

Services for Individuals with Disabilities

Remaining consistent with the primary funding goals in 2003, the Foundation supported a wide range of programs for individuals with disabilities - programs that supported both legal and educational advocacy, housing options and services, playgrounds and summer camps for children as well as future care planning services for individuals with disabilities and their aging care givers. The programs and projects that were funded all share the Foundation's focus on providing services and support for those with disabilities in an effort to create an environment that emphasizes every person's dignity and creates opportunities for these individuals to become part of their community.

ABVI/Goodwill Industries of Greater Rochester
\$35,000 for adaptive equipment for their retail stores.

ARC of Ontario County
\$100,000 for facility renovation and construction.

Camp Abilities
\$7,500 for Camp Abilities, a summer sports camp for blind and visually impaired youth.

Christ the King School
\$5,000 for adaptive/accessible equipment at community playground.

Daniel & Friends Summer Camp
\$2,500 for Camp Talkalot for children who stutter.

East House
\$25,000 for a job placement/enhancement program.

Heritage Christian Home
\$200,000 for expansion of the dairy project at Springdale Farm.

Hickok Center for Brain Injury
\$25,000 for facility improvements / enhancements to clubhouse for individuals with brain injury.

LDA Life and Learning Services
\$3,000 for Friends Helping Friends Self-Advocacy Group;
\$50,000 for an educational advocacy service for youth with learning disabilities.

Lifespan/Al Sigl Partner Agencies
\$200,000 for Future Care Planning Service for the disabled and their aging caregivers.

Melissa's Living Legacy
\$20,000 for an Internet website to educate/support teens with cancer.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society of Upstate New York
\$15,000 for the MS Independence, Health and Knowledge program.

PILOR Public Interest Law Office of Rochester
\$25,000 for Disability Rights Advocacy program.

Rochester Rehabilitation Center
\$25,000 to SportsNet, a recreation and sports program for the disabled

Rochester Rotary Charitable Trust
\$10,000 for aquatic playground equipment for disabled children.

St Joseph's Villa of Rochester
\$10,000 for computer network for alternative student learning program.

Stepping Stones Learning Center
\$40,000 for education and support groups for families of children with autism.

Traveling Cabaret of Irondequoit
\$5,000 for production enhancements to expand performances to the disabled.

Urban League of Rochester EDC
\$20,000 to support housing options for the developmentally disabled;
\$25,000 for development disabilities community case management services;
\$75,000 for an apartment project for the developmentally disabled.

YMCA of Greater Rochester
\$25,000 for accessibility enhancements to camps for expanded programming for disabled youth.

Education/Prevention

Education and learning takes many forms - from the more traditional institutes of higher education to community-based programs that strengthen and support families. Last year, the Golisano Foundation supported a variety of "educational" programs designed to enhance individual achievement, teach new skills, and help young people make positive, healthy choices.

Ad Council of Rochester
\$10,000 for the Ad Council Academy

Adoption Resource Network
\$20,000 for adoption support and education services

Big Brothers/Big Sisters
\$10,000 for community/school based mentoring for at risk youth

CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates
\$10,000 for volunteer based support for children/families in foster care

Center for Youth Services, Inc.
\$10,000 for kitchen renovations at youth emergency shelter

Partners in Community Development
\$5,000 for Project Earns, youth development program

Rochester Grantmakers Forum
\$10,000 for Rochester Effectiveness Partnership

Roberts Wesleyan College
\$133,500 to support social enterprise services and training institute



Together

Helping Those in Need

The Foundation funded a variety of programs providing assistance to individuals and families in the community. The programs share the Foundation's goal of helping individuals grow and develop their full potential and lead healthy, productive lives.

Catholic Family Center
\$20,000 for information technology upgrades

Chances & Changes
\$5,000 for renovations to battered women's shelter

Senior Services/Health Care

The Golisano Foundation supported several programs designed to help senior citizens remain independent in their homes and comfortable in assisted living arrangements. The Foundation also funded health care services for those who are sick and may be without support from family or friends.

Catholic Family Center
\$15,000 for Homeworks - maintenance and repair services for seniors

Mercy Center with the Aging
\$22,800 for Caring for an Aging Loved One Program

Senior Action Plan
\$5,000 to update planning study for senior services

Family Service of Rochester
\$15,000 for information technology upgrades

Greenacres of Rochester, NY, Inc.
\$25,000 for renovation to community center

Sisters of Mercy
\$5,000 for the installation of an emergency generator at senior site

Sisters Care
\$5,000 for home health aide program for frail seniors and disabled individuals

Golisano Foundation Annual Report 2003 Director's Message

2003 was a year of remarkable accomplishments. With the steadfast and stable support of the B. Thomas Golisano Foundation, dedicated human agency staff worked hand-in-hand with determined and courageous clients and their families to overcome obstacles that prevent them from fully participating in all aspects of our community.

One by one, program by program, we continued to make progress in creating an environment of dignity and care for those in need, particularly disabled individuals and their families.

Enabling those with disabilities to more fully participate in the community is an ongoing goal. In the past year, several agencies focused on improving employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities and brain injuries. Foundation grants enabled the purchase of cash registers equipped for use by people who are visually impaired and the acquisition of equipment that provided more employment opportunities for people with brain injuries.

Employment was also the focus of an evaluation conducted in 2003 of the Full Circle Careers in Caring campaign, a two-year effort to recruit and retain agency staff that assists those with developmental disabilities. Over the past two years, the Foundation partnered with Lifetime Assistance, Heritage Christian Home, Continuing Development Services and the Arc of Monroe County to set up a website and conduct an ad campaign through TV, radio and print channels.

In evaluating the results, the Rochester Research Group reported agency staff count is 14% higher than at the start of the campaign; there are fewer unfilled positions, and staff terminations decreased 18%. Agencies reported that the larger pool of qualified applicants enables them to be "more selective today" and that applicants tend to stay longer with the agency. While the area's high jobless rate and active recruitment by agencies contributed to the effort, RRC believes the campaign did impact the process.

Supporting efforts to identify and address emerging issues with potential to affect a significant number of the disabled population continues to be of vital interest to the Golisano Foundation. In 2003, the Foundation funded the start of a new service that addresses a rising crisis in our society: people with disabilities who are outliving their family caregiver for the first time in history.

In a collaborative planning process that began two years ago, LIFESPAN, the AI Sigl Partner Agencies and the Foundation worked together to launch Future Care Planning Services where the aging caregiver and the individual with the disability are assisted in creating a legal, financial and personal plan for the future. Since initiating the program, an overwhelming number of families have sought help, and there is no doubt that this will be a significant ongoing challenge for our community.

In the area of education and advocacy, Foundation grants assisted several programs, including the LDA Life and Learning Services' educational advocacy program for youth with learning disabilities; the Public Interest Law Office of Rochester's Disability Rights Advocacy program and Stepping Stones Learning Center's support groups for families of children with autism.

The Foundation also supported several recreation and social activities through grants to agencies such as YMCA of Greater Rochester, which expanded opportunities for disabled youth to participate in its many sports, camping and recreational programs, and to SportsNet and Camp Abilities, which provides a safe, supportive environment for disabled youth and adults to take risks, have fun and develop the physical and emotional confidence to succeed in life.

As the Golisano Foundation heads into its 20th year of grant funding, progress is being made in ensuring fuller participation by people with disabilities in everyday life, improved care for our growing population of older people with disabilities, and more education and preventative programs that benefit the entire community.

Together, we can, we will, we did!

Ann Costello, Director

About the Golisano Foundation

Mission - The Golisano Foundation seeks to be a proactive partner with providers, organizations and the community to create an environment of dignity and care for those in need, particularly disabled individuals and their families.

The Foundation is primarily interested in funding programs that will have a long lasting positive impact in the area of disabilities. The Foundation's definition of "disability" is quite broad, covering a wide range of conditions and circumstances that include those with developmental disabilities, mental illness, learning disabilities, neurological disorders and health related conditions.

Primary Funding Interests - The Golisano Foundation's financial resources are targeted to the following:

- Programs and initiatives that will result in a positive, long lasting impact in the area of disabilities.
- Programs that create and promote opportunities for those with disabilities; that enable them to become an active part of their community and allow them to have choices about the nature and level of their participation.
- Programs that will help people with disabilities achieve their maximum potential through independence, self-determination, productivity and integration in all facets of life.
- Innovative initiatives in the field of disabilities that are driven by the spirit and principles of social entrepreneurship. (Please contact the Foundation office for more detailed information).

Other Funding Interests - With limited and targeted funds, the Golisano foundation may consider grant proposals from fields outside of disabilities if they demonstrate positive results and are supportive of participation by those with disabilities. Applicants are welcomed to contact the Foundation office for further clarification.

Geographical Distribution of Grants - Geographically, the Foundation's primary focus for its grants is the Rochester/Monroe County area. Grants are considered for programs addressing the Foundation's funding interests in the contiguous counties.

Eligibility and Limitations - The requesting organization must be a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, whose programs meet the Golisano Foundation's philanthropic priorities. The Golisano Foundation does not contribute to endowments, fund raising events, individuals requesting grants, fellowships, medical research or municipal programs.

Financial Summary for fiscal year 2003 -

- Total Assets: \$27 million
- Total Grant Distribution: \$1,054,000 (with 90% to disability services)
- Total Number of Grants: 33
- Largest Grant: \$200,000
- Smallest Grant: \$2,500
- Average or Typical Grant Range: \$10,000 - \$30,000

Application Procedures -

- Initial Approach: If applicant is confident that the request falls within the scope of the Foundation's primary funding interests, they should send a grant proposal using the Common Application Form. Otherwise applicants are encouraged to call the Foundation office for further clarification.
- Form of Funding Request: a) Two (2) copies of the Common Application form (can be downloaded from the Foundation's website); b) two (2) copies of the organization's most recently completed audited financial statement and/or Form 990, and c) one (1) copy of agency's 501(c)(3) tax exempt verification form. Applicants may be contacted for additional information.
- Personal Conferences: Yes, upon invitation.
- Proposal Deadlines: Applications must be received at the Foundation office four weeks prior to the quarterly board meeting to be considered in that quarter. Receipt of the application will be acknowledged and correspondence sent if additional information is necessary. Notification of a decision on proposals is within one week of board meeting.
- Board Meeting Dates: Quarterly meetings are held generally on the 4th Wednesday in January, April, July and October.

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GOLISANO FOUNDATION

2002-2003 Annual Report

