

supporting

individual worth

nurturing

SOME PEOPLE CAN'T IMAGINE
DOING WHAT WE DO.

We can't imagine not doing it.



2007 Annual Report

potential

sheltering

empowerment

service



“Look and UP HOPE”

— Maud Booth, Co-Founder,
Volunteers of America

nurturing

A Dynamic Ministry of Service since 1896

There are no limits to caring ... these words represent an enduring philosophy of service that spans three centuries.

With its founding in 1896 by two spirited social activists to its unprecedented growth as a service provider and advocate for social reform throughout the 20th century to its emergence as a human service leader in the new millennium,

Volunteers of America has honorably secured its place in history as a true American institution. The founders, Maud and Ballington Booth, envisioned a ministry of service dedicated to “reaching and uplifting” the American people.

When first founded, the organization was referred to as the “American Volunteers” or simply “The Volunteers” to signify that the organization was comprised of people who were voluntarily choosing to help and serve others in need. Later that year, the organization adopted its official title – the Volunteers of America.

The passion and fervor that inspired the organization’s founding mission was so powerful that within the first six months, Maud and Ballington Booth grew the organization from a single rented office in New York City to a robust network of more than a thousand members stationed in over 140 “posts” throughout the country.

The founders left an indelible mark on the social welfare movement of the 20th Century by serving as a powerful force for change in practice and

philosophy. Their impact on social institutions and human service systems can still be felt today.

With its Volunteer Prison League, thrift stores, rescue homes for young women, hospitals, homes for the unemployed and the first halfway houses in the country, Volunteers of America has been a true pioneer in bringing real solutions and hope to generations of Americans during their most trying and difficult times.

The founder's pledge to "go wherever we are needed and do whatever comes to hand" still guides the organization's growth and development more than a century later.

Today, Volunteers of America is one of the country's oldest and largest charities.

As a national, not-for-profit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need rebuild their lives and reach their full potential, Volunteers of America serves more than 2 million people each year in over 400 communities across the country.

As a national ministry of service, Volunteers of America supports and empowers America's most vulnerable citizens, including at-risk youth, the frail elderly, men and women returning from prison, homeless individuals and families, people with disabilities and those recovering from addictions.



"WHEN THE
HUMAN SPIRIT
EMPOWERED
PEOPLE CAN
ACCOMPLISH
MORE THAN THEY EVER THOUGHT"

empowering

*There are no limits to caring***SERVING CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

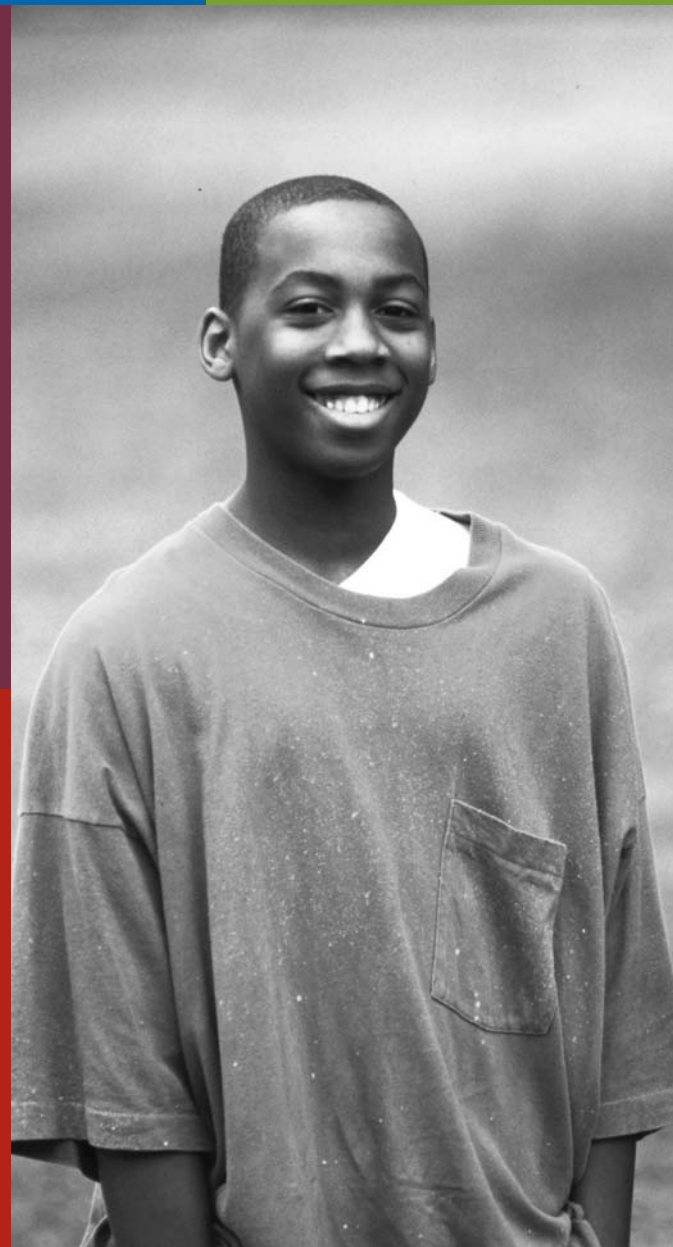
For more than a century, Volunteers of America of Illinois has been meeting the critical needs of children and families throughout the state with a variety of strength-based, child-centered and family-focused services designed to strengthen families; promote healthy development; and ensure safety, permanency and well-being for children.

We believe that all children need and deserve loving, nurturing families. If a child's birth family is permanently or temporarily unable to provide such an environment, we work to place the child in a safe, caring alternative family environment.

Our unique approach to providing child welfare services is anchored to a deep understanding of and commitment to the importance of preserving children's attachments. Our interventions are designed to minimize the trauma and subsequent separation and loss issues experienced by children who are removed from their birth families.

Our goal of achieving the best permanency option for each child is always rooted to an ongoing commitment to ensuring their short and long-term safety and well-being.

potential



carings

A collaborative and participatory approach to decision-making serves as the foundation of our casework practice.

Foster parents, birth parents, extended family and the children themselves are actively engaged in the interventions and decisions that move the child to permanency.

We serve children and families through a broad continuum of child welfare services, including:

- Foster care
- Kinship care
- Family reunification
- Adoption

**“WHAT
IS IN FRONT OF YOU
IS FAR MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN WHAT IS BEHIND YOU.”**



Providing shelter from the storms of life.

HOUSING FOR THOSE IN NEED

For more than 40 years, we have helped thousands of people find a home. Through our commitment to providing quality, affordable housing for seniors and adults with disabilities, Volunteers of America of Illinois provides a safe and supportive environment for these individuals who, with limited resources, are often forced to live in substandard and unsafe conditions.

We offer many support services and activities to our housing residents, such as peer support groups, transportation to medical appointments for the elderly and training for those with developmental disabilities.

Volunteers of America of Illinois provides high-quality, affordable housing with on-site support services at the following sites:

- Cedars of Lebanon is a 120-unit apartment community serving low-income seniors ages 55 and older in Lebanon, IL 25 miles east of St. Louis, MO.
- Marycrest Village Apartments is a 57-unit low-income senior community serving Joliet, IL and southwest Cook County.
- Les Chateaux North and Les Chateaux West Apartments are two adjacent senior communities totaling 102 units and located in the Town Center area of downtown St. Louis, MO.

sheltering





Supporting

- Hopewell Senior Village is a 53-unit senior community serving low-income seniors in the Central West End area of St. Louis, MO.
- EADS Square Apartments, located near Lafayette Park in St. Louis, MO is a 104-unit senior community serving low-income seniors.
- New Northside Apartments is a 54-unit, low-income senior community serving the North County area of St. Louis, MO.
- Third Ward Apartments is a 52-unit low-income senior community serving the Third Ward of St. Louis, Mo.
- Balsam Terrace is a 35-unit low-income senior community in Jacksonville, IL.

- Spruce Manor is a 15-unit housing community with a focus serving the deaf in Jacksonville, IL.

**“UNTIL
YOU SPREAD YOUR WINGS,
YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW
FAR YOU CAN FLY.”**



Supporting and empowering those who have served our nation.

HELPING HOMELESS VETERANS WITH A FRESH START

Illinois is home to more than 900,000 Veterans from World War II to the current War in the Middle East. In the Chicago Metro area alone, more than 1,000 veterans are homeless on any given night and more than 18,000 are homeless at some point during the year.

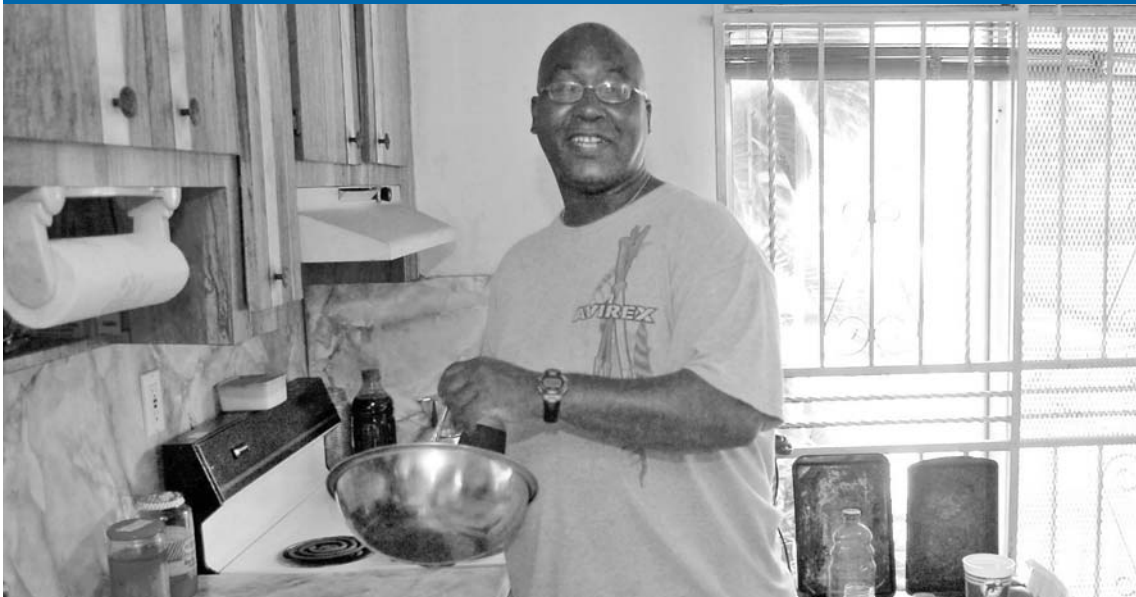
To serve this important population, we must understand them.

Characteristics of Homeless Veterans *

- 89% received honorable discharges
- 67% served 3 years or longer in the armed services
- 33% served specifically in combat operations
- Homeless veterans have attained higher education levels than non-veteran homeless people
- 45% suffer from mental illnesses
- 50% have substance abuse problems

These staggering statistics illustrate the critical need for a more comprehensive approach to serving veterans.

individual worth



Service

To meet the needs of homeless veterans, Volunteers of America of Illinois launched the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)**. The program's goal is to help homeless veterans to achieve economic self-sufficiency and overall stability in their lives with the support, training and opportunities needed to secure and maintain viable, long-term employment.

Five core components of the program include:

- Outreach
- Assessment and Targeted Case Management
- Supportive Services
- Job Training and Placement
- Aftercare Support

*Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

** The program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

**“GO OVER,
GO UNDER, GO AROUND,
GO THROUGH IT
IF YOU HAVE TO...
BUT
NEVER GIVE UP.”**



TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA OF ILLINOIS ...

Volunteers of America of Illinois is one of the oldest affiliates within the organization's national ministry of service. For more than 112 years, Volunteers of America of Illinois has met the critical needs of children and families in Illinois through a variety of services designed to strengthen families, promote safety and well-being in children and empower individuals to transform their lives.

Our Mission is to help people of all ages create positive and lasting change in their lives through programs that support, empower and transform.

Each year, Volunteers of America of Illinois serves more than 1,000 individuals through a broad

range of strength-based, family-focused child welfare services, permanent supportive housing programs and supportive services for homeless veterans. At, Volunteers of America of Illinois, we do not treat problems, we transform lives.

Transformation through empowerment is the cornerstone of our service philosophy and is particularly important when working with individuals who need and want to take responsibility for changing their own life. Our programs offer people the resources and opportunities to re-build their lives from the inside out.

We seek to empower the whole person.

A NEW HOME FOR VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA OF ILLINOIS!

In 2007, VOA of IL began its 112th year serving people in need throughout Illinois. We marked this important milestone by moving to a new home in Chicago's historic Dearborn Street Station.

Dearborn Street Station, which opened in the spring of 1885, was one of Chicago's most "prominent and prestigious buildings, representing the grandness of a prosperous city." It was one of three major railroad stations constructed in downtown Chicago during the late 19th century.

At its peak, Dearborn Street Station had 25 railroads, 122 trains and 17,000 passengers passing through every day.



**"WE STRIVE
TO UPLIFT AND EMPOWER
THE HUMAN
SPIRIT."**

Passenger service left the station in 1971 and the building fell into a period of neglect and disrepair. In the mid-1980's, the building experienced a resurgence as a commercial and retail center, playing a vital role in revitalizing the Printer's Row District of Chicago. Dearborn Street Station remains one of the oldest railroad stations in the United States and is the last remaining downtown train station in Chicago from the 19th century.

The building still showcases the original 12 story Romanesque clock tower which marks the southern view of Dearborn Street and can be seen for blocks. *

Located at 47 West Polk, Dearborn Street Station is a Chicago landmark and the perfect setting to begin a new chapter in our long-standing commitment to serving the City of Chicago.

VOA of IL celebrated its 112th year of service and corresponding move to Dearborn Street Station by commissioning a mural artist to create powerful images throughout the site which highlight the legacy and future direction of the organization's ministry. These images were unveiled at a special open house later in 2007 which included Board members, clients, program partners, city officials, funders and community representatives.

*Historical information about Dearborn Street Station was taken from marketing materials produced by Dearborn Street Station Management.

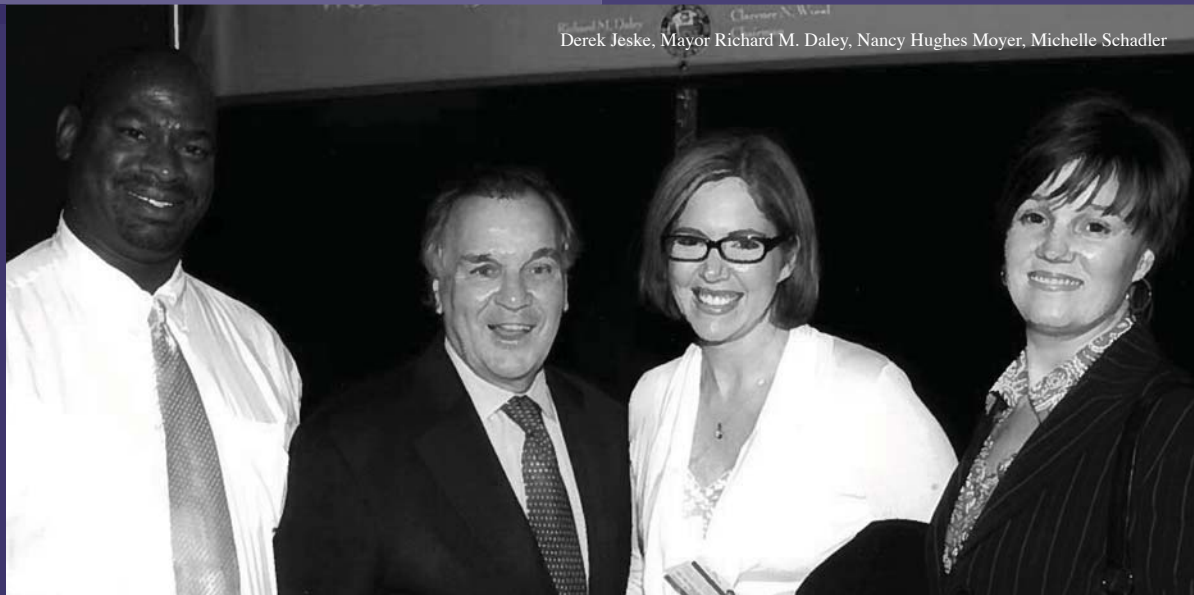
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS TRUST SUPPORTS VOA OF IL

In 2007, VOA of IL received a \$10,000 grant from the Major League Baseball Players Trust to develop a Family Visitation and Activity Room in the new program headquarters at 47 West Polk.

The Family Visitation and Activity Room specifically targets parents and children who have recently entered the child welfare system and have a current goal of family reunification.

The Family Visitation and Activity Room provides a setting that promotes strong parent-child bonding and fosters healthy child development.

**“TOUCHING
THE MIND, BODY, HEART
AND SPIRIT OF THOSE
WE SERVE.”**



nurturing

The room was designed to give parents an opportunity to simulate the normal rituals of parenting (preparing and eating meals, reading together, etc.) while also accessing cutting edge equipment and activities which facilitate bonding interactions between the parent and child and promote active learning and pro-social development for the child.

The grant from the Major League Baseball Players Trust builds upon the grant from the Gustafson Family Foundation in 2006 which allowed VOA of IL to create a portable Center for parents and children at their previous offices in the West Loop.



EXPANDING HOUSING TO SERVE OUR MILITARY VETERANS

VOA of IL was awarded a million dollar capital grant from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to develop a 50-unit supportive housing program for homeless Veterans in Chicago as part of its ongoing commitment to help homeless veterans rebuild their lives.

A critical component of our ministry in Illinois is to help address the emotional, mental and physical scars that, when untreated, can trigger and perpetuate the cycle of homelessness in Veterans.

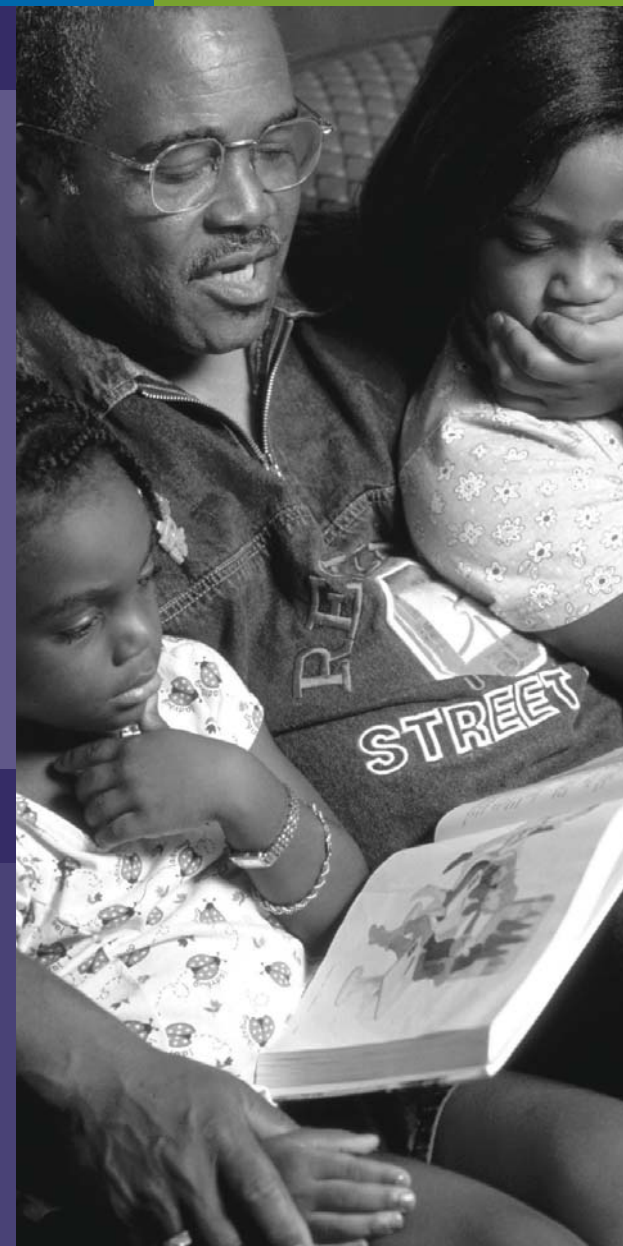
Building on our existing HVRP program, this grant will allow us to provide a more comprehensive and holistic approach to serving veterans by addressing one of the key barriers to stability and self-sufficiency – stable housing.

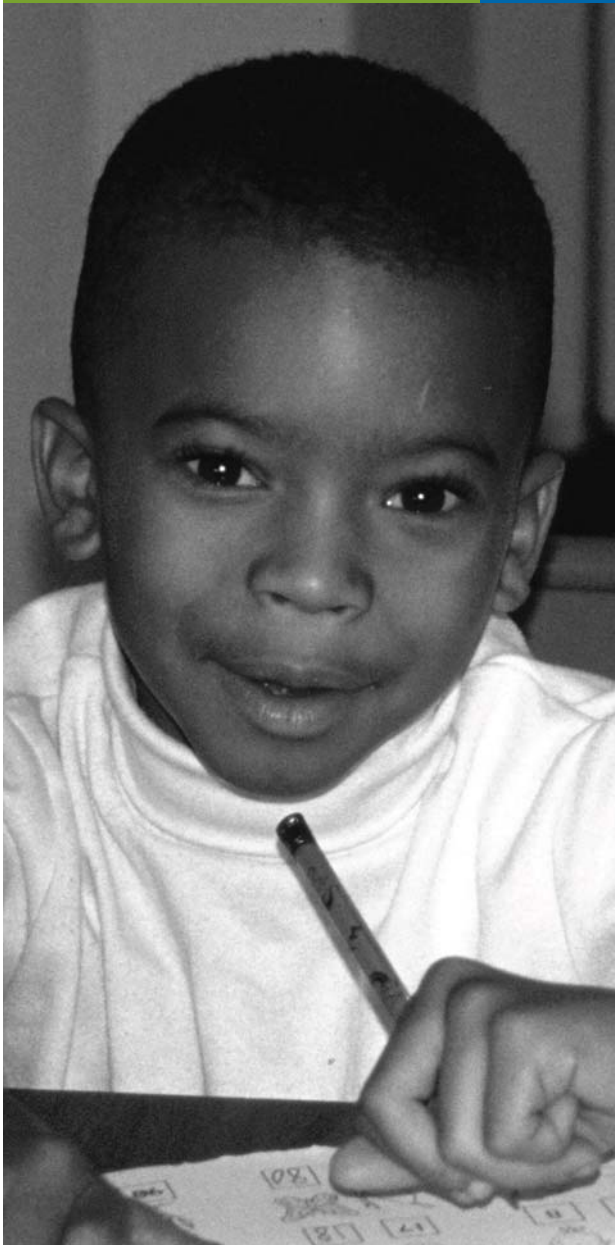
The project is expected to begin construction in 2008.

HELPING CHILDREN SUCCEED THROUGH READING

In a partnership with Scholastic Books, which began in 2007, VOA of IL provides educational and recreational reading materials to at-risk children throughout the Chicagoland area.

Foster Care children have been the primary recipients of the partnership activities in 2007. Going forward, VOA of IL will work with Youth Centers and other organizations serving children





to organize numerous events throughout the summer to distribute books to children who will benefit from additional opportunities to promote their academic and social development through reading and recreation.

OPERATION GIVE BACK GIVE PACK

Thanks to the continued generosity of more than 100 donors, VOA of IL was able to give children in our Foster Care program a great start on their first day of school by providing them with new back packs stocked with all the back-to-school necessities, including notebooks, folders, crayons, markers, pencil cases and even some special goodies such as stickers, art supplies and some sweets for their lunch boxes!

Through the generosity of our Board Chair, Rick Cenkus and his colleagues at Cushman and Wakefield, VOA of IL was able to host a Back-to-School Ice Cream Social to distribute the back packs.

Foster parents and children were treated to ice cream sundaes, cookies and candy, as well as an afternoon full of games and activities to celebrate the new school year!

VOA of IL was able to distribute over 200 back packs through our annual Operation Give Back, Give Pack.



“We’ve
been around,
we’ll
be around.
You can count
on us.”

DONORS

July 1, 2006 THRU June 30, 2007

Through your generous donations, we are able to create positive and lasting change through programs that support, empower and transform lives.

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\$10,000 PLUS

Major League Baseball
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William J. De Correvont
Richard K. Doro
Joseph A. Dulay
Janet Ederle

Therese & Edward Fogell
Kevin P. Gahr
Scott Ghostone
Jorge A. Girotti
Caroline C. Goldenberg
Peter L. Gross
William Gustafson
Dwayne & Samatha Hanson
Mark Harpke
Keith E. Huff
Reynaldo Jarabe
Richard V. & Lizabeth B. Jelesky
Laura Jenks & Ashli Jenks
Linda D. Jolly
Judy Jones
Ford June
Diana E. Keeley
Micheal & Elyse Kowal
Frank Landeros
Elizabeth A. Laskowski
Dewey A. Lee
Jay W. Lee
Benjamin Malone
Noelle Mathis
Carla Mayfield
Karl L. Merkle
Grant & Olivia Owen
Nathan Pacis
Donald G. Pellegrini
Claude & Ernestine Porter
Suchitra K. Prasad
Maurice J. Pratali
Nicholas L. Rodriguez
Thomas R. Roth
Jeffrey Z. Santos
Kevin H. Saville
Harlan Schmit
Marchia B. Sendaydiego

Deborah Skrzypinski
Barbara Stepto
Clayton Stevenson
Stephen L. Straub
Fred & Loretta Tabisz
Clarence P. Townsley
Sergio A. Vasquez
Theresa Vega Buckley
Arvee Walker
Lawrence Wall
Charles P. Welch
Dan M. Westin
Tamara L. Wood
Kathy Wrubleski & Megan Wrubleski

“Thank you
for helping us touch the
mind, body,
heart - and
spirit -
of those we serve.”



REVENUE

Government Fees and Grants
\$1,972,537

Contributions
\$668,557

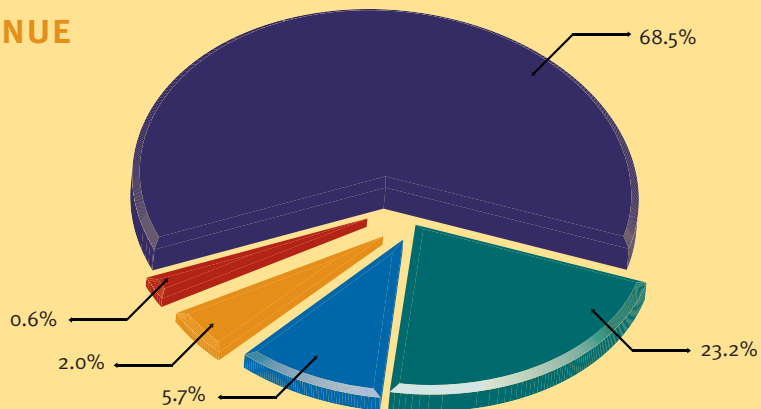
Grants
\$57,830

Program Fees
\$164,558

Miscellaneous Revenues
\$16,804

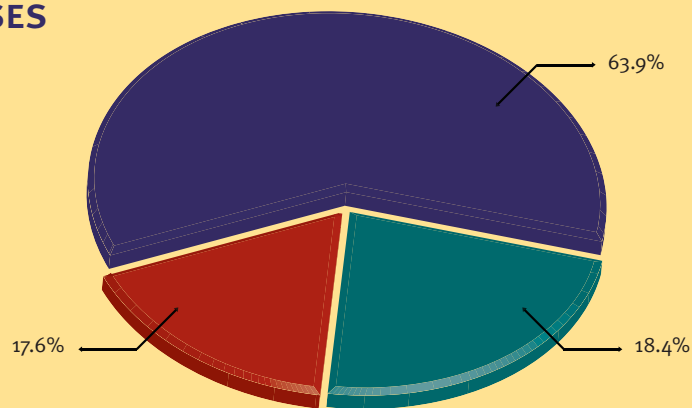
Total Revenue
\$2,880,286

REVENUE



Government Fee and Grants
Contributions
Grants
Program Fees
Miscellaneous Revenues

EXPENSES



Programmatic
Management & General
Fundraising



EXPENSES

Programmatic
\$1,881,640

Salaries and Wages
\$647,806

Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits
\$150,236

Occupancy
\$249,955

Direct Credit
\$531,246

Programmatic Support Expenses
\$302,397

Management and Wages
\$518,611

Fundraising
\$542,723

Total Expenses
\$2,942,974

Volunteers of America of Illinois Board of Directors

Richard Cenkus, Board Chair
Assistant General Counsel & Secretary
Cushman & Wakefield

Andy Hulett, Board Vice-Chair
Partner
Laurus Strategies, Inc.

Nancy Hughes Moyer, Board President
CEO
Volunteers of America of Illinois

Dan Kardatzke, Board Treasurer
CFO
Global Capacity

Karen Martin, Board Secretary
Director Mergers & Acquisitions
BMO Capital Markets

Lou Hall, Board Director
Senior Vice President
Grubb & Ellis Company

Kevin Rankin, Board Director
Underwriter
Scarborough

Jeffrey Samaras, Board Director
Executive Vice President
Cushman & Wakefield

John G. Yedinak, Board Director
Chairman, President, CEO
Terme Bancorp, Inc.

empowering

“WE WILL GO WHEREVER
WE ARE NEEDED
AND
DO WHATEVER COMES
TO HAND.”

Ballington Booth, Founder,
Volunteers of America

Dear Friends,

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VOA

As we begin our 112th year of service, we inherit a powerful mandate from the organization's founders - to be bold in everything we strive to do.

The founders did not set out to make a small, incremental difference in the world, they didn't hope to just make things a little better or to make the status quo more palatable. Instead, they set out to TRANFORM THE WORLD THEY SAW.

They balanced their audacious idealism with some healthy realism. They knew they could not do everything but they could fix whatever broken part of the universe presented itself to them at any given time - with passion, fervor and a tireless dedication to serving others.

While the nature of the challenges people face have changed since 1896 and the solutions to address those challenges are certainly more complex, the basic ingredients to changing the world around us are as relevant today as they were back then - a deep compassion for others and an unwavering desire to make things better.

We are being called to that same mission more than a century later - to see and embrace whatever broken part of the world is presenting itself to us and to do all we can to heal and transform it.

To ensure a future filled with promise and hope for those we serve, Volunteers of America of IL will vigorously pursue every opportunity to build a dynamic and highly responsive organization that is ready and able to meet the challenges and demands of the 21st century.

The growth of the organization will be driven by a commitment to IMPACT, not size. We will continue to seek out strategic intersections between community need, opportunity to leverage resources and organizational capacity. Already, we have seen significant growth over the past year in key impact areas - supportive housing, services for homeless Veterans and moving people from poverty to self-sufficiency.

The support and commitment of our staff, Board, community partners, funders and donors is what powers our mission and our dreams - to eliminate the suffering and hopelessness that comes from poverty, homelessness and having nowhere to belong.

With an enduring commitment to responsible stewardship, innovation, faith and optimism, our accomplishments over the next 100 years will be limited only by our imaginations. Our bold and courageous blueprint for the future is anchored to a continuing and unwavering belief in the power of committed, thoughtful people to transform the world.

Thank you for your continued support.

Very Sincerely,



Nancy Hughes Moyer
President and CEO



Richard A. Cenkus
Board Chairman





ILLINOIS

Volunteers of America of Illinois
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Chicago, IL 60605
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