



Making Independence Accessible

OCTOBER 2021-SEPTEMBER 2022

Fiscal Year 2022

GRATITUDE REPORT

PARAQUAD CHAMPIONS EQUITY AND
INDEPENDENCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
THROUGH SERVICES, PARTNERSHIPS,
EDUCATION, AND ADVOCACY.

OUR IMPACT

In Fiscal Year

'22

Total number of people served

1,267

Number of Participants Served by Program

Youth Services

48

Independent
Living

1,153

Public Policy &
Advocacy

67

Stephen A.
Orthwein Center

287

Assistive Technology
Reuse Services

249

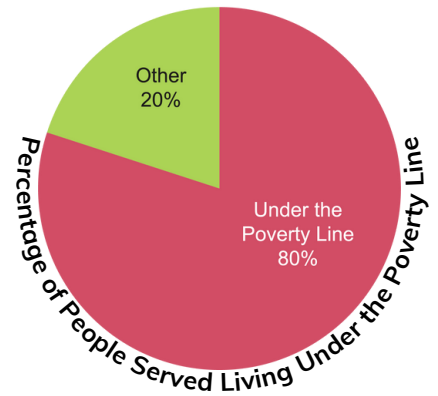
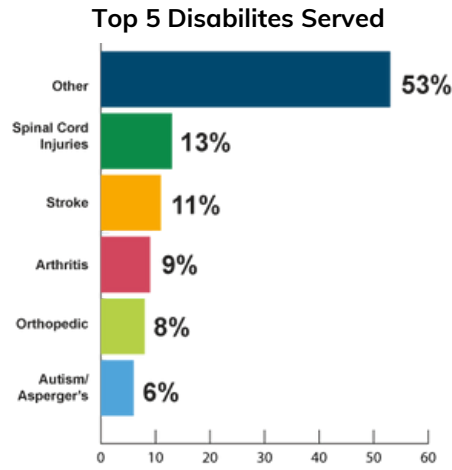
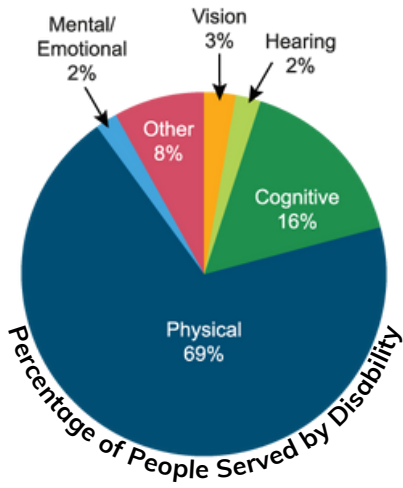
Employment
Services

107

*some participants are served by multiple programs

THROUGH ADVOCACY AND SERVICES, WE WORK TO
CREATE A FUTURE IN WHICH ALL PEOPLE WITH
DISABILITIES LIVE WELL WITH GREATER
INDEPENDENCE.

WHO WE SERVE



WE ENVISION AN INTEGRATED SOCIETY FREE OF BARRIERS AND DISCRIMINATION WHERE DISABILITY IS VIEWED AS A NATURAL PART OF HUMAN DIVERSITY.



"YOU MUST HAVE A PLAN WHEN YOU LEAVE THERAPY AND REHAB. THIS PLACE IS IT!"

Don Pokorny

After Don's stroke in 2020, he was told he would likely never walk again. Today, Don is defying all odds, he is walking and reacquired his driver's license. The staff at the Stephen A. Orthwein Center prepared Don for his drivers test by creatively challenging his focus and reaction time with unique exercises. Don is known as the "Mayor of Orthwein" for his contagious, positive energy and enthusiasm for the mission. He is a true Paraquad advocate. Don continues working hard to maintain his strength and endurance. Thanks to Paraquad and the Orthwein Center, Don has been able to reclaim more of his independence and his three daughters could not be more proud!

During the time Dee was a full-time caregiver for her parents, she was diagnosed with degenerative spinal stenosis. She found it difficult to complete everyday chores and self-care routines. When Dee came to Paraquad, she was using a wheelchair every day, had not driven in almost a year, and was rarely standing. Her dream is to open her own restaurant, but with her limitations this dream felt out of reach. Dee joined the Orthwein Center and got back on her feet. She was connected to the Reuse Program and started getting around more on her new scooter. She became a student of Bloom Culinary and graduated with her food certifications. Dee is now one step closer to her dream!



"WHEN I WAS LOST AND FELT LIKE I WAS CRUMBLING, PARAQUAD BECAME MY GODSEND."

Deirdre Holland

SUCCESS STORIES



"I FEEL SO MUCH HOPE WHEN I'M THERE, AND I'M ALWAYS MEETING NEW PEOPLE THAT ARE JUST LIKE ME!"

Bettie Calvert

Bettie was ready to move into her new home, but there was one major problem. She could not get inside her house due to the inaccessibility for her power wheelchair. Prior to Bettie's ramp installment, she was unable to live at home. Thanks to Paraquad and Home Depot, Bettie can now leave and enter her home at her leisure. "They really put a lot of thought into the design, listened to what I wanted, and executed my vision for the ramp" The ramp has given Bettie the freedom and accessibility to say hello to her neighbors, grocery shop, attend church, and the hair salon!

KJ has been with the Orthwein Center for a little over 2 years, and is an absolute joy! Not only does KJ encourage everyone else around him, he works extremely hard himself. KJ attends the gym at least 2 days a week. Over the last 2 years, KJ has increased his overall endurance and strength. Exercise is vital to individuals living with Cerebral Palsy to help maintain movement. The wheelchair accessible strength and cardio equipment allow KJ to exercise while in his manual or power wheelchair.



"I LOVE COMING TO THE GYM!"

Kenneth Brookins

LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Thank you for your generosity to all the people whose lives we have touched and whose lives have touched ours because of YOU! Thank you for the opportunity to reflect on the year and show how your investments are increasing opportunities for our family, friends, and neighbors with disabilities in St Louis and beyond.

Let's start with the new! Energy, excitement, and lots of curiosity filled the air when Youth and Family Services piloted a sex education summer class for youth with developmental disabilities. Finally, youth were empowered to learn about their bodies, healthy relationships, and safety with their peers in an affirming and safe space. We are proud to report, success from the pilot, combined with big demand, resulted in a collaboration with the Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council to provide sex education to youth and adults across the state – THANK YOU!

Belonging and finding community are important to everyone, especially during big life transitions such as adjusting to a new disability. The Stephen A. Orthwein Center is a natural hub for connection and support. It's no surprise that the Center became the impetus for a new Peer Services Spinal Cord Injury Support Group. In just the first three months, 18 people joined the group and at least 12 people have attended each meeting. We are happy to report, the group has since outgrown their meeting space – THANK YOU!

Speaking of the Stephen A. Orthwein Center, we had a record-breaking year for service and revenue – vital components to future sustainability. If you haven't had the chance to visit, we encourage you to stop by and see the impact you are making – THANK YOU!

We also had a record-breaking year for FUN and revenue at our Shine the Light Boots & Bling Gala. Donned in your best western flair, you listened to our stories, bought our bourbon, and raised your paddles high! You publicly demonstrated your support for more opportunities for people with disabilities in your community – THANK YOU!

Although the annual report is but a snapshot, we hope you will see how much your investment of time, resources, and care impact people with disabilities. We are grateful for you and for the opportunity to be a part of such amazing stories. Thank you for partnering to increase equity and independence for people with disabilities - we are just getting started!

With gratitude,

Jerry Ehrlich

CEO

Aimee Wehmeier

President

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Your gift can help to ensure accessibility to services that promote independence for people with disabilities.



Total Raised in FY '22

\$1.8 million



674

Total
Donors

\$2,500

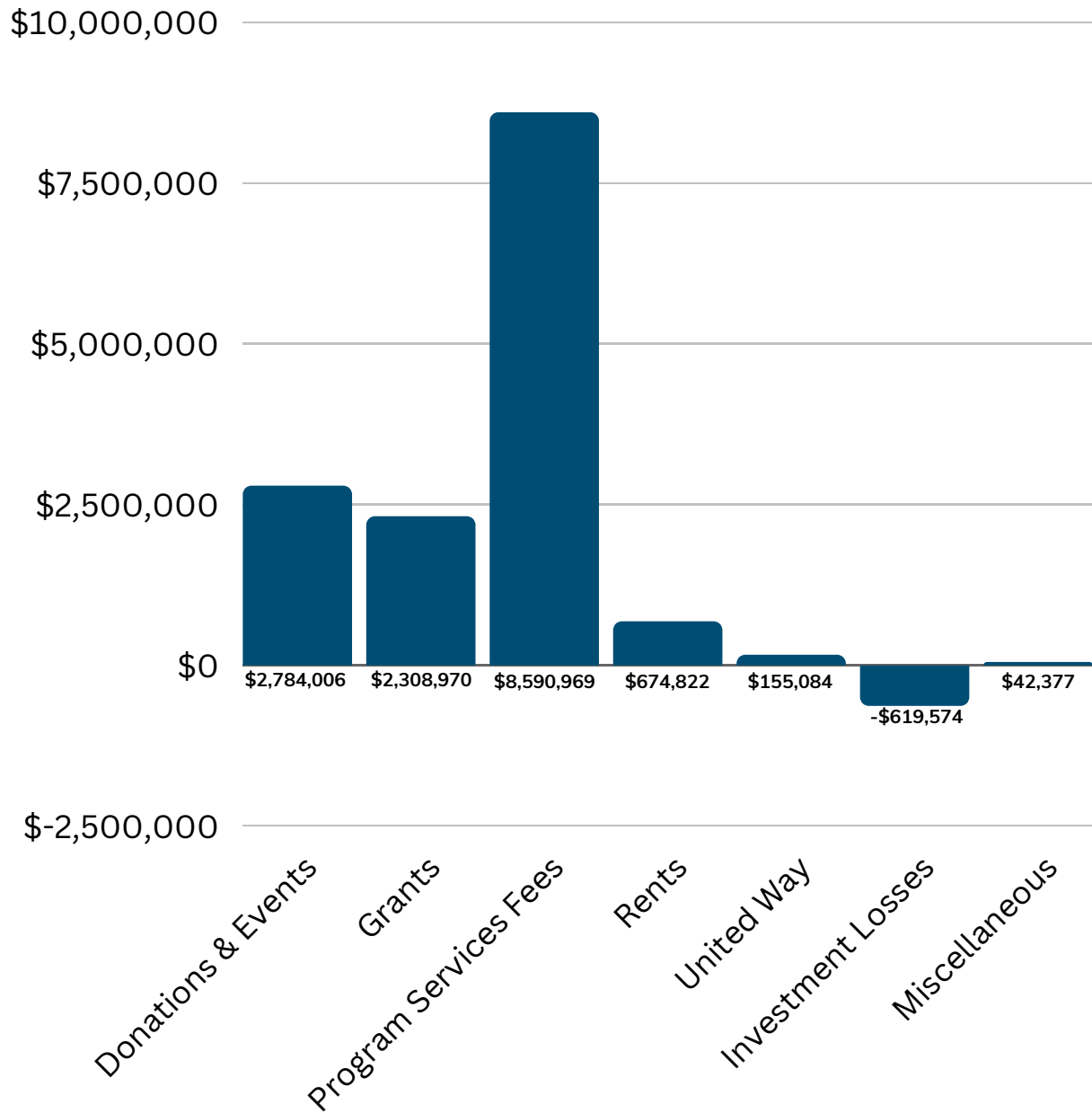
Average
Gift

100%

Board
Giving

WITH MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF OUR PARTICIPANTS LIVING ON INCOMES OF LESS THAN \$20,000, PARAQUAD RELIES ON THE GENEROSITY OF OUR SUPPORTERS TO FUND CORE SERVICES.

REVENUE

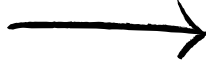


Total Agency Revenue **\$13,936,654**

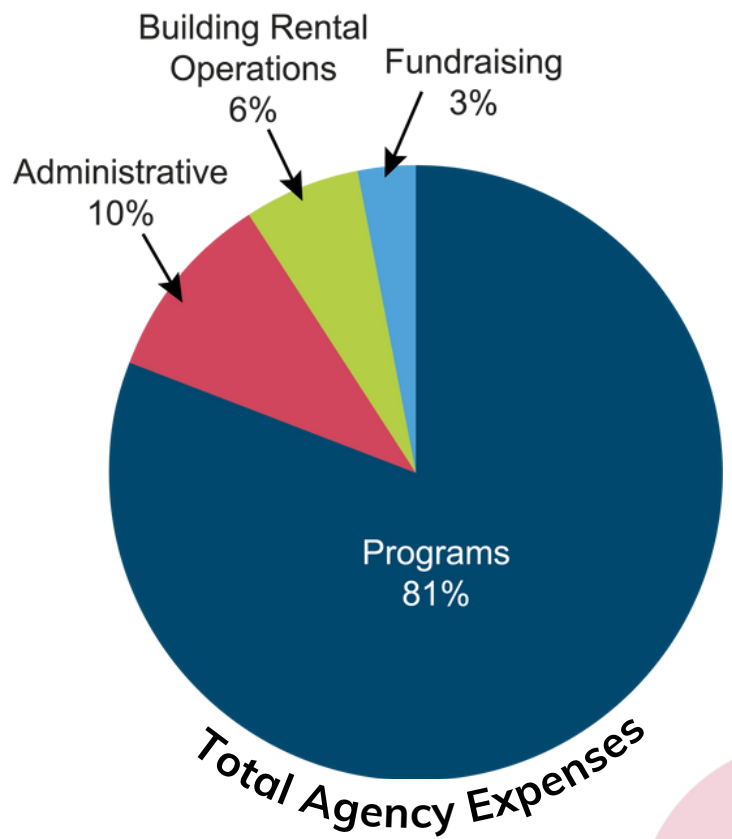
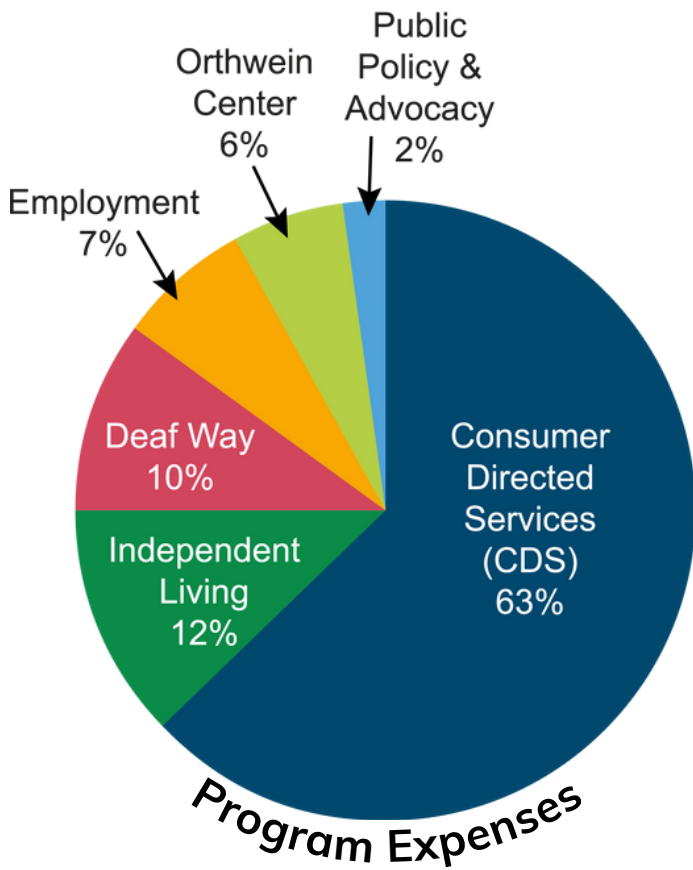
WE HAVE THE TOOLS AND RESOURCES TO ADDRESS BARRIERS FACED BY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, CREATING THE GREATEST IMPACT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY.

EXPENSES

Increase in Revenues
over Expenses



\$910,933



Total Agency
Expenses

\$13,025,721

OUR PARTNERSHIPS SPAN CORPORATIONS, UNIVERSITIES,
AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN AN EFFORT TO INCLUDE
THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IN MAKING LIFE MORE
EQUITABLE FOR OUR PARTICIPANTS.

YEAR AT A GLANCE



Crowdfunding Campaign



OUR VALUES

DIGNITY

EQUITY

OPPORTUNITY

INCLUSION

SELF-DETERMINATION



Adaptive Sports & Wellness Extravaganza



Orthwein Center Open House



SHINE THE LIGHT GALA

Boots and Bling was the event of the year! With our largest attendance in history, **415 supporters**, we raised **\$295,000!** A huge thank you to everyone who helped us surpass our goal.

A special thank you to our Partners for Independence, the Orthwein Family. The Orthwein Family was presented the Partners for Independence Award, for their commitment to Paraquod and championing equity and independence for people with disabilities.

We are gearing up for our next Shine the Light Gala on **September 8, 2023**. Mark your calendars for a night of fundraising at the Four Seasons!

FOUNDATION & CORPORATE SUPPORT

4 Hands Brewing Co.
Alliance Rehab and Medical Equipment
Ameren Microgrant
American Family Dreams Foundation
Norman D. and Marie L. Atkins Foundation
Bank of America
Berges Family Foundation
Bi-State Development
BNSF Railway
CarShield
Charless Foundation
Cigna
Community Catalyst
Crawford Taylor Foundation
Dana Brown Charitable Trust
David B. Lichtenstein Foundation
Edward T. Baur Foundation
Emerson Charitable Trust
Employee Community Fund of Boeing St. Louis
Enterprise Bank and Trust
Holland Construction
IFF
John Allen Love Foundation
Kolman Family Foundation
Kuhn Foundation
Logan University
MEHTAP
Mildred, Herbert, and Julian Simon Foundation
Missouri Developmental Disabilities Council
Missouri Foundation for Health
Numotion
Occupational Therapy at Washington University
Parkinson's Foundation
Permobil Foundation
Pershing Charitable Trust
Pettus Foundation
Pott Foundation
Proctor and Gamble
Productive Living Board
Quantum Rehab
Regions Bank
REV UP - American Association of People with Disabilities
RGA Insurance
Richard A. Baker Foundation
RubinBrown
Sidener Foundation
Simmons Charitable Foundation
Smith McGehee Insurance Solutions
Spectrum
SSM Health Day Institute
Stealth Products
St. Louis Philanthropic Organization
St. Louis Office of Developmental Disability Resources
Sunrise Medical
The Rehabilitation Institute of St. Louis
Trio Foundation
Walmart Foundation
Wells Fargo Advisors
William R. Orthwein, Jr. and Laura Rand Orthwein Foundation
World Wide Technology Foundation

THANK YOU!



5240 OAKLAND AVE. ST. LOUIS, MO 63110

Have you considered putting Paraquad in your will? Contact Melissa Brickey to learn more about [Paraquad's Legacy Society](https://www.paraquad.org/legacy-society), mbrickey@paraquad.org



Join us for our Crowdfunding Campaign

April 11-12, 2023

24 hours of fundraising

We need YOU to champion equity and independence for people with disabilities by supporting our campaign.

Together, we CAN make independence accessible.



314-289-4200
PARAQUAD.ORG

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