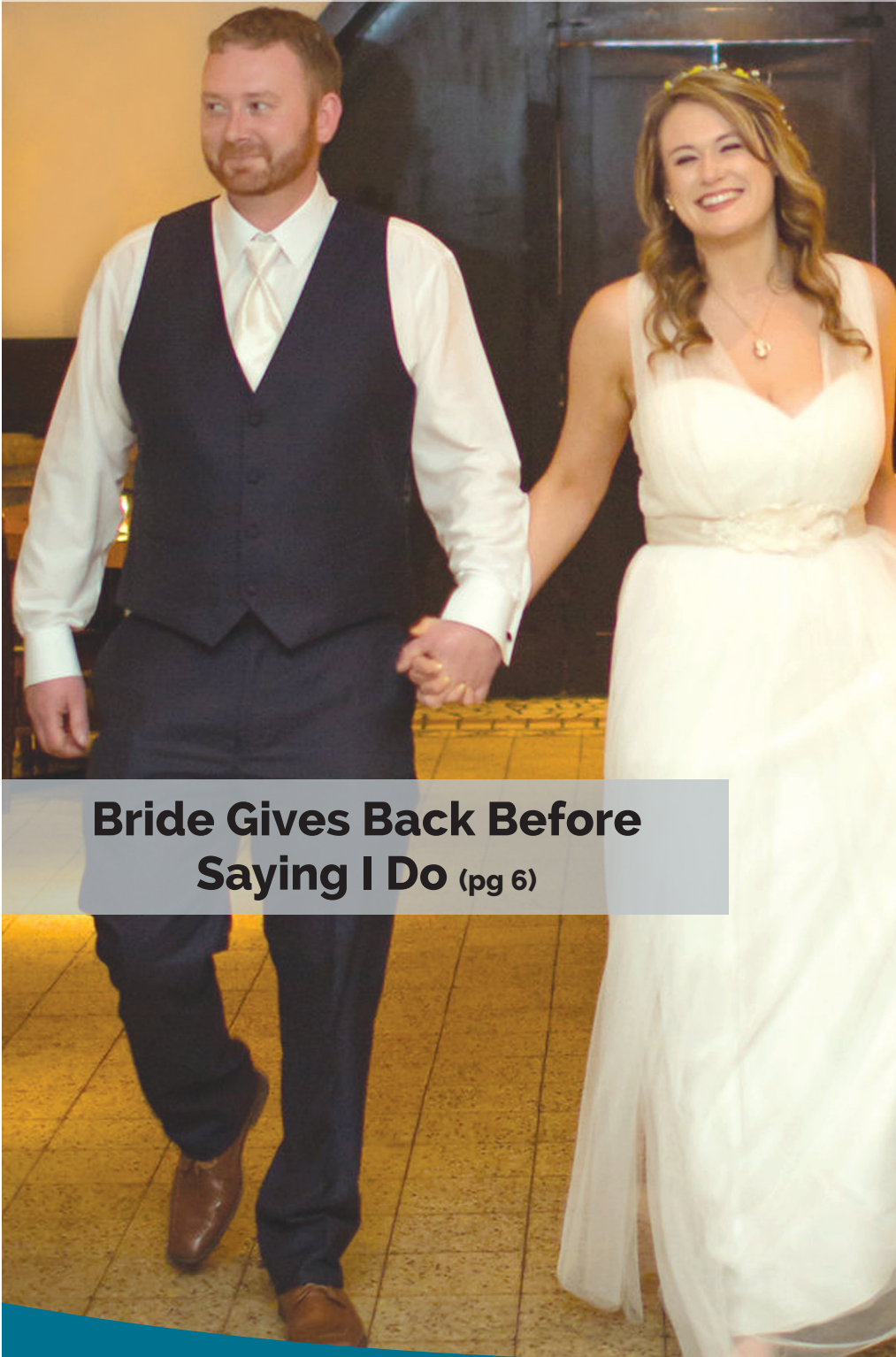


# Network

A publication of  
Sertoma Centre



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 **Sertoma  
Centre, Inc.**

Discovering the  
potential in all of us

## Letter from Gus van den Brink, Executive Director



Change seems to be the one constant for us in community services for individuals with disabilities. I have said this before and I am sure many people in other fields of work would say the same thing. We could probably have a lively discussion on which profession or industry has and will have the most change occurring. In community services and human services in general we have the challenge to implement system-wide changes that demand more from us in a resource-starved environment, i.e. no rate increases for 9 years, the

Illinois state budget crisis with no FY 2016 budget, an inadequate "Stop Gap Budget" for FY 2017, and 8 billion dollars in unpaid bills.

However, Sertoma Centre is no stranger to charting new territory or taking on a challenge. In 1971 three Sertoma Clubs took on the challenge to open a new agency-Sertoma Centre, to address the unmet need of services for adults with developmental disabilities. Sertoma Centre was one of the first agencies in the state to offer supported community employment. In the 90s we worked to provide services to transition individuals with disabilities out of nursing homes and into community services. Currently we are part of a state-wide initiative to move individuals with mental illness out of private institutions and provide them support to live successfully in the community.

So, although some of the changes are daunting, Sertoma Centre Board and Staff will be working to participate, plan and change our services in the coming years. I am pleased to report that to aid in planning and moving ahead successfully the Sertoma Centre Foundation has awarded the Centre a grant to implement strategic planning beginning in September of this year. We will be working with Carol Henriques of HighBar Consulting to complete comprehensive strategic planning for the Centre and Foundation.

Not that moving forward can wait for planning, as currently we are participating in changes as they occur and opportunities as they present themselves. Some of these things that are creating change this year and in the years to come include:

- Illinois' Employment First Initiative which will challenge individuals to look at and consider "Community Integrated Employment" as their first option before working in a sheltered workshop setting.
- WIOA-the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act which will prohibit the employment of students and young people to the age of 24 in a sheltered work shop, and require all adults with disabilities to apply with the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services and go through their services/processes before being able to work in a sheltered workshop.
- Final guidelines from Federal CMS on the settings for services provided through the Home and Community Based Waiver. Known as CILA, Developmental Training, and Home Based Service here in Illinois, the final guidelines will challenge the state and community providers to move more and more of their services from group

homes, sheltered workshops and facility based settings to settings with greater community integration.

- Integrated care and managed care for medical and behavioral health services. This initiative started several years ago and continues to change and expand, affecting service delivery and funding as it progresses.

Please watch for more information and opportunities to participate as Sertoma works through the coming year to adapt to changes and use the process to improve our services and grow stronger through the future.

As always, thank you for your support of Sertoma Centre and please consider a donation to the Centre using the envelope included with this newsletter. Your support and financial contributions are essential to our success and much appreciated.

### 2016-2017 Board of Directors

Sertoma Centre, Inc.	Sertoma Centre Foundation, Inc.
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Members:	Members:
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John Fanning	Peter Davidson
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Robert Scott	Dan Harris
	Ed Kelly
	Gus van den Brink

### Star Society Members (Planned Giving)

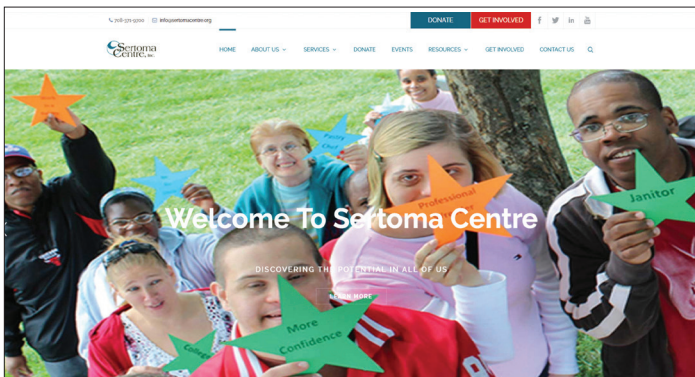
Cheryl Assise	Dominic Porto
David & Kathy Carlig	Peter & Alice Stratigos
Gene Cunningham	Robert S. Straz
Beverly Harpold	Edward & Donna Sumner
Roger & Pat Harpold	Frank J. Tomecek
David A. Hartley	Gus & Jayne van den Brink
Greg Hase	Ruth Walsh Estate
Cindy & Dave Isabel	Ernie Wulff
Robert McKenna Estate	

## Sertoma Centre Relaunches with Multi-Device-Friendly Website Design

Sertoma Centre launched the redesign of its website on Thursday, June 30, 2016. It provides visitors with a clean uncluttered design, enhanced features, and includes easier navigation and updated information on all services. The website boasts a modern, colorful design and features the agency's new branding standards that were introduced in the winter of 2014. A beautiful photo banner adorns the welcome page and features consumers, current fundraisers and information about specific programs in the organization. It will be updated regularly with current news and events.

The redesigned website is also responsive, making it multi-device-friendly to cell phones and tablets for a fun user experience. The website now includes buttons in the top header making it easier than ever to donate and get involved. An added bonus of the site is the events section. You can easily find out what is happening all year long and save these events through iCalendar as well as find venues easily via Google maps. With the site now being more user-friendly, purchasing tickets and becoming a sponsor for any fundraiser is a breeze.

According to Debra Marillo, Director of Advancement and Communications, "Sertoma Centre is very excited to provide a more user-friendly website with additional points of access through mobile devices. It has been well received by both frequent and new visitors and we look forward to its continuous growth in the future". Visit [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org) to enjoy your experience with the new site.



Sertoma Centre's new home page banner. Check out the new design at [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org).

## Consumer Spotlight: Matt Kaluza is Reaching for the Stars

Everyone loves a feel good story and what Matt Kaluza has accomplished is extraordinary. Matt started in Employment Services in November 2015. Through the employment classes with Maurine Lloyd, Employment Specialist Supervisor, he learned how to clean, keep up personal hygiene, how to interview on a job and how to fill out job applications on the computer. Matt was the star of the class. "I enjoyed the class, it was very helpful for me", Matt says happily. Matt is also determined. He filled out many applications without



any callbacks from jobs he was interested in, but kept his hopes high. He sat down with his job coach, and filled out several applications to Dollar Tree Distribution Center and other places to see who would call back. To Matt's delight, he was hired by Dollar Tree in February 2016. He now works full-time and there is talk that the company may give him a raise very soon. Matt says, "I am successful at a lot of things. I've learned how to multi-task. I never thought I could be at this place. I have a good relationship with my family now that I am working and saving money." One of his most recent goals is continuing his education and finishing school. Go Matt! Keep "discovering your potential".

## Meet David Troy-Our Associate Board's Second in Command

Meet David Troy who volunteered to step up to the plate as the Vice President of Sertoma Centre's Associate Board. He is an adjunct professor at St. Xavier University and immediately used his resources to help Sertoma Centre have a greater impact through social media.



His social media communication class that met in spring 2016 presented seven different presentations to Sertoma's PR & Marketing Manager to enhance and promote Sertoma Centre, Inc.'s social media platforms and upcoming 2016 Giving Tuesday campaign through greater awareness and branding.

"I heard about Sertoma Centre through attending the Big Event in 2015. I started volunteering after hearing about the Associate Board through Chris Van Eck and Lisa Molloy. I knew after learning about the organization, that this was a worthwhile adventure and something I could be proud of supporting. I have volunteered at the Big Event and offered my social media class to help the Centre think of different marketing efforts that may be beneficial. I was chosen as Vice President after volunteering to take on the role."

Current officers are Chris Van Eck, President, David Troy, Vice President, Caitie Cross Lombard, Secretary and Anne Murphy, Treasurer, and members Terra Jacobson, James Johnstone, Thomas Kopko, Jeff Lombard, Tom Matug, Michael Murphy and Zach Reid.

Benefits of Sertoma Centre's Associate Board:

- Serve as an Ambassador of Sertoma Centre and create new relationships
- Enhance your resume by learning new marketable skills
- Network with other passionate philanthropic individuals who care about their community
- Expand your leadership potential through new and innovative initiatives

Applications for the Associate Board are now available. We have many ways to get involved through our Committees. To find out how you can become part of this group, contact staff liaison Lisa Molloy at [lmolloy@sertomacentre.org](mailto:lmolloy@sertomacentre.org) or 708.730.6210.



Drumming for Joy pilot class with Gus van den Brink and Kathy Groenendal, President of Benjamin B. Green-Field Foundation.

### Sertoma Centre is Drumming for Joy at Music Room Dedication



Members of the first official eight-week Drumming for Joy music class at the 127th street location got a special treat on graduation day. First, they had the opportunity to meet and play instruments with Kathy Groenendal, President of the Benjamin B. Green-Field Foundation, which provided major funding to the program. Second, they were part of the dedication and naming of the room as the Benjamin B. Green-Field Music Room in honor of the

foundation's generosity. Finally, they took pictures with Kathy to show off their graduation certificates.



127th consumers proudly showing Drumming for Joy certificates with Kathy Groenendal.

Sertoma Centre was recently awarded a grant from the foundation to support the Music, Art and Nutrition program at Sertoma Centre. The foundation specifically earmarked a large portion of the grant to purchase musical instruments and secure the services of music therapists on a contractual basis. Therefore, the program will be able to provide music therapy throughout the year at the Alsip and Matteson locations.

Drumming for Joy is taught by Operations Supervisor, John Carter, who is an accomplished instrumentalist and lover of all things music. His enthusiasm is catching, which is evident by a long waiting list to get into his class! John plans to continue to add instruments to an already growing collection as the class continues to expand, and would like to organize a consumer performance group.

### United Way Rewards Sertoma Centre for Impacting the Community

Sertoma Centre recently received the Income Impact Award for outstanding work in the area of Income Supports at United Way of Metropolitan Chicago's annual luncheon in downtown Chicago. Debra Marillo, Director of Advancement and Communications, received the award on behalf of Sertoma Centre on June 16, 2016.



Debra Marillo with United Way Representative Keith Lewis.



Sertoma Centre's CMHC consumers with signs at Mental Health Rally at the Thompson Center.

### Consumers at CMHC Celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month

May was Mental Health Awareness Month and CMHC consumers participated in several Mental Health Awareness activities. Consumers had the opportunity to create artwork for an art exhibit that was held at the Thompson Center. The exhibit was entitled "There is Healing in Art." On May 2, 2016, a group of fifteen consumers went to the Thompson Center in order to view the exhibit and support peers that contributed to the art exhibit. On May 12, 2016, eleven consumers attended a Mental Health and Wellness Fair at the Thompson Center. This gave consumers the opportunity to obtain resources, sample products, and participate in demonstrations revolving around mental health and wellness. On May 19, 2016, a group of ten consumers attended the Mental Health Rally at the Thompson Center. During this outing, consumers joined in the rally by showing their support for mental health funding and services. A few consumers proudly shared and displayed posters that they created advocating for services and asking that funds not be cut.

### Volunteer #All Star: Lois Purrazzo

We like to recognize our volunteers, because we know without them we could not pull off successful fundraisers each year, run our program areas so smoothly and help consumers as much as we do. We would like to highlight eight-year volunteer, Lois Purrazzo, Volunteer #All Star. Lois found out about Sertoma Centre when her daughter began using the agency's services. She was thankful that Sertoma was a good fit for her daughter and wanted to be a volunteer. "I wanted to give back to an agency that was giving back to me", says Lois. Already a servant at heart, she loves to volunteer at church, work and anywhere else she sees a need.

Her advice to those thinking about volunteering, "Don't be afraid to try something new. You are getting something out of volunteering. Many people may think, well, you're giving your time, energy, etc., but you are always getting something back. It might not be in tangible things you see, but in the satisfaction that you are helping someone else." If you would like to know more about how to get involved at Sertoma Centre, contact Laura Gardner, Volunteer Services Manager, at [lgardner@sertomacentre.org](mailto:lgardner@sertomacentre.org) or call (708) 730-6211.



Lois Purrazzo, eight-year volunteer of Sertoma Centre.



Paul and Allison Feeney toast to a wonderful future together.

## Bride Gives Back Before Saying I Do

WE MAKE A  
**LIVING** BY  
**WHAT WE GET,**  
 BUT WE MAKE A  
**LIFE** BY  
**WHAT WE GIVE.**

It was a dream day for Allison who married her beau, Paul, on a sunny, brisk Saturday on April 2, 2016. The day was a hit and everything fell into place as planned. One detail took a lot more thought and foresight – in lieu of party favors Allison decided to give back to her

community. She did this by donating what she would have spent on party favors to an agency that is near and dear to her heart, Sertoma Centre. “I was excited to incorporate Sertoma Centre as part of my wedding favors because it’s something I will always appreciate, and it helped me discover my passion for special education.” Allison said. For each party favor that would have been purchased, she donated \$3.00 instead and rounded up to 100 guests. Each table setting had a card that said, “Thank you for sharing our special day with us! In lieu of

traditional favors and in recognition of your love and support we have chosen to make a donation to Sertoma Centre, Inc. Sertoma Centre seeks to provide opportunities that empower individuals with disabilities to achieve personal success. Love, Allison and Paul!”

A popular trend in weddings now and listed on wedding sites, it’s the thing to do among new couples. Allison got the idea from her sister, who had married five years earlier and donated money to the American Cancer Society. When she was planning her wedding Allison decided she wanted to give a wedding donation to honor her guests. Sertoma Centre was the first thing she thought of. Sertoma Centre was her second job out of college and really helped her recognize her passion for special education. Since then she has completed her Master’s degree and is now a special education teacher. She will always love Sertoma Centre and the work of the agency.

The donation was put to good use right away. It went toward Sertoma Centre’s 4th Annual Autism Walk-a-Thon that took place on Friday, May 6, 2016. With the couple’s wonderful contribution the walk raised the most money since it began four years ago. Monies raised went to Autism Services for various projects and activities to enhance programs. The walk had a great turnout, with over 141 consumers from our 123rd and 127th locations who received medals for finishing the race. Family and friends were in attendance to show their support.

Thank you Allison and Paul for your contribution and for making Sertoma Centre a part of your special day!



123rd consumers cheer on consumers on the trail at the 4th Annual Autism Walk-a-Thon.



Volleyball for Charity presents Debra Marillo, Director of Advancement with check from fundraiser.

### Volleyball for Charity "Serves" Generosity to Sertoma Centre

Sertoma Centre was chosen to receive a portion of the proceeds from the 2016 Volleyball for Charity (VFC) event held on April 2, 2016, thanks to staff member Mary Larmon. Her efforts resulted in a generous gift to Sertoma Centre on June 13, 2016 at a dedication ceremony. Laura Clark, who heads the effort, heard so many great things about Sertoma from Mary that she nominated Sertoma to be considered to receive some of the proceeds from the event.

VFC is a non-profit organization that hosts an annual co-ed volleyball tournament and after party in the south suburbs. Its mission is to raise funds for people with disabilities. Laura's parents decided to retire from organizing the event after 35 years of operating the fundraiser. Laura was approached by Oak Lawn Community Pavilion in partnership with SRASA to continue the tradition. She "couldn't resist the opportunity to be part of the next chapter of VFC." And so the tradition continues!

Sertoma Centre is very grateful for the support of this fantastic group. Thanks Mary!

### Local Restaurants Take The Cake on Mouth Watering Generosity

Over the last several months, local restaurants, Nothing Bundt Cakes of Orland Park and Oak Lawn, as well as Burger 21 of Orland Park designated a day during their normal open hours to donate ten percent of all proceeds back to Sertoma Centre. Nothing Bundt Cakes of Oak Lawn and Orland Park also attended two of our biggest fundraisers of the year and gave ten percent of the proceeds they earned back to the agency. Thank you Nothing Bundt Cakes and Burger 21 for your kindness and generosity and believing in Sertoma Centre's mission to empower individuals with disabilities.



Thank you Nothing Bundt Cakes of Oak Lawn and Orland Park and Burger 21 for opening your doors and your hearts to Sertoma Centre.

### A BIG Shoutout to Our Volunteers!

We would like to give a HUGE shout out to all the many, many wonderful volunteers working with us since the beginning of the year. From January to now we have had over 200 volunteers who have assisted Sertoma Centre in administrative tasks, organization, program areas, program events and special events. We have said it before and will say it again, "SERTOMA CENTRE HAS THE BEST VOLUNTEERS!!!" Thanks to everyone for all your hard work and dedication.



## Housewares Pack Up and Super Sale Fundraiser Huge Success

Partnering with the International Home + Housewares Show this year yielded staggering results! Although the McCormick Place exhibitors are only in town for a few days, their impact on Sertoma Centre and the consumers we service was huge. As one of only five local charities who received product donations from their amazing program, we had a record year of proceeds raised!

On the show's closing day, Tuesday, March 8th, over 140 Sertoma Centre volunteers loaded into luxury buses and headed downtown to conduct some heavy labor on our behalf. These selfless individuals helped gather, organize and pack up brand new donated products from companies like Meyer Corporation (Rachael Ray, Anolon, Paula Deen, Circulon, etc.), Aladdin, Home Essentials & Beyond, Godinger, Prodyne, The Libman Company, Regent Products and more! In all, about 80 skids were loaded into three semi-trucks which delivered everything three days later and filled up about half of our Albertson's/Safeway donated property in Palos Heights!

After unpacking many, many boxes (again, THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!) and sorting merchandise, our residential home managers came to the store and went "shopping" for necessities for our consumer homes. They were able to bring back new convection ovens, coffee makers, towels, pots and pans, silverware, tableware, bakeware, glasses and mugs, cleaning supplies, décor, kitchen accessories and some party goodies! Even some donated tables, chairs, book shelves and benches made it into our CILA homes as well as our new 16-unit independent-living apartment complex. Our staff also prepared for different fundraisers throughout the year by hand-picking items for raffle prizes and baskets.



Housewares Show volunteers packed up the deals and brought back the savings to Super Sale!

For the 3 weeks following, we arranged and set-up for our annual "Super Sale" held at the Old Dominick's off 127th and Ridgeland in Palos Heights. We were so fortunate to have a space with available shelving, electricity and heating/air conditioning. On April 2nd, the weekend after Easter, we opened to the public and the line formed around the building! We had over 2,200 shopping guests that first day and over 3,000 went through the door that weekend. Needless to say, we were overwhelmed with gratitude and the immeasurable patience of our supporters throughout this event! We broke our previous record and raised \$70,000 in three days. What an incredible experience and outpouring of true philanthropy from the residents of our local communities!

## Sertoma Centre's BIG Event Reached Record Breaking Heights

This year marked Sertoma Centre's 12th annual BIG Event, which featured an award-winning cook-off with Chicagoland firefighters, the BIG Raffle, music by The Kennedy Compound, a special kids' activity area and other spectacular entertainment.



Our biggest fundraiser of the year The BIG Event and Firefighters' Cook-Off 2016. Fun for all!

The event, which was held from 5 to 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 30th at 115 Bourbon Street in Merrionette Park, was our biggest fundraiser this year. Programs funded by this event help individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities and those living with mental illness. Along with Laura Gardner, Volunteer Coordinator, we would like to thank the over 75 volunteers who assisted in making this event so successful and worked from 12 noon until almost 10 at night to ensure the night's success.

The BIG Event & Firefighters' Cook-Off raised over \$130,000 this year, which was a much larger amount than previous years, according to Debra Marillo, Director of Advancement. The event was sponsored by various businesses and supporters, including Proven Managed IT Solutions, A.C.T.I.O.N. Sertoma Club, Chicago Lawn Sertoma Club, TOSHIBA, POW-R Sertoma Club, and Katherine Vennetti while also being supported by firehouse chefs across Chicago.

"Every year we have amazing firefighters participate in our cook-off challenge who invite their friends and families to support this important fundraiser," said Ericka Glorious Moore, Manager of Public Relations. Firefighters this year represented departments from Blue Island, Calumet Park, Chicago, Lemont, Lombard, Nilas, South Holland and Wheaton.

The BIG event also featured The Kennedy Compound band, special kids' area activities such as face-painting, encounters with exotic animals, a magic show, a silent auction and the BIG raffle with over \$17,000 in cash prizes.





## We're Celebrating a New Milestone!

Our Associate Board held its first fundraising event just as this newsletter was going to press! We are SO excited to have such enthusiastic and dedicated board members among our thriving group of young professionals.

On Thursday, August 11th, Sertoma Centre's Associate Board hosted "Quest for the Cup", a fun and casual Trivia Night that was held at Durbin's in Tinley Park. Our two co-chairs, Terra Jacobsen and Anne Murphy, combined a great social gathering with raising money for consumer programs, and they did it with flair. This inaugural Associate Board event featured unlimited pizza, domestic bottled beer and wine, raffle prizes, a team trivia competition with Loren Gent of FunFunFun DJs, and many shenanigans!

Since the launch of our new Sertoma Centre website, we have been diligently adding updated tech which includes being able to register and pay for all of our events online. The Associate Board is cutting down on the use of paper invitations, not only reducing costs but also trying to lean toward keeping our events more "green". Also, the convenience of being able to sign up for an activity online in a few short minutes is an easy time-saver for our guests. Social media is a key form of communication in our world now, and Anne and Terra spread the word for this event on our Facebook page and tickets were sold out one week before our event! We also hope this step will encourage a boost on other platforms, such as Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube.

All of our Associate Board fundraisers aim to spotlight our mission and introduce or further educate people about our much-needed services for individuals with disabilities. Please stay on the lookout for information to join, donate to or sponsor our Golf Fore ChariTee being held on Monday, October 3rd at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor. It will be Sertoma Centre's first golf outing fundraiser and we are going to have a few surprises up our sleeve for you!

## Save-the-Date for Sertoma Centre's Annual Holiday Bazaar



The fifth Annual Holiday Bazaar will be here before you know it! On Friday, December 2, 2016, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., we open to the general public. This gives consumers an opportunity to shop with veteran and new vendors located on the second floor consumer lunchroom and classrooms at 123rd Street. Filled with beautiful and unique hand-crafted items, free gift wrapping stations, and delicious treats at Mrs. Claus' Bake Shop and North Pole Cafe, it will be a fun time for all. The proceeds from each of Sertoma Centre's Vendor Booths go directly to the participating programs, and support people with disabilities.

## #Giving Tuesday is Back!

For the first time last year Sertoma Centre was involved in a global movement called Giving Tuesday on December 1st. The #DiscoverMe campaign that launched was meant to bring awareness and financial support through social media. It was a powerful event that raised over fifteen hundred dollars.

This year, Giving Tuesday will be on November 29th and we want to expand our reach and touch many more people through our social media outlets. Be on the look out for the new campaign name and many exciting details that we will soon reveal. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and check out our website for more info at [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org).





A heartfelt thank you goes out to the many supporters of Sertoma Centre's first permanent supportive housing unit.

### First Permanent Supportive Housing Project

It was a long day coming for everyone at Sertoma Centre when the first permanent supportive housing project opened its doors earlier this year. It was a blistery cold day outside, but hearts were warmed inside and joy was on the faces of those who attended the open house on January 20, 2016 for Kimball Court Apartments in Homewood, IL. It was a monumental and historic day for the agency since the groundbreaking in 2014.

During the year 2009 the agency had an opportunity through the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health to attend the Supportive Housing Institute. It was put on by the Corporation for Supportive Housing and sponsored by the DMH. Four staff members attended this training and were taught the basics on how to develop and operate permanent supportive housing. In 2013, the team submitted the application for Kimball Court Apartments to

the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), and only a year and a half later in June of 2014 the ground breaking took place.

The open house began with light refreshments and 15 minute tours of the building before the program started at 10 a.m. Presenters: State Senator Hastings, Mayor Hofeld of Homewood, Frank Tomecek, Vice-President of Sertoma Centre's Board, Charlotte Flickinger, Director of Legislative Affairs, IHDA, Jane Hornstein, CCDPD, and Richard Monocchio spoke briefly about the huge accomplishment this building represented and the impact it would make on the residents as well as the community. Supportive housing helps people live stable, successful lives through a combination of affordable, permanent housing and supportive services, appropriate to the needs and preferences of the residents. The 16-unit building is fully accessible and furnished, and helps individuals live independently in their community.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to many for their support of this project. This includes: Audra Hamernik and John Cronin, Linscott Park, John Fallon, Corporation for Supportive Housing, The Illinois Housing Development Authority, The Cook County Department of Planning and Development, Bureau of Economic Development, Illinois Department of Economic Opportunity, Mayor Hofeld and the Village of Homewood, and the Housing Authority of Cook County. Also, a special thanks to the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health, Lindsay Huth, Dr. Constance Williams and Linne Teagues, the Great Lakes Charitable Foundation, and our Sertoma staff: Paula Phillips, Michele Arthur, Ray Benaitis, Laura Yanez, Sarah Wiemeyer, Rachel Hayslette, and Amber Reno.



A happy family gives a tour of their apartment to Senator Hastings, Paula Phillips, Assistant Executive Director of Sertoma Centre and Lindsay Huth, DMH.



Some of the residents of Kimball Court Apartments enjoy a night of Bingo.

### Sertoma Centre's Wish List

Looking for a fun way to give? Our programs could use any of the following: a Braille machine, a variety of music CDs, puzzles of various difficulty, games (family games/card games/outdoor games), and fitness equipment (stationary bikes, treadmills – in good working condition). For a complete wish list of items, visit our website at [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org).

If you would like to donate any of these items or prefer to make a financial donation to underwrite a purchase, please contact the Director of Advancement and Communications at (708) 730-6206.

### Join Our Silent Partners In Supporting Our Mission

Do you share a strong connection to our mission of providing opportunities that empower individuals with disabilities to achieve success? Do you have an interest in supporting Sertoma's mission on a committed, personal level? Would you like to be part of an elite group of donors who are making a difference in the lives of others?

Silent Partners consist of donors who make an annual contribution of \$750 or more and these donors are the foundation of our annual individual giving campaign. We recognize these donors in our annual report, on our website, at a private dinner in February, and as part of our golf outing in October.

Silent Partners not only help us provide programs and services to more than 1,200 people each year, but they also have the opportunity to network and establish relationships with other partners who share the same philanthropic goals. We would like to welcome you to this partnership. If you are interested in becoming a Silent Partner, contact Debra Marillo, Director of Advancement and Communications at (708) 730-6206.

### Sertoma Centre Severe Weather Announcements: Important Notice for Parents, Guardians, and Third-Party Providers

The cold weather will soon be upon us! We think. If temperatures are at a high of zero degrees or below for the day, for the safety of consumers, transportation services will not be provided. The facilities will, however, be open. You can find up-to-date information regarding Sertoma Centre transportation and possible closings on the home page of our website at [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org). Facebook fans can like Sertoma Centre's page ([facebook.com/SertomaCentreInc](https://facebook.com/SertomaCentreInc)) and you will see the announcements as they are posted. Announcements are also posted on Sertoma Centre's LinkedIn ([linkedin.com/groups/SertomaCentreInc](https://linkedin.com/groups/SertomaCentreInc)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/SertomaCentreInc](https://twitter.com/SertomaCentreInc)) pages. Additionally, our facility closings will be listed at [www.EmergencyClosing.com](http://www.EmergencyClosing.com). Stay warm this winter!

### Sertoma Centre, Inc.'s Mission Statement

At Sertoma Centre, Inc., our mission is to provide opportunities that empower individuals with disabilities to achieve personal success.

CARF Accredited, 501(c)(3) Organization

### Sertoma Centre, Inc. Code of Ethics Policy

Sertoma Centre has the obligation to act in ways that will merit the trust, confidence, and respect of individuals, their families, and the community. To this end, we have a Code of Ethics. Our commitment is to ensure any allegation of violation of this Code by individuals, family members, guardians, staff, and members of the community are investigated and addressed. For a complete copy of the Code and the complaint process, please visit the Sertoma Centre website: [www.sertomacentre.org](http://www.sertomacentre.org).



Discovering the  
potential in all of us

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### Mark your calendar with these important upcoming events:

- American Heritage Sertoma Club Candy Days – September 9-10, 2016
- POW-R Sertoma Club Candy Days – September 23-24, 2016
- Associate Board Golf Fore ChariTee Outing – Monday, October 3, 2016
- ACTION Sertoma Club RockTober Fest, Gaelic Park – Friday, October 21, 2016
- Spirit of Sertoma Awards Celebration Dinner – Thursday, November 3, 2016
- Giving Tuesday – Tuesday, November 29, 2016
- Holiday Bazaar – Friday, December 2, 2016
- POW-R Sertoma Club NFL Bash – Sunday, January 22, 2017
- Silent Partner Dinner – Friday, February 3, 2017
- International Housewares Show Pack Up – Tuesday, March 21, 2017
- The BIG Event & Firefighters' Cook-Off – Saturday May 20, 2017

Watch our website and social media pages for events happening through our partner Sertoma Clubs and other Sertoma Centre events!

### For more information, call or write:

Sertoma Centre, Inc.  
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