

ACCESS LIVING



ACCESS
LIVING

ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2019



THEN AND NOW:

Access Living's Legacy of Impact





1988



2005



1999



1988

PHOTOS

TOP ROW, LEFT-RIGHT: Mike Ervin moderates a press conference following the landmark ruling against the CTA (From left: Marca Bristo, AL staff member Tim Sullivan, attorney Kate Yannias, Mike Ervin, and AL staff member Susan Nussbaum). Yoshiko Dart presents Marca Bristo with the 2005 Lead On Award.

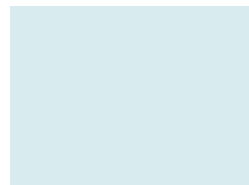
ROW 2: Access Living's Access to the World Benefit (Front row from left: Toulla Constantinou, Marca Bristo. Back row left to right: Clarence Wood, Neil Hartigan, Ginny Thornburgh, Arthur C. Martinez, Liz Martinez, Karen McCulloh, Alan Leff). Chicago's disabled community exerts consistent pressure for equal access to public transportation.



1990



1989



2005

PHOTOS, THIS PAGE, CONTINUED:

ROW 3: Assistant Secretary of Housing Gordon Mansfield (left) discusses the Fair Housing Amendments with Barbara Black, Ken Williams, and Access Living Advocacy Director Ora Schub. Marca Bristo and Justin Dart lead a vigil in support of the ADA in front of the White House.

ROW 4: (From left to right) Sarah Watkins, Sarah Triano, Yoshiko Dart, and Judy Heumann at the Access Living 25th Anniversary Gala.

ROW 6: Access Living and the Network of Illinois Voters with Disabilities at a public rally, which would prohibit discrimination in housing on the basis of disability. People interested in becoming CTA driving trainers for the new lift-equipped buses.

COVER: Access Living staff, 1980 and 2019.



1988



1990

We Are Access Living...

A center of service, advocacy and social change for people with disabilities led and run by a majority of people with disabilities in Chicago.

We ignite disability power and pride, provide critical services so that disabled people can live independently, and break down systemic barriers to create a stronger, more inclusive society.

We envision a world free from barriers and discrimination – where disability is a respected and natural part of the human experience and people with disabilities are included and valued.



PHOTO (ABOVE): Advocate and Young Professionals Council President Justin Cooper.

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Andrés Gallegos, Board Chairman* 4

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Access Living's Legacy of Impact



DAISY FEIDT
Access Living
Acting President/CEO



ANDRÉS GALLEGOS
Board Chairman

2019 was a year of great progress and profound sadness at Access Living. We continued our unwavering efforts to improve the lives of people with disabilities through our consumer services, our growing policy agenda and our legal work to protect and promote disability rights. But, sadly, we also lost our founding President and CEO, Marca Bristo, to cancer. She was a guiding force for our organization and the entire disability community, and we miss her daily.

There is no better way to honor Marca than to continue and build upon her life's work. We assured her we would. In 2020, Access Living will celebrate its 40th anniversary. Throughout the year we are planning many events and activities celebrating Marca's life and our anniversary. Thus, we felt that this year's annual report should both document our latest work and showcase the work that came before it, which makes up the fabric of who we are.

Access Living was created 10 years before the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed, at a time when many people with disabilities could not even dream of civil rights legislation. Access Living was one of the first Centers of Independent Living in the country, providing critical services for disabled Chicagoans to live independently, and working to break down systemic barriers to create a stronger more inclusive world. That's a vision we need to keep top of mind more than ever in these polarizing times. Our experience tells us it's not out of reach. We've laid a strong foundation for the work we do today and the work we'll do tomorrow. Our legacy of impact is just beginning.

We make sure that we have seats at tables where decisions regarding issues affecting the lives of persons with disabilities are made.

To that end, Access Living participated on the transition teams for Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot and Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker in 2019, while still holding the city and state accountable for its responsibilities to people with disabilities. We need more accessible affordable housing, equal access to rideshare services, and appropriate funding for personal assistants. We continued to hold Chicago Public Schools accountable for meeting the needs of students with disabilities, while also expanding our youth empowerment, teaching high schoolers with disabilities life skills and disability history. We continued to move people out of nursing homes into their own homes, and expanded our work in the areas of racial justice and immigration.

All of that is a taste of the work we did this year. More details are in the pages that follow. The success that we had this year was not possible without the generous support of our community, the tireless, devoted efforts of our immensely talented staff, the unwavering support of our Board of Directors, and the courage and voice of the consumers we proudly serve. While we need to reflect upon our past accomplishments, we have our sights aimed at the future both near and far. There is so much work we need to accomplish. We look forward to your continued generosity, efforts and support as we continue to challenge stereotypes, offer services and defend disability rights for the next 40 years and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daisy Feidt".

Daisy Feidt

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrés J. Gallegos, Esq.".

Andrés J. Gallegos, Esq.

Bringing Disability to the Forefront



DARREN WALKER
President,
Ford Foundation
with Marca Bristo

As the president of the Ford Foundation, I have the great privilege of meeting with visionary leaders who are on the front lines of social change. It is in this role that I came to know Access Living and to admire, adore and revere its founding President and CEO Marca Bristo. I knew her as an advocate and an activist, but also as my teacher, as my mentor and as my friend.

A few years ago, a number of people reached out to me in response to a well-publicized letter I wrote on the Ford Foundation's new-found focus on inequality. For all the Foundation was doing to fight inequality in its many forms, we failed to address how our work would disrupt the stark inequities that face people with disabilities.

It was clear that I needed an education on disability. And everyone I talked to said the person who would educate me was Marca Bristo. So I found this brilliant, dazzling, badass woman in Chicago and made my way as soon as I could to her doorstep. And very quickly, Marca Bristo taught me, and taught all of us at the Ford Foundation, about the history and the experience of people with disabilities.

She showed us the ways injustice, bias and prejudice impact people with disabilities, and how the Ford Foundation, if we were to be true to our mission of fighting inequality in the world, had to understand the fight and the potential of people with disabilities.

She reminded us that not only must we change policies and laws, it was also important to change hearts and minds. This is the type of work that Access Living knows well, and Marca helped bring transformative change to our institution. So much so that when it was time to elect a new trustee to the Ford Foundation Board, we were thrilled at the prospect of working side by side with Marca.

We were devastated when Marca called with the news that things did not look good for her. She was positive and hopeful even in delivering tragic news.

Marca spent her life fighting to ensure that people with disabilities had a seat at the table, and she lived by the maxim "nothing about us without us." On behalf of everyone at the Ford Foundation, I know she will always have a place in our boardroom and in our hearts. I am so grateful for her influence, her humanity, her humility and her hope.

I see so much of her in the army of people she worked with at Access Living. Her spirit and vision lives on in them. And I have no doubt that together, we can make the world a better place for people with disabilities.

Darren Walker

Our Board of Directors

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Robbins, Salomon, and
Patt, Ltd.

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Shari Runner
The Humanity Institute

Wilson Mantilla
Peoples Gas

Zak Kordik, MD
Modern Mental Health
and Foundations
Recovery Network

Mark Owen
RxAdvance

*Deceased

Remembering Access Living's Founding CEO Marca Bristo

Access Living's founding CEO and internationally renowned disability rights leader Marca Bristo passed away on September 8, 2019 from cancer.

Paralyzed from the chest down in a diving accident at age 23, Marca became a staunch disability activist early in life and was named CEO of Access Living just two years after her accident.

Advocates from all fields recognized Marca's powerful – and sometimes deliberately controversial – tactics. To work with Marca was to be part of a never-ending conversation about disability. 24/7, 365 days a year, she guided and mentored us.

That's why almost 40 years after Marca took the helm at Access Living, we continue to be a highly influential voice in the fight for equity and inclusion of people with disabilities.

Marca was beloved in Chicago, not only for her ability to cement longstanding relationships, but because she saw opportunities that opened doors for people with disabilities. She was not a leader for just one community, but in solidarity with all. Because of Marca, Access Living is a place for people who wish to serve others and who are ready to challenge the status quo.

Marca did that herself and her advocacy never stopped. One of her crowning achievements was helping to author the Americans with Disabilities Act, the landmark legislation that granted people with disabilities civil rights, which was signed into law in 1990. Her efforts led to accessible buses in Chicago, the first fair housing program in the country to address disability discrimination, the inclusion of disability issues in domestic violence law, and the requirement for all televisions to have close-captioned decoders.

When asked about her advocacy work in a 2008 interview with *Chicago Magazine* she said, "That's part of the disability experience: taking risks and having a tenacious sense of can-do-ness. The things we've been advocating are not just for a marginal group of people; they're for the society as a whole. Disability affects all of us. It's time that we normalize and accept it rather than perceive it to be at the margins of our society."

Marca, we miss you. We know you're still with us as we lead on. We aim to be champions of change and to lead from power as you did. Thank you for showing us how. We are forever grateful.



PHOTOS, ABOVE: Marca Bristo with Access Living Board Members. TOP RIGHT: "Lead On" Award winner then-Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Tammy Duckworth with Marca Bristo. BOTTOM RIGHT: Marca Bristo and Jim DeJong.

“Marca had a remarkable way of bringing out the best within us. For me, she was a trusted voice and a persistent, buoyant spirit – an example that progress can be slow, but it’s always possible. We’ll miss her, but we’re far better off because of her fight.”

– BARACK OBAMA



1991



1993



1980

PHOTOS, TOP ROW, L-R: Marca Bristo with her 7-month old daughter, Madeline. Gloria Steinem and Marca Bristo at a women's healthcare rally. Marca Bristo, Hunt Hamil and Access Living staff at the grand opening of Access Living. BELOW: Marca at a protest to stop home care cuts.



MARCA BRISTO | REST IN POWER
JUNE 23, 1953 – SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

“Marca Bristo leaves an incredible legacy of making the world more just and accessible for everyone in her community. Her work will live on with the countless friends and colleagues she inspired, including me.”

– ILLINOIS GOVERNOR
JB PRITZKER



2010



1998



2011



2005



CIRCA
1985

PHOTOS, LEFT: U.S. Senator Barack Obama and Marca Bristo at a forum on Social Security. ABOVE: Marca Bristo and Chicago Mayor Harold Washington.

RIGHT: Marca Bristo at Wrigley Field for the Spirit of the ADA National Torch Relay.



2000

PHOTOS ABOVE, L-R: President Clinton signing Executive Order 13078, Increasing Employment of Adults with Disabilities, in the Oval Office. Participants include: Sen. Tom Harkin, Rep. Steny Hoyer, Sen. Max Cleland, Sen. Jim Jeffords, Sec. Ale. Justin Dart, Marca Bristo and others. Marca and Judy Heumann.

“With Marca’s passing, our nation has lost an extraordinary champion for the rights of people with disabilities.”

– SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
NANCY PELOSI

Our Consumers*

Access Living works with youth and adults with disabilities who live in Chicago. We work with people who have physical, intellectual, psychiatric and sensory disabilities. Most of the services we offer are for people who have a low income.

In 2019, we provided services to 1,834 people.

*Consumers are the people with disabilities with whom we work.

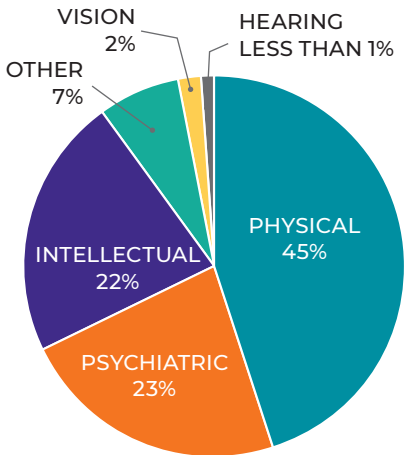
The graphs below measure:

- What services we provided
- What disabilities the people we worked with had
- The age of our consumers
- The race of our consumers

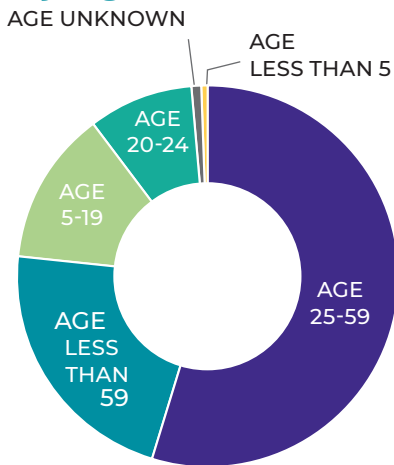
Number of Disabled People who Received Services from Access Living



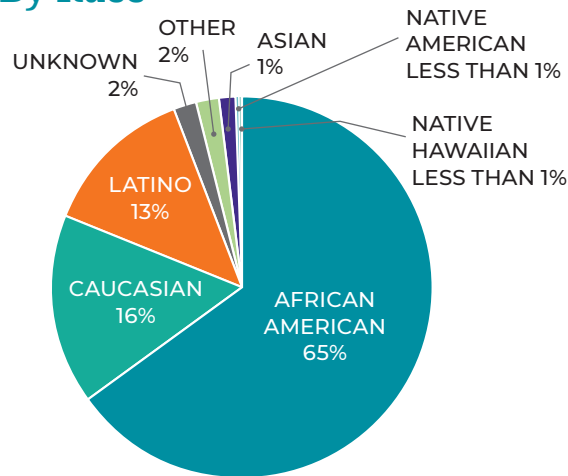
By Disability



By Age



By Race



PHOTOS, L-R: Lonnie Grant, Jim Lossau, and Denise Kiggins attend an independent living skills seminar. Fair Housing Amendments enforcement coordinator Cheryl Graves reviews a housing complaint with Jose Moreira. Access Living former board member Alice Palmer at 2018 annual meeting.



Our Services

Access Living offers services and support for people with disabilities in Chicago. This year, with Access Living's support:

+ **253** people with disabilities worked with us to learn how to live independently. 89% of participants in this program said they learned useful information about managing finances and the benefits available for people with disabilities.

+ We connected more than **230** disabled people in Chicago to services, supports and adaptive technology that they needed to be more independent.

+ We transitioned **53** people out of nursing facilities and into home and community-based settings.

+ More than **250** people attended classes on affordable housing.

+ More than **170** young people with disabilities worked with us to transition from high school to higher education or employment through our Fast Track and Pre-Employment Transition Services programs.

“I really enjoyed the class. The topics and materials were very informative. I feel capable and comfortable with managing my personal finances. I would recommend this class to others because there is a lot of information that people don't know about.”

+ More than **40** young people with disabilities were mentored by others with disabilities or gained employment through our programming.

+ Provided **346** consumers with individualized support in hiring Personal Assistants.

+ **57** people took our money management classes and **85%** of them have improved their financial position.



PHOTOS, L-R: Access Living at the 2018 Disability Pride Parade. Access Living housing workshop. Access Living AYLP member Kristin Hadley.



PHOTOS: Access Living advocates making their voices heard in Chicago, Springfield, Illinois and Washington, D.C.

Defending Our Rights

Access Living does community organizing, policy work and legal work around issues that are important to people with disabilities in Chicago, Illinois and nationwide. We speak up to make sure the rights of people with disabilities are respected and that our voices are heard. We fight against disability-related discrimination. In 2019:

- Our staff and board members participated in transition subcommittee work for both Governor Pritzker and Mayor Lightfoot. For the Governor, we were part of the civil rights and healthcare subcommittees, and for the Mayor, we were part of the housing and transportation subcommittees.
- Our advocacy staff visited with 35 state and city level elected officials to build relationships and educate our representatives on what Access Living does and what our community cares about.
- We joined other advocates in leading policy work around assistance animals in housing after learning the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) plans to modify its existing guidance. We remain concerned HUD will issue new guidance that makes it more difficult for disabled people to assert their right to have assistance animals in housing.

Education

- We released our twelfth annual review of the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) budget for FY 2019 citing special education staffing shortages and recommending strategic reconsideration of how CPS will resolve issues affecting students with disabilities.
- As one of the leaders of the Chicago Special Education Advocates Group, we began collaborating with the Illinois State Board of Education and its newly appointed monitor in order to reform CPS's special education program.
- We celebrated a newly enacted education law this spring that our staff wrote and that we vigorously advocated for. It initially provided parents of students with disabilities in CPS with a draft of Individual Education Plan (IEP) documents five days in advance of IEP meetings so that parents have a chance to review them and to contribute to the IEP in a meaningful way. We then advocated for a special education bill extending the scope statewide so all Illinois families of students with disabilities would receive the benefit of having sufficient information three days before the IEP meeting.

Healthcare

- The Healthcare and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) policy and organizing staff conducted a wildly successful town hall on sexuality that explored disability, sexual identity, sexual pleasure and agency in an affirming way.
- They also worked to support the right to sex and reproductive health education for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities through a state bill, HB 3299.
- Access Living hosted its second Queer X Disability Resource Fair.



Housing

- We filed a federal lawsuit against the City of Chicago for not having accessible homeless shelters and for turning people away because they have a disability.
- We continued our federal lawsuit against the City of Chicago over its failure to make its affordable housing program accessible to people with disabilities.
- Along with Neighbors for Affordable Housing and the Chicago Housing Initiative, Access Living's Disability Rights Action Coalition for Housing (DRACH) organizing group successfully pushed through a new accessible and affordable housing project in Jefferson Park.
- We continued to call for updates to Chicago's building code with the goal of making it the most accessible in the nation.
- We continued to give legal assistance to a family that wants to modify their historic home in Old Town for their daughter who uses a wheelchair. A group of neighbors claim modifying the family's home will compromise the historical nature of the neighborhood. We intervened in the case to protect the family's right to make the home accessible.



Transportation

- We continued our lawsuit against Uber.
- We participated in former Mayor Rahm Emanuel's Taskforce for New Mobility, which presented its findings in early 2019. Access Living recommended policies

to ensure the disability community has meaningful access to shared mobility devices as they are developed and brought online.

Intersectional Justice

- We have done more work on racial justice this year. We are working to change options for emergency response involving black and brown people with disabilities. To help address that, our Advancing Your Leadership Power (AYLP) organizing group hosted three town halls, including one where the Office of Emergency Management and Communications presented. Emergency response alternatives were explored and attendees learned about the current processes.
- We advocated on the rights of immigrants with disabilities. We worked on bills to make sure immigrants with disabilities in Illinois can access services they need, including a bill to protect immigrant tenants' rights. We also submitted public comments on the federal public charge rule change facing some immigrants with disabilities. Along with the National Immigrant Justice Center, we organized an Immigration and Disability Summit focused on Chicagoland advocates from both the immigration and disability sectors, establishing an action plan and a brand new Task Force to address issues facing immigrants with disabilities.

Our Arts and Culture

The Access Living's Arts and Culture Project promotes innovative art and disability culture, increases public access to disability arts and culture, and gives voice to artists with disabilities. It also curates a permanent art collection by artists with disabilities at Access Living's headquarters, and hosts a series of lectures, music, art, poetry and spoken word programs each year. In 2019, Access Living sponsored and co-sponsored 18 events attended by more than 1,400 people.



Collaborating Organizations:

3Arts

ADA 25 Advancing Leadership

Arts of Life Band

Beyond Media

Bodies of Work

Center on Halsted

Chicago Cultural Center

Dancing Wheels Company

Disability Dance Works

The Illinois Arts Council

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities

MOMENTA dance company

The Museum of Contemporary Art

The Poetry Foundation

Rolling Wheels

The University of Illinois at Chicago Disability Cultural Center

The University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Disability
and Human Development

Victory Gardens Theater

Wobbly Dance



PHOTOS, THIS PAGE AND OPPOSITE: Photos from a Disability Art Showcase at Access Living.

Photo Credit: Ryan Edmund



Collaborating Artists:

Nura Aly
 Yulia Arakelyan
 Bri Beck
 Matt Bodett
 Maggie Bridger
 Salome Chasnoff
 Stephanie Clemens
 Hai Cohen
 Laura Crotte
 Esteban David Cruz
 Baraka de Soleil
 Sydney Erlikh
 Mike Ervin
 Eric Ferguson
 Beth Finke
 Ladonna Freidheim
 Stefania Gomez
 Deb Goodman

Sarah Hollenbeck
 Anita Kenney
 Taylor Lane
 Ginger Lane
 Gaelynn Lea
 Riva Lehrer
 Kris Lenzo
 Tekki Lomnicki
 Susan Nussbaum
 Susan Ojala Myers
 Rob Rotman
 Carrie Sandahl
 Alice Sheppard
 Andy Slater
 Tali Wertheim
 Manako Yabe
 Sandie Yi
 Wannapa

Our Funding – Public

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019

“I moved out of a nursing home.

It would not have been possible without the help of Access Living.”

“Because of Access Living,

I’m able to advocate for myself in school

and know the benefits I have.”

“I can live in my house.

I can be with my family.”

CITY OF CHICAGO

- Department of Family and Support Services – Youth Mentoring
- Department of Planning and Development – Technical Assistance – Citywide
- Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities – Independent Living Program

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT ON AGING

- Colbert Housing Relocation Program

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

- Independent Living Program
- Home Services Program
 - Stepping Stones
 - Personal Assistance Training – INCIL Subgrant
- Vocational Rehabilitation
 - Community Based Employment Services
 - PTS – Pre-Employment Transition Services
 - Youth Initiative Project

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Administration for Community Living
 - Centers for Independent Living Program
 - Empowerment Zone

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Fair Housing Initiatives Program
- Housing Counseling – Housing Action Illinois Subgrant

STATE OF ILLINOIS

- Illinois Arts Council Agency

Our Funding – Private

Planned Giving Legacy Society

By joining our Planned Giving Legacy Society, you can ensure that Access Living will continue to empower people with disabilities to live independently for years to come. Through planned giving, you can provide support that benefits both Access Living and your loved ones.

Many thanks to the generous members of Access Living's Planned Giving Legacy Society:

Anonymous

Mr. Frank Alschuler*

Mr. & Mrs. Garland and Heather Armstrong

Mrs. Lucy Ascoli

Mr. Henry T. Chandler*

Mr. Henry T. Chandler, Jr.*

Ms. Courtney Graham Donnell*

Mr. Maurice Fantus*

Mr. William French*

Mr. & Mrs. Andrés and Donna Gallegos

Hon. Paddy McNamara

Mrs. Beatrice C. Mayer*

Ms. Sarah Michaelson

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce & Susan Miller & BJ Miller

Ms. Susan R. Nussbaum

Ms. Amy Osler

Ms. Pamela Ransom

Mrs. Jennifer Thomas

For those interested in learning more about planned giving, please visit Access Living's website for helpful information and useful tools www.AccessLiving.PlannedGiving.org.

You can also contact Planned Giving Manager Ben Santos at BSantos@AccessLiving.org or at (312) 640-2185 to get more information or schedule an appointment.

**Deceased*

We greatly appreciate each gift given in support of Access Living. While we try to ensure that all of the information is recorded accurately, an occasional error may occur. Please notify Director of Development Barbara Khalouf with any inaccuracies or omissions at bkhalouf@accessliving.org.



PHOTOS, TOP: Old friends Fr. Joe Mulcrone and Marlee Matlin at Access Living's 1993 annual benefit.

BOTTOM: Billy Altom, Executive Director of the Association of Programs for Rural Independent Living, sings at 2019 Access Living Gala.

Major Gifts Campaign

Anonymous (8)
 Boler Family Foundation
 Bresky Foundation
 Ms. Norma Borcherding
 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence and
 Susanne Broutman
 Mr. & Mrs. Alex and Jennifer Brown
 The Canning Foundation
 Coolidge Family Foundation
 Dr. Raymond Curry and
 Dr. Kristi Kirschner
 David & Edith DeMar Foundation
 Mr. Doug Dobmeyer
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel and Mary Dolan
 The Honorable Robert J. Dole
 Mr. Maurice Fantus* and
 Ms. Judith Aiello-Fantus
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Mary Finnegan
 Foglia Family Foundation
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 Mr. Kevin Fritz
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 The Harris Family Foundation
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 Kathleen Krehbiel
 Mr. John H. Krehbiel Jr.

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 Ms. Kristin Weaver
 Mr. Clifford Weber* and
 Ms. Nancy Prussian-Weber
 Ms. Joan Wolfensberger and
 Mr. Kurt Lloyd

**Deceased*

Corporations & Foundations

\$100,000 AND ABOVE

Anonymous (2)
 The Chicago Community Trust
 Robert and Joanne Crown Income
 Charitable Fund
 Foglia Family Foundation
 United Way of Metropolitan Chicago

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous
 Bresky Foundation
 The Canning Foundation
 D & R Fund
 Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust
 Ford Foundation
 JPMorgan Chase & Co.
 National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC),
 a program of Heartland Alliance
 Polk Bros. Foundation

\$20,000 - \$49,999

Bank of America Foundation
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 BMO Harris Bank
 The Harris Family Foundation
 Helen Brach Foundation
 Exelon Corporation
 The Grainger Foundation
 Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P.
 The Northern Trust Company
 Patrick G. & Shirley W. Ryan Foundation
 United Airlines

PHOTOS, L-R: Roger Ebert at Access Living 2001 annual benefit; 2003 Annual Gala honoree former U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and Marca Bristo. Bidder raises his card to make a donation at the 2019 Access Living Gala.



\$10,000 - \$19,999

Allstate Insurance Company
The Harry S. Black & Allon
Fuller Fund
Bruce T. Halle Family
Foundation
The Chicago Bar Foundation
CIBC Bank USA
Coolidge Family Foundation
Mary and Daniel Dolan Family
Foundation
Healthy Communities
Foundation
Kelley Drye & Warren LLP
Lakshmi Foundation
Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois
Peoples Gas Company
The Albert Pick Jr. Fund
PurePoint Financial
Rush University Medical Center
SEIU HCIL
SEIU Illinois Council
Sol & Tina P. Waxman Family
Foundation
Wieboldt Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Bailey, Borlack & Nadelhoffer
Carylon Foundation
The Chicago Community
Foundation
Chicago Housing Authority
Patrick and Anna M. Cudahy
Fund
Thomas A. Demetrio
Foundation
Dentons
EY
Joseph and Bessie Feinberg
Foundation

The Field Foundation
Illinois Arts Council
JRG Capital Partners LLC
Lawyers' Committee for Better
Housing
Lawyers Lend a Hand
Madigan Family Foundation
Robert R. McCormick
Foundation
Mesirow Financial
PNC Bank
Pritzker Traubert Family
Foundation
Robbins, Salomon & Patt, LTD.
Seabury Foundation
The Shirley Ryan AbilityLab
Sidley Austin Foundation
Simmons Hanly Conroy
Zennström Philanthropies

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous (2)
Aetna, Inc.
Ann & Robert H. Lurie
Children's Hospital of Chicago
Azteca Foods, Inc.
Benevity
Carol Lavin Bernick Family
Foundation
Frankle Family Fund
Hill Foundation for Families
Living with Disabilities
The Joyce Foundation
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Kasi Charitable Foundation
Kirkland & Ellis Foundation
Kovler Family Foundation
LCM Architects
Lilly Endowment Inc.
McKee Family Foundation

Network for Good
Public Interest Law Initiative
Sargent Family Foundation
Seyfarth Shaw LLP
Special People In Need
The Studio Account
United Way of Central Texas

\$500 - \$999

Momenta, Inc.
Salesforce

\$100 - \$499

Anonymous
Abbvie Employee
Engagement Fund
Allstate Giving Campaign
Church of the Three Crosses
Lake Shore Country Club
The Cozen O'Connor
Foundation Inc.
Outten & Golden LLP
United Way of Brown County

\$99 AND BELOW

Amazon Smile
Illinois Housing Development
Authority

IN-KIND DONORS

Adler Planetarium
Beatrix
BMO Harris Financial Group
Bub City
Chicago Architecture Center
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago History Museum
Chicago Opera Theater
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Exelon
Gene Siskel Film Center
Goodman Theatre
Harris Theater for Music
and Dance
Hub51
Illinois Sports Facilities
Authority
JPMorgan Chase
Kid's Table
Lettuce Entertain You
Enterprises
Lookingglass Theatre
Company
Microsoft
Midtown Athletic Club
Navy Pier
Northlight Theatre
Phil Stefani Signature
Restaurants
Porchlight Music Theatre
RAMEN-SAN
Revolution Brewing
SciTech Hands On Museum
Shedd Aquarium
The Joffrey Ballet
TimeLine Theatre Company
Trap Door Theatre
United Airlines
Zanies Comedy Club

“There are not words to describe the gratitude
I have for this program. I am beyond
grateful for all of you at Access Living.”

Tribute Gifts

In honor of Jeffry Wineman

Ms. Susan S. Adler

In honor of Amber Smock

Mr. & Mrs. Allan & Jan I. Bergman
Ms. Teresa M. Pacione

In honor of Candace Coleman

Ms. Consuella Brown

In honor of the Pillsbury Family

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In honor of Ken Roth

Mr. and Mrs. Paul and Dedrea Gray

In honor of Judge Jeffrey Gilbert

Ms. Ann L. Hoffman & Mr. Brian Heltsley

In honor of Maury Fantus

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In honor of Marilyn Martin

Ms. Barbara L. Kornblau

In honor of Matthew Ramirez

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In honor of Jennifer Brown

Ms. Donna Myers and Mr. Aaron Lebovitz

In honor of Keidra Chaney

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In honor of Cliff Weber

Mrs. Claire F. Prussian

In honor of John Schmidt

Ms. Brenda Rogers
Mr. Joseph Seliga
Ms. Carol Sonnenschein Sadow

In honor of Marca Bristo

Mr. & Mrs. Richard and Ella Strubel
Ms. Joan Wolfensberger and
Mr. Kurt Lloyd

In honor of Sarah Michaelson and Michael Herzovi's engagement

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Ms. Lisa Hoffman
Mrs. Pamela Horan-Bussey
Ms. Trina Kakacek
Ms. Lori Niemann
Ms. Carrie Sandahl
Mr. Andrew Tillman
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In memory of Beatrice C. Mayer

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Ms. Carole Berk
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Mr. Roy Deitchman
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In memory of Courtney Graham Donnell

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In memory of Judy Turner

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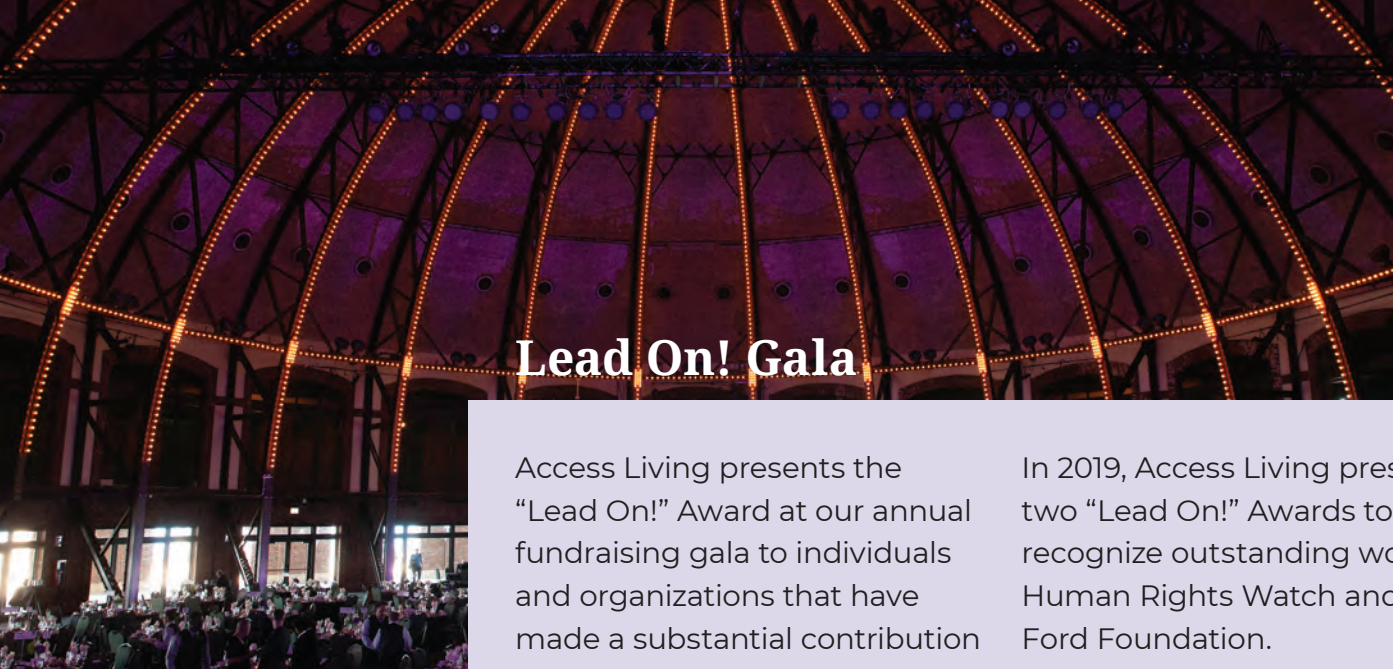
In memory of Joanne Strauss Crown

Robert and Joanne Crown
Income Charitable Fund

“To achieve independent living and move out of the nursing home has 100% improved my quality of life.”



PHOTO: Access Living volunteer assists a disabled consumer who is shopping for home goods.



Lead On! Gala

2019 “Lead On!” Awards Gala Sponsors

CO-CHAIR (\$50,000)

J.P.Morgan

VICE-CHAIR (\$25,000)



The Crown Family



Ambassador Ron Gidwitz
and James Gidwitz



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Access Living presents the “Lead On!” Award at our annual fundraising gala to individuals and organizations that have made a substantial contribution to the empowerment, inclusion, and independence of people with disabilities.

The award is named after Justin Dart, Jr., a crusader for disability rights, who ended every speech with the call to action, “Lead On!”

In 2019, Access Living presented two “Lead On!” Awards to recognize outstanding work to Human Rights Watch and the Ford Foundation.

Both Kenneth Roth, Executive Director of Human Rights Watch, and Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation, have demonstrated extraordinary leadership in their respective spheres bringing disability issues to the forefront.

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Donations listed between the dates of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

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\$50,000 AND ABOVE

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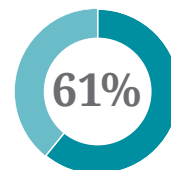
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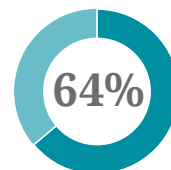
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**Deceased*

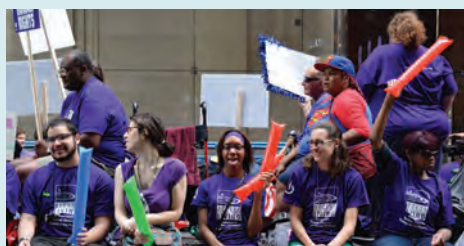
Nothing About Us Without Us



61%
OF OUR BOARD
MEMBERS HAVE
A DISABILITY



64%
OF OUR STAFF
MEMBERS HAVE
A DISABILITY



PHOTOS, TOP ROW, L-R: Access Living staff in 2019. Clarence Wood, Chairman of the City of Chicago Human Relations Commission, and President of the Human Relations Foundation of Chicago, and Access Living Board Member Edward Simmons. SEIU Healthcare at the Access Living Gala.

CENTER ROW, L-R: Judy Heumann and Justin Dart at a march in support of the ADA. A former nursing home resident, Michael Grice, is now an active Access Living advocate; Marca Bristo and Justin Dart at a rally.

BOTTOM ROW, L-R: Access Living advocates at the 2018 Disability Pride Parade. Access Living housing advocate DRACH leader Angela Lacy speaks out. Access Living's Dr. Angel Miles (left, front) with other healthcare advocates.



PHOTO: Members of Access Living's Young Professionals Council.

Young Professionals Council

The Young Professionals Council (YPC) is a diverse group of young leaders who support Access Living

This enthusiastic group of young professionals is igniting change. YPC members engage with their peers, grow their professional networks, give of their time and their talents and raise funds to support the work of Access Living – all while having a lot of fun.

This year, the Young Professionals Council hosted a spring fundraiser to support our work and to create awareness for young professionals in Chicago about how we work alongside and advocate for people with disabilities in Chicago to live self-directed lives as independently as possible in the community.

For more information on how to become involved in the Young Professionals Council, email YPC@AccessLiving.org.

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Elizabeth Wirtz

Our Financials

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION: JUNE 30, 2019 AND 2018

Assets

| | 2019 | 2018 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | \$ 2,320,538 | \$ 3,675,647 |
| Investments Designated for: | | |
| Endowment, Building, and Other Reserve Funds | 7,965,169 | 6,602,407 |
| Cost Incurred Recoverable under Grants, Net | 651,695 | 541,451 |
| Other Receivables | 94,010 | 129,150 |
| Unconditional Promises to Give, Net | 2,677,113 | 3,626,098 |
| Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets | 75,642 | 4,135 |
| Property and Equipment, Net | 7,201,333 | 7,479,512 |
| Art Collection | 59,461 | 59,461 |

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| \$ 21,044,961 | \$ 22,117,861 |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Accounts Payable and Other Accrued Expenses | \$ 120,796 | \$ 118,062 |
| Deferred Revenue from Advance Fees | 1,414 | 4,736 |
| Accrued Compensation | 894,602 | 240,628 |

Total Liabilities

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1,016,812 | 363,426 |
|------------------|----------------|

Net Assets

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Without Donor Restrictions | 14,596,719 | 14,934,434 |
| With Donor Restrictions | 5,431,430 | 6,820,001 |

Total Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 20,028,149 | 21,754,435 |
|-------------------|-------------------|

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| \$ 21,044,961 | \$ 22,117,861 |
|----------------------|----------------------|

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES: YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

| Operating Revenues | Without Donor Restrictions | With Donor Restrictions | Total |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Fees and Grants from Governmental Agencies | \$ 2,565,313 | \$ – | \$ 2,565,313 |
| General Public, Corporate and Foundation Support* | 1,261,120 | 450,385 | 1,711,505 |
| United Way of Chicago | 115,618 | – | 115,618 |
| Special Events | 730,760 | – | 730,760 |
| Investment Return | 406,771 | – | 406,771 |
| Other | 55,372 | – | 55,372 |
| Net Assets Released from Restriction | 1,838,956 | (1,838,956) | – |
| Total Operating Revenues | 6,973,910 | (1,388,571) | 5,585,339 |
| Operating Expenses | | | |
| Program Services | | | |
| Community Organizing | 521,656 | – | 521,656 |
| Youth Institute | 690,950 | – | 690,950 |
| Policy Analysis | 565,856 | – | 565,856 |
| Communications Team | 366,835 | – | 366,835 |
| Community Support | 704,951 | – | 704,951 |
| Civil Rights | 989,200 | – | 989,200 |
| Long Term Care | 1,194,950 | – | 1,194,950 |
| Art | 87,758 | – | 87,758 |
| Total Program Services | 5,122,156 | – | 5,122,156 |
| Supporting Services | | | |
| Management and General | 1,379,991 | – | 1,379,991 |
| Development | 809,478 | – | 809,478 |
| Total Supporting Services | 2,189,469 | – | 2,189,469 |
| Total Operating Expenses, Includes Depreciation and Amortization Expense of 416,200 | 7,311,625 | – | 7,311,625 |
| Change In Net Assets | (337,715) | (1,388,571) | (1,726,286) |
| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | 14,934,434 | 6,820,001 | 21,754,435 |
| Net Assets, End of Year | \$ 14,596,719 | \$ 5,431,430 | \$ 20,028,149 |

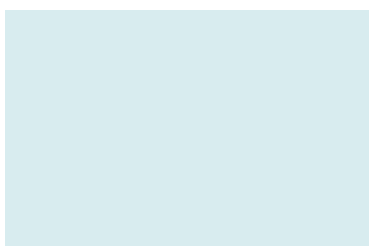
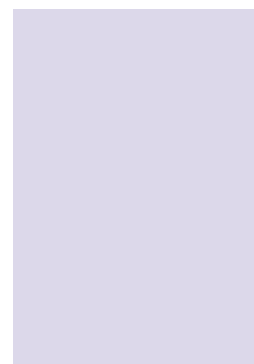
*Access Living began a Major Gifts Campaign in 2016 with a goal of raising \$10 million, a portion of which will be designated as an endowment, as well as used toward new and existing programs over the next five to seven years. \$850 thousand in revenue was recorded for the Major Gifts Campaign for the year ended June 30, 2019.

Ways To Give

We rely on support from our community to carry out our mission. Together, you can help us continue our legacy of impact in people's lives for the next 40 years and beyond!

- ▶ **Become a member of the Access Living Advocates**, the giving society of donors who give \$1,000 or more each year.
- ▶ **Donate to Access Living** by phone ((312) 640-2198), mail (115 W. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60654) or online at www.AccessLiving.org.
- ▶ **Join Circle of Allies**, a society of donors who make monthly recurring gifts to sustain our programs and services year round.
- ▶ **Double the impact of your gift!** Some companies match their employees' contributions – check with a human resources representative in your office to see what is possible.
- ▶ **Make us part of your family.** Provide for Access Living by making a planned giving legacy gift through your will or trust, or by naming Access Living as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan. Visit our Planned Giving website at www.AccessLiving.PlannedGiving.org.
- ▶ **Make a donation of appreciated stocks**, providing a substantial gift to us and a tax break for you.
- ▶ **Come to our Annual Gala.** Gather friends or colleagues to purchase a table or individual tickets to our annual celebration of our vital work.
- ▶ **Come to our Annual Fall Fundraiser Event.** We've hosted a comedy night, pasta making, wine & chocolate tastings, and much more! All events feature a silent auction, great food, and the opportunity to learn more about Access Living.
- ▶ **Host a fundraiser** for Access Living at your home, office or at our universal and green designed building.
- ▶ **Ask friends to make a donation** to Access Living in lieu of a gift for a special occasion.
- ▶ **Honor a loved one or friend (in life/in memory)** Is there someone special in your life or someone who has passed that you would like to honor with a special gift and notation on our donor listing?
- ▶ **Become a member of Access Living.** You'll receive our newsletter, be able to vote for the Board of Directors, attend our annual meeting and receive updates about issues concerning the disability community. Visit our members page on our website to join.
- ▶ **Join the Young Professionals Council**, a group of young professionals committed to supporting inclusion and independence for people with disabilities.
- ▶ **Spread the love.** Help us build new connections! Introduce us to your company, a celebrity or a media outlet.

If you'd like more information on ways to support Access Living, please contact Director of Development Barbara Khalouf at BKhalouf@AccessLiving.org or (312) 640-2198.



PHOTOS, TOP ROW: LEFT, National Council of Independent Living 2019 march in Washington, D.C. with Access Living members. CENTER, Access Living Director of Communications, Bridget Hayman with Illinois State Representative Theresa Mah. RIGHT: Members of Access Living's mentoring group.

CENTER ROW, L-R: 2019 'Lead On!' Award honoree, Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch, with Access Living Director of Advocacy Amber Smock, and fellow honoree Darren Walker, President of the Ford Foundation. Access Living's Advance Your Leadership Power racial justice group gathers for a power shot on the Access Living roof.

BOTTOM ROW, L-R: A DJMC mentor and mentee. Attendees mingling at Access Living's 2019 Gala.



This report is available in alternative format upon request.

Access Living

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