Dear Stakeholders,

We are pleased to tell you that 2017 – 2018 was a year of great growth for Sherwood. Not only have we increased the number of individuals served, but we have embarked on the $3,500,000 Opportunities for a Lifetime capital campaign. This campaign will mean that Sherwood can:

- Build a facility that every individual will be proud to attend
- Serve an additional 150 adults with autism or related disabilities
- Prepare more students and adults for the workforce

As of April 1, 2019 we have secured 78% of the funds (in gifts and pledges) required for this expansion. Thanks to the donors below we have come a long way, but we still must secure secure $778,103 by the end of the year. Please join in this campaign by making a secure online donation at https://sherwoodcenter.org/capital/ or mailing a check to Sherwood Center, 8030 Ward Parkway Plaza, KCMO, 64114.

Thank you in advance for your support. We broke ground on April 3, 2019.

Sincerely,

Larry Hisle, President Board of Directors
Laci Maltbie, Chief Executive Officer

Our deepest gratitude to our donors.

Opportunities for a Lifetime progress

Goal: $3,500,000
To be raised: $778,103
Amount raised: $2,721,897

- Sunderland Foundation
- Sherwood Autism Center
- Harry Wilson Loose Trust, Bank of America, N.A., as Trustee
- John & Marny Sherman
- H&R Block Foundation
- Anonymous
- Sherwood Inner Family
- Stanley H. Durwood Foundation
- Kevin A. Dunn Charitable Fund
- Individual donors
- Mabee Foundation
- Hall Family Foundation
- Francis Family Foundation, David & Janis Francis
- Beat the Blues
- Ronald D. Deffenbaugh Foundation
- JE Dunn Construction
- Village Presbyterian Church
- Kirk Foundation
- Bell Knott & Associates
- Whiting-Turner

Visit: www.sherwoodcenter.org
The IMPACT of your gift!

Sherwood Autism Center is funded by a combination of public dollars from the Missouri Department of Mental Health (Medicaid Waiver), fees from public school districts for services we provide their students, and fundraising.

Sherwood welcomed gifts from:

United Way and the Combined Federal Campaign:
- $71,023 to support operating expenses

Kansas City Foundations:
- Sherman Family Foundation: $15,690 bought 9 smart TVs for our classrooms
- Junior League: $4,600 paid for tree trimming services

Faith communities:
- Village Presbyterian: $3,115 provided new classroom furniture

Local businesses provided in-kind support:
- Midland Radio: donated 37 Walkie Talkies to help staff keep students safe
- Antioch Printing: donated printing services

Why do we raise funds?

Last year we celebrated with our donors, families and friends at the first Beat the Blues party. More than 200 guests chased away the winter blues and raised almost $50,000 to support our mission. Special thanks to event chairs Brad and Teresa Doty and special guest speakers Regina and Demarcus Raney.

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Why do we fundraise?

Although Sherwood receives public funding and fees for services, this only covers our basic operating expenses. This does not pay for the hours of music therapy and free hot lunch that we provide all students. There is also no funding for capital expenditures such as the $3.5 million Opportunities for a Lifetime capital campaign. Without special events and grants from businesses, foundations, faith communities, corporations and individual donors we would not be able to serve students and adults with autism as well as they deserve.
**Making a Difference**

Linda Bond has been a Sherwood champion for over 10 years. Her involvement started when her employer, Swiss Re, hosted a Christmas party for children and adults with games, presents, and sugar cookies. It was hard to tell who enjoyed these parties more - Linda or Sherwood!

But her involvement goes beyond parties. She advocates for Sherwood whenever possible, hosting jeans days, nominating Sherwood for awards and arranging volunteer opportunities for her co-workers. She also organized a major donation of office supplies when Swiss Re changed offices. Why does she do it? It’s fun and “I feel like I make a difference.” Thanks, Linda.

**Volunteer Hall of Fame**

Volunteers make a huge difference for Sherwood. Thanks to 10 different organizations, 391 volunteers donated 1,393 service hours last year. The value of their donated hours was $33,627. Many thanks to volunteers from:

- Beat the Blues Event Committee
- Boy Scouts
- E & K of Kansas City
- General Services Administration
- MarksNelson
- MizzouThon
- Research College of Nursing
- Rockhurst High School students
- Rockhurst University
- Serve KC
- St. Teresa’s Academy

You can make a difference too.

Contact Kelsey Derohanian to learn about volunteer opportunities. 816-333-3344 or kderohanian@sherwoodcenter.org.

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**WISH LIST (NEW ITEMS ONLY)**

**Cleaning supplies/Equipment:** Lysol or Clorox wipes • Brooms and dustpans (dustpan attaches to broom handle) • Bath Towels • Kitchen Dish Towels • Swiffer Wet mop with boxes of Swiffer Wet (pads) • Recycling Bins • Large Trash Cans w/Lid • **Electronics:** Headphones (wired and wireless) especially noise canceling

**Hygiene:** Toothpaste (travel size) • Toothbrushes (individually wrapped) • Facial Tissue • Band-Aids (various sizes) • Baby Wipes (unscented) • Non-Latex Gloves • **First-Aid Supplies:** Gauze pads, wound cleaning wipes, adhesive tape • **Physical Education:** Playground balls • Sports Equipment (Ages 5-12)

**Other:** Bottled Water • Dry Erase Markers (various sizes) • Storage Tubs w/Lid (various sizes) • Flashlights • AA Batteries • Paper Plates • Shaving Cream (sensory activity) • Art Supplies (markers, crayons, water-based paint, yarn, crafting sticks, construction paper).

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**WHO DID SHERWOOD SERVE IN FY2017 – 2018?**

**Sherwood served 88 students from 14 different school districts:**

- Belton: 1
- Blue Springs: 5
- Center: 2
- Grain Valley: 4
- Grandview: 5
- Hickman Mills: 16
- Independence: 6
- KCKS: 1
- KCPS: 42
- Liberty: 1
- NKC: 1
- Raymore: 1
- Raytown: 2
- Warrensburg: 1

**Sherwood served 54 adults:**

- Jackson County: 54

**How old are the individuals we serve?**

- 6 – 12 years: 42
- 13 – 17 years: 26
- 18 – 24 years: 43
- 25 – 54 years: 28
- 54 – 64 years: 3

**Gender (students and adults)**

- Male: 116
- Female: 26
- Total: 142

**Racial/ethnic demographics (students and adults)**

- Am. Ind/Alaskan: 2
- Black/AA: 70
- Asian/Pac Island: 4
- Hispanic/Latino: 7
- White/Caucasian: 58
- Other: 1

**Income level (students and adults)**

- Low*: 77%
- Other: 8%
- Unknown: 15%

*based on eligibility for free/reduced lunch or Missouri Medicaid waiver
Jesse

Jesse Anderson, 23, wants to find a job and be an active member of his community. That can be hard for adults with autism, learning difficulties or other disabilities. To help him reach this goal his family enrolled him in Sherwood’s Employment and Community Options (ECO) program.

Through the ECO program Jesse learns job skills by volunteering at not-for-profit organizations including Catholic Charities, Wayside Waifs, and Junior Achievement. Volunteer positions help individuals with autism or other disabilities learn how to interact with the community.

“Jesse’s communication skills have improved a lot,” said Tina Yocam, employment coordinator. “At first he was nervous and stuttered, but now he speaks more clearly and confidently.”

Jesse has learned more than job skills; he has become a peer support to other participants in the adult program where he helps others with basic skills like putting on a jacket. His mother, Nikeshia Arnold, says Jesse is more helpful at home since being at Sherwood.

For the future – Jesse wants a job at a place like Walmart, perhaps in the electronics section. Thanks to the ECO program that’s a very achievable dream.