

# 2014 **Annual Report**



Discovering the potential in all of us

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## President's Letter

Each of us holds the potential to transform our own lives and the lives of those around us. This past year, we underwent a process to develop a new brand for Sertoma Centre, Inc. Through the branding process coupled with input from you, our donors and volunteers, we developed a new tagline for Sertoma Centre.

The tagline, **Discovering the Potential in All of Us**, was developed as a 360-degree look at all who are a part of Sertoma Centre. Each of our consumers has goals and plans for their lives and dreams that become a reality through the support of our programs and staff. Their potential is discovered because of the support of you, our generous contributors. Our staff recognizes this potential and fosters it within each of the 815 individuals who came through our doors. We see the potential with each staff member, to develop their skills and use best practices to continue to provide quality programs. Sertoma's programs were recognized again with a three-year accreditation from the CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities).

We also see the potential within our volunteers. Volunteer Services has developed opportunities to best utilize the talents of those who want to become involved. Volunteers host special community days within programs complete with games, crafts, dances, and more. They also bring new life and beauty to the landscaping at our residential homes. Others may help organize files, make copies, or assist in setting up or running an event. All have the potential to change lives by giving of themselves.

Finally, we recognize the possibilities of our donors. You give us the resources we need to provide and expand services. Services that continue to make a difference. Programs that help our consumers be healthier and more fit. New programs that enable individuals with mental illness to live and fully participate in the community.

In the pages of this report, you will see how you are helping us discover the potential in all of us. For that, we are most grateful.

Gus van den Brink

Slenn Rylina

Bob Straz



## Because of You, the Donor

Kathy and David Carlig have been supporters of Sertoma Centre, Inc. for more than twenty years. They have a fondness for the work, particularly within Residential Services where Kathy's late sister, Patsy, lived. Kathy and David were strong supporters of our last capital campaign and have made generous contributions to help with renovations and improvements to our 10 Community Integrated Living Arrangement Homes. They are also members of our Star Society (planned giving program) and Silent Partners. Not only are Kathy and David generous with their contributions, they also give of their time and talents. Kathy has been a loyal volunteer for our Housewares Show Pack-Up and Super Sale set up.

Felicia Fredrick has worked in social service most of her life. She has helped teen moms, mentored foster families, and worked with children with disabilities. Felicia understands the importance of helping others. When she began looking for a volunteer opportunity, she found her fit at Sertoma Centre. Felicia began volunteering almost three years ago. She has worked in various programs that include Developmental Training, Employment Services and Mental Health and Counseling Services. Felicia enjoys helping consumers feel a sense of accomplishment completing a craft project or making a bracelet during arts and craft class. She has created a place for consumers to read, find resources, and relax in the newly renovated Resource Room at Mental Health and Counseling Services. Why does Felicia want to be involved with us? She likes seeing consumers' pride in their accomplishments.

Al and Don Haraf have been a part of Sertoma Centre since it began, when their brother Ron became a consumer. His brother Al still remembers how proud Ron was bringing home his first paycheck. Don said he could not imagine how different Ron's life would have been if Sertoma Centre had not been a part of it.

They have seen how proud the consumers are to be at the agency and how much the staff cares about helping them achieve their potential. This is the reason Al and Don want to be involved and give back. Al is a member of the Annual Fund Committee, a member of the Silent Partner Society, a volunteer, and donor. Don has been volunteering for more than seven years. He challenges others to want to get involved with Sertoma Centre to understand the joys that volunteering can bring. Al agrees that everyone should arrange a visit, spend some time at the workshop, and get to know the individuals and staff to see how they embrace your presence and welcome you. "Volunteer once and you'll want to stay involved at some level," he said. Don's employer, McCormick Foundation, shares his sense of philanthropy. They encourage all employees to donate a maximum of four days per year to a charity of their choice. For each day they volunteer. McCormick Foundation donates \$500 to the charity for a maximum of \$2,000 per year. Sertoma not only benefits from the work Don has done at events and with special projects, but also appreciates the support of his company as well.

Chris Sarlas is a community leader in the south suburbs. A retired pediatric dentist and active member of St. Nicholas Church, Chris was a charter member of American Heritage Sertoma Club which started in 1988. He served in various offices for the club including chair and president while helping create the World Series Board Fund raiser. Chris served on the Centre Board of Directors for seven years. When Chris is not busy volunteering in the community, he enjoys spending time with his grandchildren and performing with the Palos Players Theatre Group. Chris recently retired from Sertoma's Board. Thank you for many years of guidance and your continuing service to mankind.

## Featured Accomplishments

#### Four New Companies Add Subcontract Work

Sertoma added four new customers to our subcontract services to allow consumers in assembly, production, and mail services to participate in developmental training, build self-esteem, and receive a paycheck.

#### Snack Shack Teaches On-the-Job Skills

The Snack Shack celebrated its one-year anniversary. The Snack Shack offers lunch and snacks at a reasonable price at our facility on 127th Street in Alsip. The Snack Shack provides consumers with training to assist them in developing skills for community employment. During the past year, five participants have found community employment after training in the Snack Shack.

#### **Increased Employment in the Community**

More than 70 individuals with developmental disabilities were placed in community jobs last year. With the addition of a new job developer in the department, we have helped more consumers find employment than in any other year because of new partnerships and marketing efforts in the community.

#### **Celebrating Autism Awareness**

Autism Services celebrated Autism Awareness Month with various activities including a Second Annual Walk for individuals in the program, their families, friends, and staff. Walkers increased by 30 percent from last year.

#### Additional Programs Provided in Mental Health

Mental Health and Counseling Services secured multiple grants to increase service offerings. These services include Crisis Assessment in emergency rooms, Discharge Linkage from psychiatric inpatient units, and Outreach to those difficult to engage consumers. They have also started a Community Support Team that actively supports consumers who are moving out of nursing homes. Group and individual counseling enrollment has increased to 140 consumers, and the program and their involvement resulted in the enrollment of 26 consumers. Community Education provided various awareness and informational sessions to more than 1,000 people. Mental Health and Counseling Services also physically expanded and moved into their newly renovated space.

#### **Volunteers Give Their Time & Talent**

More than 300 volunteers donated 4,000 hours of service last year at special events, in programs, and administration support. Volunteers also participated in special group projects. Providence High School students assisted in an Eagle Scout project to build a new flower bed at one of our residential houses. Employees from Target planted new flowers and performed landscaping at another home. Days filled with special activities were planned with the Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, and Mount Greenwood Elementary School's National Junior Honor Society, allowing consumers the opportunity for building relationships and creating community inclusion.

#### Fun in the Community

Individuals in Day Programs and Residential Services participated in many community outings that included: trips to the zoo; Navy Pier; parks; Medieval Times; weekends at the race track; a Chicago Spirit Cruise; the auto show; community church picnics; water parks; and, the circus. The Residential Consumer Social Committee planned wonderful dances, parties, picnics, and barbecues throughout the year. Our Residential consumers also formed their own basketball and bowling leagues.

#### **Enhancing the Health & Well-Being of Residents**

Residential Services participated in two fitness programs that encouraged healthy choices and increased exercise. Fifteen Residential consumers participated in the second year of the Healthy and Able Curriculum developed by the University of Illinois at Chicago for adults with developmental disabilities. Two AmeriCorps volunteers implemented the program, which included exercise, nutrition, and health education components. A new Residential consumer lost nearly 100 pounds. Five consumers participated in a community fitness program at Suburban Access. Favorite activities include kick boxing, weight training, and muscle toning exercises. Our Residential Clinic expanded its services to include: podiatry; vision; ophthalmology; psychiatry; dental; and, neurology to offer increased health and wellness to our consumers.

#### Adaptive Tennis Program Teaches New Skills

We partnered with a coordinator from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) to create an adaptive tennis program customized to each person's specific ability level to improve participants' minds and bodies. Leah Friedman, Junior Development Coordinator of USTA/Midwest Section, provided initial training for our staff on teaching tennis basics. We have applied for a grant to expand the adaptive tennis program and purchase additional equipment.



### **Featured Consumers**

Candace dreamed of finding a home of her own and being able to live independently outside of the nursing home where she had been for years. After participating in the Mental Health and Counseling Services group and individual therapy, Candace worked with the newly created Community Support Team to find an apartment in the suburbs. With the support of the team and staff at Employment Services, Candace also found a job in the community working at Chili's Restaurant, where her employer describes her as an upbeat employee.

**Armando** is a man of many talents. He is smart, witty, and likes working with the public. In addition, he is artistic and used his talents to design the logo for the Snack Shack. His design is featured on the menus dispersed throughout the kitchen at our 127th Street facility and on the shirts worn by those working in the Snack Shack. Armando proudly wears one as he works alongside co-workers learning customer service skills, inventory controls, money handling, cash register operations, and stocking.

This past year, **Quincy** learned about healthy eating as part of the Healthy and Able Program. He learned that movement and simple exercise would aid him on his quest to improving his physical well-being. Quincy's newfound knowledge enabled him to lose more than 100 pounds. He is continuing to use these skills to reduce and maintain his weight. With his reduced weight has come renewed energy, the ability to participate in activities Quincy loves (but could not do before) such as bowling or walking around the zoo, and a sense of pride in what he has accomplished. Quincy's smile widens when he talks about his weight loss.

He beams equally as bright when he talks about preparing mailings or packaging products as part of his developmental training in our Autism Services Program, which he attends daily with his roommates from one of our Residential Services homes. Quincy shares a home in Olympia Fields with five other gentlemen. He moved there in March and loves hanging out in the backyard, playing basketball, or watching Shadow Boxer, his favorite movie, in their family room.



## Revenues & Expenses

## Sertoma Centre, Inc. & Sertoma Centre Foundation, Inc. Statement of Revenues & Expenses Fiscal Year 2014

Sertoma Centre, Inc.	(unaudited)
Revenues	
Government Grants & Fees	\$9,866,167
Janitorial Services	\$2,126,958
Packaging & Assembly	\$383,736
Transportation Fees	\$612,167
Grants for Capital Projects	\$306,296
Restricted Contributions – Capital Projects	\$20,774
Unrestricted Contributions	\$21,930
United Way Donation	\$15,000
Interest Income	\$23,714
Donations from Sertoma Centre Foundation	\$75,000
Other Income	\$129,467
Total Revenues	\$13,581,209
Expenses	
Staff Employment Expenses	\$9,584,515
Client Wages	\$243,686
Occupancy	\$828,868
Program & Consumable Supplies	\$434,669
Staff and Client Transportation	\$543,676
Depreciation	\$605,813
Insurance	\$585,830
Foster Care Payments	\$56,084
Consulting & Professional Fees	\$259,660
Other	\$327,048
Total Expenses	\$13,469,849
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$111,359

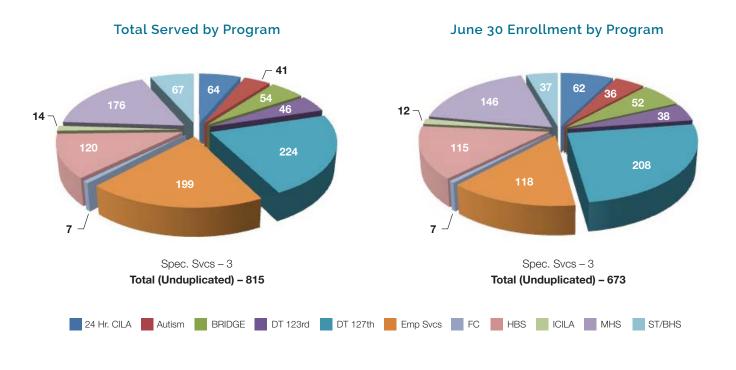
NOTE: Revenue included above of \$327,070 was externally designated
for capital purchases

Sertoma Centre Foundation, Inc.	(unaudited)
Revenues	
Special Events	\$116,362
Contributions from Individuals	\$62,535
Contributions from Organizations	\$39,997
Contributions from Foundations	\$16,250
Capital Campaign	\$500
Investment Income	\$143,001
Total Revenues	\$378,645
Expenses	
Donations to Sertoma Centre	75,000
Professional Consultants' Services	145,606
Direct Fundraising Expenses	59,618
Total Expenses	\$280,224
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$98,421

NOTE: Total revenue raised through fundraising for both the Centre and Foundation is \$291,151



## Summary of Individuals Served



## Sertoma Centre's History

More than 40 years ago, local business and community leaders saw a need to assist individuals with developmental disabilities. With a donation of land from a local construction company, three Sertoma Clubs created Sertoma Centre, Inc. We began with a staff of four employees offering day programs for 11 individuals in a 3,200 square feet building. Through the years, programs and services were added as we continued to fulfill our mission. With the generosity of our donors, we expanded our original building. We also opened two more facilities and 10 residential homes. We became known as the Sertoma Career Center. By 1987, our facility expanded to a 43,800 square foot work space serving 200 consumers, with a staff of 100 employees.

During the 1990s, we established Employment Services and Residential Services. We have expanded our Residential Program to include 10 Community Integrated Living Arrangement homes. In 2000, the Centre doubled its space by opening a second facility at 4100 W. 127th Street in Alsip. The 46,000 square foot building, dedicated as the Martha Polacek facility, is home to subcontract packaging and training services, developmental training, and high school transition.

In 2006, a third facility was purchased in Matteson which offers programs and services through our Mental Health and Counseling Services. At this time, an Autism Services Program also began at our 123rd Street Alsip facility.

In 2014, we expanded Mental Health and Counseling Services to include additional programs beyond group and individual therapy. We added community service teams, crisis assessment, outreach and linkage services, and community education. The objective is to raise awareness of mental health and ease the stigma surrounding it, and provide employment services targeted for individuals with mental illness. These programs were possible because of grants secured in the past year.

We also broke ground on a 16-unit Permanent Supportive Housing Unit in Homewood to provide housing for individuals with disabilities.

Today, we offer 12 programs and services to more than 815 individuals with developmental disabilities and/or mental illness.

### Get Involved

#### **Donate**

- To our Annual Fund or become a Silent Partner
- Your time through various volunteer opportunities
- A matching gift from your employer
- Through estate planning to become a member of the Star Society
- An in-kind product or service from our wish list

#### **Contract With Us For**

- Packaging and Assembly
- Employment Services
- Janitorial Services
- Lawn Care and Snow Removal



Discovering the potential in all of us

To learn more on how to get involved, contact our Director of Advancement at 708-730-6206.

Donations can also be made online at www.sertomacentre.org.

Administrative Offices & **Employment Services** 4343 W. 123rd Street Alsip, IL 60803 708-371-9700

Martha Polacek Training & Packaging Facility 4100 West 127th Street Alsip, IL 60803 708-371-9700

Mental Health & Counseling Services 4331 West Lincoln Highway, Suite A Matteson, IL 60443 708-748-1951

www.sertomacentre.org

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