teen Services
- UCAN Academy
- UCAN Connects
- UCAN Educational Support Program

PREVENTING VIOLENCE

UCAN's Violence Prevention programs empower young people to create life-changing opportunities that ensure safer futures. We work with schools and other community partnerships to build resilience, influence behavior and reinforce learning opportunities for avoiding the pitfalls of violence.

- 360° Model
- Phenomenal Woman
- Project Visible Man

positive impact on youth



UCAN offers a continuum



► healing ► independence ► assistance

At 14, Tiffany* is removed from her home because her mother cannot provide her with adequate care.

UCAN's Foster Care Program finds her a caring home and **UCAN's Counseling and Youth Development Services** offers a clinical support team to address her trauma and help her heal from the effects of separation and neglect.

At 17, Tiffany is interested in becoming more independent but is unsure where to find work and save for her college education. She is connected to **UCAN's Transitional Living Program** that provides her with a supervised and structured setting for developing healthy, supportive relationships and reaching self-sufficiency.

At 18, Tiffany starts to lose interest in school after learning she is pregnant. **UCAN's Teen Parenting Service Network** works with her to prepare for motherhood while also learning ways she can stay engaged with her schoolwork.



* This is simply one example of how UCAN's programs are intertwined and create a network advantage for the young people and families we serve. When staff members communicate, data is shared and the bigger picture of service is understood, clients' needs are met in an exceptional fashion. UCAN elevates services further through a commitment to diversity and inclusion and positive youth development.

of care



► connection ► opportunity ► support ►

At 19, Tiffany loses her cousin to gun violence. She reconnects with a UCAN therapist and is introduced to **UCAN's Phenomenal Woman** program to allow her the opportunity to share her grief and heal with other young women in her community who share similar stories.

As Tiffany's mentors begin to notice her progress and leadership skills, they offer her the opportunity to apply for a scholarship at **UCAN's Youth Leadership Awards**. One of five award recipients, Tiffany meets and networks with over 500 guests at the event while gaining confidence in her potential.

At age 20, Tiffany now takes night courses alongside a full-time job and caring for her son. She knows anytime she needs a little extra support **UCAN's Alumni Services Program** is available for short-term assistance with any aspect of her life after emancipation.

Over 94% of UCAN youth and families believe the agency has given them opportunities to improve their future.

<94%



UCAN helps

At age eight, **Sonia*** suffered multiple forms of abuse at the hands of her mother's boyfriend. When Sonia was 12, her abuser was forced out of the household. The experience left Sonia traumatized, resentful of her mother and untrusting of others. As this trauma was left untreated, she began to act out at home and in school, finding herself in many verbal confrontations with her classmates, friends and family.

to heal trauma

After internally dealing with her pain for a long time, Sonia gained the courage to seek help from her father. He took action to remove Sonia from her mother's care and brought her into his home. "That is what brought me to UCAN, to get over the anger and all of the hurt I felt and to move on to be a better me," Sonia recalled.

Sonia experienced some initial hesitation when she began receiving therapy services. She was unsure of how to open up to a therapist and how much she should share. After several sessions with her first therapist, she began to see that she was in safe place and could be honest about her experiences and feelings.

Prior to therapy, Sonia harbored intense anger that negatively impacted her relationships. "I would get mad at the smallest things. If someone would not address me in a nice way I would just start screaming and yelling. I knew my anger was pushing them away and I was thinking, 'These are my friends and family and I don't want to treat them like that.' That is what I wanted to work on."

Through therapy and self-assessment Sonia has learned how to handle hostile situations. She explained that even when she slips back into her old ways she can assess the situation better and consider how to handle it. Sonia described how working on her anger has been a huge part of her experience and growth with UCAN. Through her therapy sessions she was able to learn that she is more than what's happened to her in the past and that she is capable of making changes for a better future.

Sonia's therapist nominated her for UCAN's Youth of the Month because she was impressed with her honesty, self-awareness and commitment to growth. She described her initial meetings with Sonia and how she'd made a list of different situations that made her angry and areas she wanted to work on. "I was so blown away by her intelligence, her insight and her willingness to do the work. I wanted her to be honored for that," said Sonia's therapist.

Although Sonia experienced significant trauma at a young age, she has been able to overcome her past and is motivated to be the best version of herself. Now a thriving high school sophomore with a passion for dance, she aspires to become a lawyer and eventually a judge.

"I would not be where I am now if I did not get the help. I wouldn't be as open and nice and caring. The anger thing was also a huge growth experience for me. I even apologize now. You could never get me to apologize before."

**Name has been changed to protect identity*

Growing up in Chicago's Lawndale neighborhood, 14-year-old **Travis*** was highly aware of the dangers outside his home. After tragically losing his sister to gun violence, Travis began to experience difficulties in his relationships. Through the advice of his principal, he came to UCAN and was connected with a youth development coach and the Project Visible Man (PVM) program that provides group mentoring for young men of color ages 13-24. PVM aims to transform behavior by promoting willpower, providing positive reinforcement and real-life role models. Through therapy and PVM, Travis has been able to develop critical conflict resolution and social skills that have helped him deal more positively with adults and other youth.

“UCAN has showed me that I need to respect myself and other people. Everyone is not out to harm you. There are good people in the world.”

While participating in PVM, Travis has connected with other young males and with mentors who have helped him think about what he wants to do and what he wants out of life. He explained that the mentors help the young men in the program push towards their goals. In addition to the group sessions, PVM provides opportunities for the young men to get outside of their community and experience a variety of activities, such as visiting museums, attending Chicago Ideas Week and going to Chicago Sky basketball games. “There are great opportunities to learn new things about other people and myself that I did not know,” said Travis. “I didn’t talk to people a lot, and when I was talking to people it was because I was mad and it was aggressive. UCAN has showed me ways to calm myself down.”

Travis said he would tell other young men to participate in PVM because of the opportunities and experience. He has also benefited from the therapy he received at UCAN, which has included a trip to the Garfield Park Conservatory, peaceful talks in the park and a bike ride along the Bloomingdale Trail. He explained that if he had not been referred to UCAN that his attitude, aggressiveness and people skills would have continued down a negative path.

**Name has been changed to protect identity*

UCAN offers programs

A young man with short dreadlocks, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, is holding a basketball with both hands. He is looking upwards and to the right with a focused expression. The entire image has a blue tint overlay. The text "to prevent violence" is overlaid in the bottom left corner in white.

to **prevent
violence**

UCAN fosters **success**



86% of UCAN clients who engaged in Counseling and Youth Development Services (CYDS) fully completed a treatment or development plan in 2015.

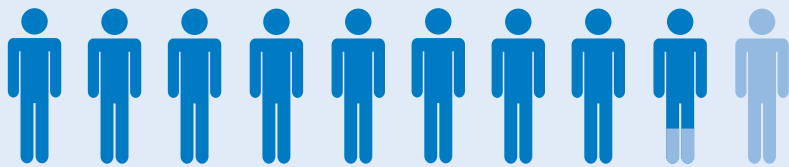
95%

95% of CYDS participants feel UCAN supports them to make healthy choices and feel engaged in their goal setting and service planning each year.

UCAN's Therapeutic Residential Services transitioned 42% of their youth to a new and caring home, doubling the state's performance benchmarks.



healing trauma



87% of UCAN's Violence Prevention program participants reported a connection with a caring adult in 2015.



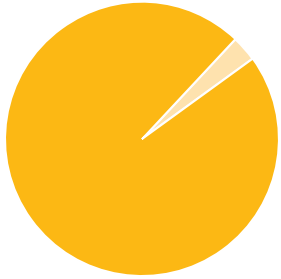
425 youth worked more than 28,000 hours through UCAN's Career Services Department in 2015.

96%

96% of UCAN youth feel the agency cares about their safety and overall well-being.

preventing violence

Successful outcomes



▲
98% of UCAN's Teen Parenting Service Network participants feel their values and culture are respected.

98%

▲
98% of FamilyWorks participants agree that the services they receive from UCAN are meeting the needs of their family.



▲
Nearly 70% of UCAN's foster care youth experience weekly connections with their family of origin each year.

building strong families

100% Diermeier Future Leaders
Now youth advisory board members completed 10 or more service learning hours in 2015.



94% of UCAN youth feel the agency has helped them learn and grow in the past year.



◀ UCAN's Academy maintains an average **86% school attendance rate** each quarter.

▼
94%

educating & empowering youth



UCAN builds

Twenty-year-old **Renee*** experienced several challenges throughout her life including being separated from her parents since the age of 14. By age 18, Renee had been placed with three different foster families, began struggling academically and was having trouble adjusting to the rules set in her new home.

During this time, Renee befriended a male classmate named Todd, and the two bonded over their troubled pasts. “We’ve been through a lot of the same stuff. We both come from families with issues but want to do better. We saw the good in each other,” explained Renee. After a few years of dating Todd, Renee learned that she was pregnant. She vowed to get her life on track and be the best parent possible to her child. However, with a lack of parental support Renee was unsure of how she would be able to properly raise her child.

In addition to the lack of support from her own family, Renee and Todd’s relationship began to deteriorate under the stress of becoming teen parents. The verbal disputes between the two began to occur more frequently, eventually leading to the end of their relationship.

Alone and afraid of raising her child without the influence of a father, Renee was referred to UCAN by her case manager. She recalled, “When I first came to UCAN, I really did not know what I was going to do. I was so scared because all I wanted to do was be a good mom but I didn’t have anyone to show me how.”

Renee started as a client in UCAN’s Teen Parenting Service Network (TPSN) program in May 2014. Along with partner agencies throughout the state and the Department of Children and Family Services, UCAN has been charged with taking a management role in providing a range of integrated resources to pregnant and parenting teens. Through UCAN’s TPSN program, Renee has developed a nurturing and positive relationship with her son.

Renee has since completed the TPSN New Birth Assessment process, Risk Reduction Training and received support from a TPSN doula who provided physical and emotional support before, during and after birth. After giving birth to her son, Renee and Todd mended their relationship and are raising their child together. Renee is currently working with a TPSN education coach, has enrolled in beauty school and has placed her son in daycare. Supported by TPSN case workers and in preparation for her future, Renee will participate in a Discharge Planning process this year before exiting the child welfare system.

“The people who I worked with at UCAN have really helped me. They told me a lot of things that I didn’t know and I am more confident now that I will be a great mom. They encourage me to finish beauty school and have been really supportive.”

**Name has been changed to protect identity*

strong families

Before coming to UCAN, 17-year-old **Taffanisha** experienced family difficulties that led her to run away from home. She stayed with a friend for a short period of time until that home became unsafe and Taffanisha's life was threatened by someone in her new household. She went back to live with her mother and was removed from her care shortly thereafter, eventually finding support with a foster family.

Through these circumstances Taffanisha came to UCAN where she received therapy services and participated in the Diermeier Future Leaders Now (DFLN) and Phenomenal Woman programs. She is currently on the DFLN Youth Advisory Council.

"DFLN is a leadership program that taught us skills that we would need and what it would take to gain a job," explained Taffanisha. She described how the program exposed her to different cultures through the food that they ate during the program. Building positive relationships with two UCAN staff members through the DFLN program has also been a highlight of her time at UCAN. "I reach out to them if I need advice or someone to talk to," stated Taffanisha.

Through her involvement with Phenomenal Woman, Taffanisha was able to talk about everyday issues with other young women and UCAN's youth development specialists. Elaborating on some of the other benefits of the program she stated, "We did a lot of community service hours with the program so that helped me get my service hours to graduate. I am giving back to the community and that makes me feel good inside."

Taffanisha has been able to build relationships with youth within UCAN's other programs. Coming to UCAN has provided her with more freedom and exposure. "I come from a background where we lived in a crime-infested neighborhood. It was hard for us to go outside and have a normal childhood. My grandmother wanted to shield us from that." Her life has improved since coming to UCAN, including an increase in self-esteem and improved emotional well-being. "Literally, I was an emotional wreck but now I feel like I am more stable."

"UCAN shows you what you can do. It is just a matter of putting your mind to it. What I've learned coming to UCAN is that my perseverance has to be high or else I will just fall. I keep my schedule busy. The people at UCAN encourage you to push to be your best and then be even better. They try to get you out of your comfort zone."

UCAN strives to
and



**educate
empower** youth

UCAN's journey to North Lawndale



2008

It all began with an idea sparked by UCAN's Board of Directors to build a new campus in North Lawndale, a community with great need and great potential.

September 2013

Our Groundbreaking Ceremony took place in the presence of over 100 supporters and elected officials.



2008

June 2014

The foundation was laid near a beautiful view of the original Sears Tower at Fillmore Street and Central Park Boulevard.



August 2014

UCAN's family of supporters gathered to sign a ceremonial beam hoisted into the center of our Therapeutic Youth Home.

For close to eight years, UCAN has been working on one of the largest capital projects in North Lawndale in recent memory. The Drost Harding Campus, named after prominent Chicago-area families who generously supported the project, will not only provide a structured living arrangement with its Therapeutic Youth Home for youth who have suffered trauma and neglect, but will enable UCAN to provide expanded outreach services focusing on youth leadership, violence prevention, clinical and counseling services, mentoring, case management, family support services and workforce development at its new John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Program Center. Youth will be tracked via the Peace Hub, a collaborative violence prevention initiative led by UCAN that was launched by a five-year, \$1 million commitment from the Boeing Corporation.

August 2015

UCAN staff members, donors, government supporters and alumni joined together to cut the ribbon marking the opening of our Therapeutic Youth Home.



Summer 2016

The John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Program Center will be ready for UCAN staff members to move in summer 2016.

September 2015

UCAN's youth moved into their new home.



2016

“Our supporters and partners are to be congratulated for their financial commitments, resourcefulness, creativity and old-fashioned hard work. We couldn’t be prouder of this beautiful facility that will serve as a launching pad for our youth.”

—Richard Fleming, UCAN Governing Board Chairman

Historic UCAN milestones

1860's

UCAN's story begins in the early 1860's at the onset of the Civil War. As men left for service, the members of St. Pauls United Church of Christ made a promise to care for the children of fallen soldiers.

1867

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Gottfried Uhlich announced the donation of a large piece of property to perpetually endow an orphanage home. In March of 1869, the Illinois Legislature approved an act to incorporate the Uhlich Evangelical Lutheran Orphan Asylum.

1871

October 8, 1871 was an unforgettable date for members of St. Pauls and the children of the orphan home, as both buildings felt the rage of the Chicago Fire. In 1872, a new home was built at Burling and Center Street which housed boys and girls for the next fifty-six years.

1924

In 1924, Pastor Pister conducted a campaign for funds to build a new home. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Buehler generously donated 10 large city lots in the 3700 block of North California Avenue and ground was broken in 1927.

1960-1990

With the establishment of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services in 1965, Uhlich Children Home's enrollment became almost completely that of youth in care of the state.

2004

In 2002, Uhlich Children's Home changed its name to Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN) to reflect the wide variety of services provided, and in 2004, UCAN merged with FamilyCare of Illinois.

TODAY

UCAN is now a multifaceted social service organization building strong youth and families through compassionate healing, education and empowerment. The meaningful programming UCAN provides meets the critical needs of Chicago's at-risk populations.



ucan

2014/2015 financial highlights

UCAN is financially viable and stable, despite historically challenging economic times in Illinois. Good stewardship and an unwavering focus to secure much needed services for our young people and families is the foundation of fiscal responsibility at UCAN. We have made significant progress developing our campus in the North Lawndale community, opening our new Therapeutic Youth Home in September 2015. We are proud that 86 percent of each dollar entrusted to UCAN is spent on programs for healing, education and empowerment in Chicago's communities.

FISCAL YEAR 2015

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2015

Total Assets	\$58,839,878
Total Liabilities	\$21,072,162
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$37,767,716
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$58,839,878

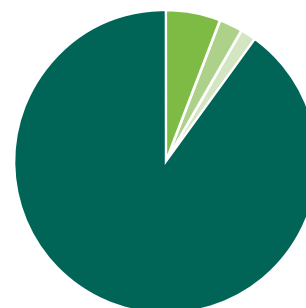
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

Revenue	
Program	\$34,853,083
Fundraising	\$2,686,446
Trust	\$576,978
Investment	\$166,248
TOTAL REVENUE	\$38,282,755
Expense	
Program, Support and Management & General Expense	(\$38,747,424)
Annual Net Income	(\$464,669)
Pension Plan Adjustment	(\$318,086)
CURRENT YEAR CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$782,755)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$38,550,471
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$37,767,716

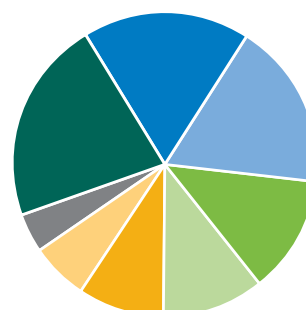
Financials reflect UCAN Operations only. Title Holding Company information not included.

SUPPORT



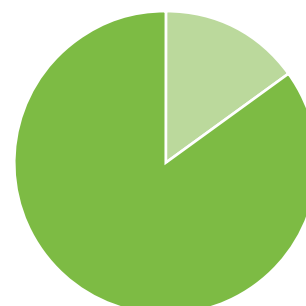
Government Grants & Contracts	91.04%
Private Revenue	7.02%
Trust Income	1.51%
Investment Income	0.43%

PROGRAM EXPENSES



Therapeutic Residential Services	21.93%
Professional Foster Parenting	17.74%
Transitional/Independent Living	17.70%
Teen Parenting Service Network	12.40%
UCAN Academy	10.93%
Housing Support Services	9.16%
Youth Leadership	6.10%
Other Programs	4.03%

EXPENSES



Program Services	85.60%
Support Services	14.40%

Our Donors

Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)



Capital Campaign

The following pledges and/or gifts were generously made to the campaign for UCAN as of 12/31/15.

\$1,000,000 +

Boeing Company
John and Kathryn Harding
Matthew and Elizabeth Kassnel
John and Alexandra Nichols

\$500,000 +

Diermeier Family Foundation
George and Beth Drost
Robert R. McCormick Foundation
Youth Campus
Richard and Diana Fleming
Steans Family Foundation

\$100,000 +

Bright Promises Foundation
The Canning Foundation
Chicago Community Trust
The Crown Family
First Nonprofit Foundation
Grant Healthcare Foundation
The Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation

\$50,000 +

Adducci Family Foundation
Ryan and Colleen Bradley
Lawrence and Charlotte Damron
Lawrence and Barbara Hayes
Helen Brach Foundation
Charles and Mary Liebman
Krista Rivers
Zack and Lisa Schrantz
Jim and Diana Skogsbergh
USG Foundation, Inc.
Thomas and Kathryn Vanden Berk
Jeffrey and Deborah Winton

\$25,000 +

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Daniel R. Boehmer
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Terry and Annette Faulk

Gary and Jeanne Fennessy
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Ricardo Knight and Wanda Grant Knight
Robert and Gail Loveman
Floyd and Elizabeth Miller
Steve and Tonya Pemberton
The Ruttenberg Charitable Foundation
Curtis L. Spears
Winnemac Properties
Woman's Aid Society of UCAN
Philip Warth

\$10,000 +

Anonymous
Susan Barrett-Kelly and Peter Kelly
Yasmin Bates-Brown and Percy Brown
Markell Bridges
Richard and Ann Carr
Richard and Joan DeCleene
T. Bondurant and Hollis French
Bill and Lynne Luehrs
James W. Mabie
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Mondelez International
O'Keefe, Lyons & Hynes, LLC
Jeff and Toni Palan
Fred Reid and Candida Miranda
Noah and Tracy Robinson
Russell Simmons
U.S. Cellular
Douglas and Virginia West

\$5,000 +

Laura Angelucci and Jennifer Baker
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Dell
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Joe Gallitano
Kevin B. Hynes
Kraft Foods, Inc.
Motorola
Elena O'Connell
Brian Ripp
Charles and Vanita Stevenson
Steven and Barbara Stone
UBS

\$2,500 +

Keith and Kathleen Cardoza
Richard H. Driehaus Charitable Lead Trust

John and Tracy Hill
Norman Kerr
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Bob and Jeanne McCarthy
James and Laurie Richter
Claude Robinson
Christine Schaefer
Roger and Margaret Schrantz
Maria L. Vazquez
Lakecia Whimper
Matilda J. Wilhoite

\$1,000 +

Paul and Kathryn Berghoff
Byron Clay
Code Family Foundation
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Rebecca Rainey
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St. Pauls United Church of Christ
Cherilyn Thomas
Marcia Volk
Renita White
Lance and Lailani Workman
Clarissa Young
Brant and Nina Yung

\$500 +

Richard and Janice Bail
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Ellen Benninghoven
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Winifred Kearns
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Mary Pappas
Stephen and Linda Patton
Germaine Reynolds
Edward B. Rust, Jr.
Ernest Sawyer
Floyd Simpson III
Lee Taylor
Robert Thomas
Brian Walker
Vanya Weglarz
Elizabeth White
William Blair & Company Foundation
Rob Wisniewski
Patricia Wynn

\$250 +

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Richard and Janice Bail
Dan Bargiel
Victoria Bauer
Kevin Benson
Ronald Bogan
Nina Brown
John Bruce
Michael Byzewski
Jeffrey Carlson and Joseph Jaquay
Emily Chaveriat
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Tyrone Cooper
Jacob Dancer
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Nataasha Jones
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Cherie Laaperi
David and Karen Leets



Lawrence Lockridge
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 Vanessa Malone
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 Kerry Thon
 Cedric Thurman
 Hazel Vespa
 Barbara A. Weiner
 Dallis Westin
 Susan White
 Michael Ann Wiley
 Monica Williams
 Pamela Wilson
 Stephen Winters

\$100 +

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 Catherine Bail
 Michael Bail
 Susanne Baker
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 Derrick Baker
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