



Annual Report FY 2017-2018

(June 1, 2017-May 31, 2018)



"There are no extra pieces in the universe. Everyone is here because he or she has a place to fill, and every piece must fit itself into the big jigsaw puzzle." -Deepak Chopra





4500 Belmont Road • Downers Grove, IL 60515 630.960.7600 • 630.960.7605 TDD • 630.960.7601 Fax SEASPAR.org

Mission

SEASPAR provides dynamic recreation programs and quality services for its residents with disabilities.

Vision

Discover Abilities • Achieve Potential • Realize Dreams

Core Values

Fun • Excellence • Service • Respect • Accountability

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Member Entities & Representatives

Lisle Park District • Dan Garvy, President Woodridge Park District • Mike Adams, Vice President Park District of La Grange • Dean Bissias, Secretary Darien Park District • Stephanie Gurgone, Treasurer Village of Brookfield • Arlene Rovner Clarendon Hills Park District • Kelly Smith Downers Grove Park District • Bill McAdam Village of Indian Head Park • Brenda O'Laughlin Community Park District of La Grange Park • Aleks Briedis Lemont Park District • Louise Egofske Village of Western Springs • Raymond Jasica Westmont Park District • Bob Fleck



programming: children & young teens

Weekly Programs

SEASPAR's weekly programs for children and young teens allow these participants to develop skills, socialize with peers, engage in physical activity, and more – all in a fun and supportive recreation environment! This year's most popular weekly programs for our young friends included:

Gymnastics • Karate • Kids Club • Swimming Lessons • Teen Excursion

Special Events

Special events offer young participants the opportunity to enjoy new experiences and favorite activities with their SEASPAR friends. Just a few highlights from this year's lineup of special events for kids included:

Bingo Bowling • Day Off School • Lunch and a Movie • Open Gym Water Park Wonderland

Summer Day Camps

When school is out, SEASPAR is IN! We offer multiple day camps each summer to provide a structured environment for ages 3–22 to enjoy productive leisure activities. These include collaborative camps for students in extended school year programs with the La Grange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE), Lemont District 113A, Lemont High School, and – new for 2017 – La Grange District 102. The theme for this year's summer camp was "The Great Outdoors," and the program lineup included:

> Kids Camp Teen & Adult Camp Camp Carefree Bursting with Fun Camp

Extended Bursting with Fun Camp Little Adventure Camp Adventure Camp I Adventure Camp II

Well-received improvements for the 2017 summer camp season included extending the camp day for Kids Camp, Teen & Adult Camp, and Camp Carefree, and offering a new full-day option for Adventure Camps.



Summer Camp Stats 71 Participants 156 Program Registrations 8,293 Service Hours



programming: teens & adults



EAGLES Stats 71 Participants 301 Program Registrations 55,362 Service Hours

Weekly Programs

SEASPAR's weekly programs for teens and adults use fun recreation activities to encourage personal development, healthy lifestyles, self-expression, and more! This year's most popular weekly programs for ages 16 and older included:

Actors Guild • Alley Cats • Glee Club • Music/Voice Lessons • Social Club

Special Events

Our special events are THE place to be for our teen and adult participants! These events, which range from sporting events to plays to museums to dances and more, almost always fill to capacity. Favorite events from this year included:

Boo Bash • Fun Fair • Holiday Dinner Dance • New Year's Bash Norman B. Barr Camp

Each year, we plan a very special excursion for adult participants, and in August 2017 we traveled with 13 participants to Georgia and South Carolina. We took a historic trolley tour in Savannah, enjoyed a day trip to Hilton Head Island, explored Tybee Island and Fort Pulaski, and cruised the Savannah River, making memories that will last a lifetime!

EAGLES Adult Day Program

EAGLES is our year-round, community-based program that incorporates therapeutic recreation to help adults ages 18-50 with developmental disabilities *E*nhance *A*dult *G*rowth through *L*ifestyle *E*ducation and *S*ervice.

EAGLES emphasizes leisure independence, community outings, and social interaction with peers, with a special focus on making healthy choices through its "Commit to Be Fit" program, which includes an annual 5K Walk, Run and Roll-A-Thon. A spring break trip and fall camping trip are offered each year as well.

The EAGLES program continues to soar with three sites in Brookfield, Darien, and Lisle, all at or near full capacity.

programming: specific disabilities

Adapted Sports

SEASPAR's adapted sports program ensures that physical, visual, or hearing impairments don't stop our participants from enjoying the challenges and rewards of participating in team and individual sports. We are a Paralympics Club and have joined other agencies to host clinics and competitions for youth and adults with physical disabilities. We offer training programs on a seasonal basis which may include:

Adapted Boccia • Goalball • Power Soccer • Revelation Golf Sled Hockey • Wheelchair Softball • Wheelchair Table Tennis

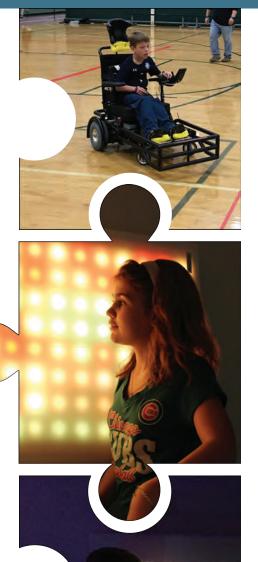
In May of 2018, we hosted our second annual Power Soccer tournament, the SEASPAR Steel Cup, at the Park District of La Grange. The Cedar Rapids Power Soccer Association Power Eagles team traveled from Iowa to join our team, the SEASPAR Steel, for this recreational tournament. With a little help from new "superpower" wheelchairs SEASPAR purchased for the program this year, the Steel team won their first two games since the inception of our Power Soccer program, and SEASPAR won the Steel Cup!



Wonders Multi-Sensory Room

SEASPAR's award-winning Wonders Multi-Sensory Room at the Lisle Park District contains specially-designed interactive equipment that appeals to the auditory, tactile, olfactory, and visual senses. The room primarily benefits individuals of any age with autism/autism spectrum disorders, sensory processing disorders, ADHD, and dementia. Just a few of the programs and events offered at Wonders this year included:

Sensory Explorers • Sensory Sunday • Swim & Sensory • Teen Overnight





programming: special olympics



Special Olympics Stats 109 Athletes 304 Program Registrations 6,172 Service Hours

Special Olympics Sports

SEASPAR offers training in Special Olympics sports to help participants with intellectual disabilities develop athletic skills, practice teamwork and sportsmanship, and build self-confidence. This year, training was offered in the following 16 sports:
Alpine Skiing • Athletics (Track & Field) • Basketball • Bocce • Bowling Flag Football • Floor Hockey • Golf • Gymnastics (Artistic) • Powerlifting Snowshoeing • Soccer • Softball • Swimming • Tennis • Volleyball

Special Olympics Competitions

Our Special Olympics athletes have the opportunity to participate in local Special Olympics events and other competitions. Those who earn gold medals in local Special Olympics events qualify for State competitions. The following athletes qualified for State competitions, and those marked with an asterisk earned gold medals at the State level:

Alpine Skiing Michael Duffy

Artistic Gymnastics Anna Cavallo* Michaela Tauer Kari Winter*

Athletics

James Deinzer Randy Naberhaus

Bocce

Jason Catalano Ron Kamper William Porch Bowling

Abby Benco* Floor Hockey

Nathan Church Roland Pilizota

<u>Golf</u>

Michele Forzley Wayne Neumann Sam Smetko Molly Sosnowski

Powerlifting Emily Lundvall* Allen Rosete* Snowshoeing Michael Drabik William Porch*

<u>Soccer</u> Nathan Church

Swimming

Nate Buresch* Jason Grudem Samantha Henderson Ryan McGuire Aidan Metzl* Conor Mulcahy* Mark Ploskonka William Porch*

Swimming (Cont.)

Adam Sikora Sam Smetko* Daniel Smrokowski Chris Tegeler

<u>Volleyball</u>

Mark Buglio Sarah Cavanaugh Nathan Church Melissa Engelhardt Emily Kula Erin Mannix Ben Sojka Molly Sosnowski Andrew Worzalla

partnerships: programming

Cooperative Programming

We partner with many organizations to offer cooperative recreation programs. These agencies may include nursing homes, disability-specific organizations, group homes, and more. Some of the activities offered are trips to zoos, movie theaters, and restaurants, as well as in-house programs such as dancing, arts and crafts, and sports. By sharing resources with these organizations, we are able to provide services to a wider range of individuals with disabilities. This year, we provided programming for the following agencies:

Briar Place Nursing and Rehabilitation, Indian Head Park Brookdale Senior Living, Lisle Cantata Adult Life Services, Brookfield Center for Independence Through Conductive Education, Countryside Spectrum Vocational Services, Downers Grove

Drop In Center

In cooperation with the DuPage County Health Department, SEASPAR hosts a monthly Drop In Center at the Westmont Community Center. The Drop In Center provides adults who have mental health needs an opportunity to spend leisure time in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. The program includes a variety of in-house activities and trips to places in the surrounding communities, and is free for all who attend.

Home Front Health

We are proud to partner with the Downers Grove Park District and Lemont Park District to offer Home Front Health, a free program for veterans who have a disability rating of 10% or higher and reside in Downers Grove or Lemont. Home Front Health combines program elements to meet the physical and social health needs of veterans, and includes a fitness center membership, personal training sessions, and additional recreational programming.



14 Downers Grove Participants

17 Lemont Participants



partnerships: schools

Leisure Education Stats 109 Participants

118 Program Registrations

1,107 Service Hours





Leisure Education

SEASPAR's Leisure Education program is offered in cooperation with schools whose population consists of at least 50% SEASPAR residents. The program was developed to provide students with disabilities with an increased awareness of healthy and beneficial leisure activities. Our staff work with the school staff to plan appropriate activities with the goal that the students will develop recreation interests and later enjoy these activities with their family and friends. This year, we provided leisure education programming for the following schools:

Concord Elementary School, Darien • Eisenhower Junior High School, Darien Hinsdale Central High School, Hinsdale • Hinsdale Middle School, Hinsdale Hinsdale South High School, Darien • Maercker Elementary School, Westmont Meadowview Elementary School, Woodridge • Oak Elementary School, Hinsdale Old Quarry Middle School, Lemont • Tate Woods Elementary School, Lisle

Ability Awareness

A unique service that SEASPAR provides to area schools is our Ability Awareness program, which educates non-disabled students about interacting with people with disabilities. Our staff make this a fun and engaging experience, teaching the students how to play wheelchair basketball, practicing sign language, and more, all while advancing the message of kindness and acceptance. This year, we offered Ability Awareness programs at two schools:

St. Francis Xavier School, La Grange – Sixty 6th grade students participated in our 9th annual program at the school on October 17, 2017. In turn, the students, along with their parents and teachers, volunteer at SEASPAR programs and events, including a special bowling event in December.

La Grange Highlands Middle School, La Grange – One hundred 6th grade students participated in our 2nd annual program at the school on March 15, 2018.



partnerships: inclusion & more

Inclusion Services

For many individuals with disabilities, participating alongside their peers without disabilities can be a beneficial and rewarding experience! So when a person with a disability would like to participate in one of our member entities' recreation programs, SEASPAR helps make it happen through inclusion services. We provide services to make these programs accessible by training staff, adapting activities, developing behavioral modifications, and/or providing additional support staff, all depending on the participant's unique needs.

The need for this area of our services continues to grow each year, as shown in the chart below which provides the number of participants receiving inclusion services from SEASPAR each program season over the last four years.

	Fall	Winter/Spring	Summer	Total	% Change
2014/15	46	50	104	200	
2015/16	56	58	106	220	+10%
2016/17	48	51	148	247	+12%
2017/18	69	79	133	281	+14%



Other Partnerships

SEASPAR embraces partnerships with a variety of organizations to provide mutually beneficial services, enhance programming for our participants, reduce costs, and more. Miscellaneous partnerships we enjoyed this year include:
Brookfield Zoo: Zoo provided free admission to participants for a special recreation association (SRA) day.
City of Darien: City provided fuel for SEASPAR vehicles at a reduced cost.
Downers Grove Police Department: Police officer visited a SEASPAR Social Club to spend time with participants.
Downers Grove School District 58: School District provided space for 2017 Kids Camp at no cost to SEASPAR.
Forest Preserve District of DuPage County: SEASPAR provided Ability Awareness program; Forest Preserve District provided free SRA Day.
Village of Brookfield: Village provided fuel for SEASPAR vehicles at a reduced cost.
Village of Downers Grove: Village maintained and provided fuel for SEASPAR vehicles at a reduced cost.
Western Springs Police Department: Police officer visited a SEASPAR Social Club to spend time with participants.



staff & volunteers

Full-Time Staff

Lisa Barrera, CTRS - Inclusion Manager Matthew R. Corso, CTRS, CPRP - Executive Director Nicole Guzior - Administrative Assistant Aaron Hirthe, CPRP - Recreation Coordinator Kimberly A. Huggins, CPRP - Recreation Coordinator Carol Kocek - Administrative Services Manager Dawn Krawiec, CPRP - Day Program Manager Karen Lesniak – Superintendent of Administrative Services Morgan Mason, CPRP – Marketing Coordinator Catherine A. Morava, CPRP – Superintendent of Recreation Greg Pavesich, CPRP – Recreation Coordinator Rachel Pavesich, CTRS – Recreation Coordinator Lisa Rasin – Fund Development Coordinator Shannon Tovey, CTRS – Support Staff Manager

Part-Time Staff & Volunteer Stats

SEASPAR would like to thank our staff and volunteers for their dedication, loyalty, and commitment to our mission and participants.

- 145 Weekly Program and Special Event Staff
- **81** Inclusion Services Staff
- **11** EAGLES Adult Day Program Staff

- 223 Volunteers
- 2,300 Volunteer Hours Served
- \$26,450 Staff Cost Savings from Volunteers

Volunteer Groups

Benedictine University Benet Academy The Card Ladies Kohl's Cares La Grange Highlands LEO Club Level UP Basketball Academy Lisle Teens with Character Midwestern University St. Francis Xavier School

Part-Time Staff & Volunteer Recognition

At SEASPAR's Believe & Achieve Recognition Banquet in May 2018, part-time staff and volunteers were recognized for outstanding service with special awards.

Super Star Award (>3 years of service) – Bob Ackermann, Program Supervisor

Leading Light Award (<3 years of service) – Sue Willis, Inclusion Aide

Virtuous Volunteer Award – Ann Saladino, Volunteer Program Assistant

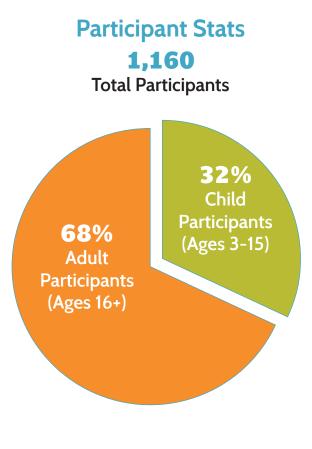
participants: overview

Participation By the Numbers

Program, Registration, and Service Hour Stats

	Number of Programs	Number of Registrations	Number of Service Hours
Weekly Programs	301	2,064	27,591
Special Events	127	2,194	15,190
Special Olympics	36	304	6,172
Day Camp	6	156	8,293
EAGLES Adult Day Program	9	301	55,362
Wonders Multi-Sensory Room	22	124	298
Adapted Programs	8	65	359
Inclusion Services	183	182	13,921
Leisure Education	16	118	1,107
Totals	708 Programs	5,508 Registrations	128,293 Service Hours

Note: Participation data from cooperative programming, the Drop In Center, and the Home Front Health program are not reflected in these totals.





participants: recognition

Participant Awards

At our Believe & Achieve Recognition Banquet held in May each year, SEASPAR honors outstanding program participants with special awards. Join us in congratulating the following recipients from 2018!

Athlete of the Year - Samantha Wagner

Samantha Wagner of Woodridge received SEASPAR's Athlete of the Year award, which is presented to a participant in SEASPAR's athletics programming who displays a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, teamwork, knowledge of the game, and skill.

Samantha joined our Special Olympics Volleyball program in 2015, and after that first season as a Spartan, she also joined the Basketball program and would go on to join the Flag Football program in 2017 as the lone female player on the team. Despite her small stature, Samantha has no trouble holding her own on the court or the field, and she is known among her coaches and teammates for her athleticism, kindness, and willingness to do whatever is best for her team.





Cultural Artist of the Year - Owen Murphy

Owen Murphy of Downers Grove received SEASPAR's Cultural Artist of the Year Award, which is presented to a participant in SEASPAR's cultural arts programming who recognizes the importance of cultural arts.

Thirteen-year-old Owen has cerebral palsy and spina bifida which impact his mobility, but he participates in our Adapted Music Lessons program which uses touchpad instruments to make music. Over the last two years, Owen has discovered an ability to pair instruments and match notes and pitches to create original compositions and arrange them to his favorite songs. Even though Owen is a quiet young man, his music has become a voice through which he can express himself.

Rising Star Award - Becky Cavanagh

Becky Cavanagh of Clarendon Hills received SEASPAR's new recognition introduced this year, the Rising Star Award, which is presented to a participant in our youth programming who has a positive attitude and positive interactions with their peers and staff.

Becky was the youngest-ever SEASPAR participant at only 23 months old when she first rode the Serena's Song accessible hot air balloon that we sponsor each year at the Lisle Eyes to the Skies Festival. Becky, now 12 years old, continues participating in our programs and is also an accomplished Special Olympics athlete, becoming a Global Messenger at just 10 years old.

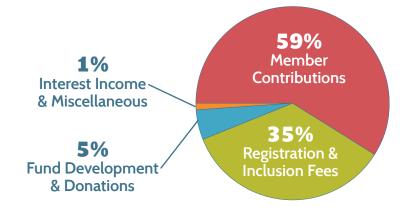




financials: revenue & expenditures

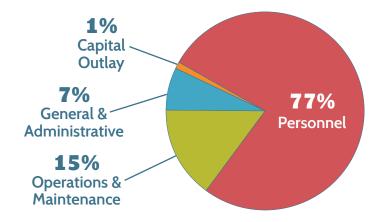
Revenue Analysis: FY 2017-2018

Revenues	Total	Percentage
Member Entity Contributions	\$1,603,625	59 %
Registration Fees	\$ 799,786	29 %
Inclusion Fees	\$ 171,582	6%
Fund Development	\$ 73,173	3%
Donations	\$ 54,117	2%
Interest Income	\$ 27,773	1%
Miscellaneous	\$ 7,508	0%
Total Revenues	\$ 2,737,564	



Expenditure Analysis: FY 2017-2018

Expenditures	Total	Percentage
Salaries & Wages	\$1,501,088	59 %
Other Personnel Costs	\$ 450,178	18%
Other Operations & Maintenance Costs	\$ 392,218	15%
Other General & Administrative Costs	\$ 181,626	7%
Capital Outlay	\$ 37,580	1%
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,562,690	



Note: Revenue and expenditure data is derived from financial statements developed by an independent auditor; however, these statements had not yet been officially accepted by SEASPAR's Board of Directors at the time of this publication's printing. The current annual financial report may be downloaded from SEASPAR's website at SEASPAR.org/FOIA.

Fee Assistance Program

SEASPAR is committed to offering programs at the lowest possible cost. However, due to financial restrictions, some individuals may find it difficult to pay the entire fee. To help those in need, a significant amount of funds are made available for participants through the generosity of community organizations and individual donors. In FY 2017-2018, **\$16,735** of funds earmarked for fee assistance was distributed. We appreciate this support which allows participants to benefit from activities.



financials: fundraisers





Fundraising Events

Each year, SEASPAR hosts fundraising events to generate income to enhance our programs and services. This year, the following events raised nearly \$40,000.

Summer Golf Classic: Fifty golfers participated in this 15th annual 18-hole outing, hosted in partnership with the Village Greens of Woodridge on July 28, 2017. A total of \$6,373 was raised.

Trivia Challenge: This sixth annual event was hosted on October 20, 2017, in partnership with American Legion Post 80 in Downers Grove. Nearly 250 people attended, raising \$9,593. Republic Bank was a Platinum Sponsor of the event, and Community Bank of Downers Grove was a Silver Sponsor.

Holiday Shopping Night: On December 7, 2017, we partnered with downtown Downers Grove businesses 221 Creations, Avec Panache, Briosa Boutique, Evelyn Jane Boutique, My Special Toy Store, and Style Studio for the Holiday Shopping Night. Twenty percent of the stores' sales from the evening was donated to SEASPAR, totaling \$1,210.

Fish Fry Fundraiser: Seventy-seven hungry supporters attended our third annual Fish Fry Fundraiser on March 15, 2018 at Wheatstack in Lisle, raising **\$500**.

Level UP 3x3 Basketball Tournament: Hosted in partnership with Level UP Basketball Academy of Downers Grove, this third annual basketball tournament had more than 225 participants and raised \$4,000 on April 14, 2018.

The Four C Notes Concert: Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons tribute The Four C Notes performed for nearly 600 fans and SEASPAR supporters on April 19, 2018. This event, hosted in partnership with the Tivoli Theatre in Downers Grove, raised \$10,002. BankFinancial was a Bronze Sponsor.

Plant Sale Fundraiser: On May 5 and 8, 2018, we partnered with Bronswood Greenhouse in Oak Brook for the Plant Sale Fundraiser. Twenty percent of sales from those two days was donated to SEASPAR, totaling \$2,732.

Chip In for SEASPAR: Twenty-four golfers participated in this nine-hole outing, hosted in partnership with the Downers Grove Golf Club on May 11, 2018. A total of \$815 was raised.

Walk and Roll-A-Thon: Seven participants and their families collected pledges and took to the trail at Ebersold Park on May 20, 2018 for the 18th annual Walk and Roll-A-Thon. The event raised \$4,527, with a Silver Sponsorship from Community Bank of Downers Grove.

financials: donors & grants

Corporate/Foundation/Government Donors

SEASPAR thanks the following businesses and organizations for their financial and in-kind contributions to support our work in FY 2017-2018.

221 Creations 2Twenty2 Tavern **Abbington Banquets** Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital Allstate Giving Campaign AmazonSmile Foundation Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer PC Anderson's Bookshop Apple Dental Center Arboretum Wealth & **Trust Management** Avec Panache LLC **Babich & Associates** The Baked Apple Breakfast Co **BankFinancial** Barbakoa **Bent Corporation** Berto's Deli & Pasta Shoppe **Blooming Color** Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois Bob Carter's Auto Body Brainsearch Inc Brio Tuscan Grille Brook Park School Staff Buca di Beppo **Buffalo Wild Wings** Capri Cassano's Pizzeria

Chama Gaucha Change Healthcare Chicago Dental Society **Chicagoland Bowling Proprietors Assoc Clarendon Hills Park** District Community Bank of **Downers Grove** Cook County State's Attorney's Office Costco Culver's W.S. Darley & Co Data-Tel Devon Bristol Seafood Grill Dinami Fitness LLC **Downers** Grove Economic **Development Corp Downers Grove Park** District Downtown Downers Grove Management Corp **DuPage Foundation** DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund Emmett's Ale House **Evelyn** Jane Boutique Fairview Dental Care **FLEXCO** Flint Architects Forzley Eye Clinic

Fox Bend Golf Course Fresh Thyme Market Full-Serv Oil Change Garnet Nails Gatto's Gelsosomo's **Robert Girgis DDS** GoodWorld **Google Ad Grants** Grohne Family Foundation Grove Dental Associates The Grove Foundation Heritage House Florist Hilton Lisle/Naperville Holy Cow Sports Home & Manor Home Depot Home Run Inn Pizza Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Jameson's Charhouse Jeans and a Cute Top Shop lewel-Osco **King Keyser Sports** Kohl's Law Office of Gina L. Madden, Attorney at Law The Lemon Tree LLC Lemont Park District Lisle Park District Lisle Savings Bank Lyndex-Nikken

MG Computer Midwestern University My Special Toy Store Olive Garden Papas Pizza Place Pappa's Pizza Paradise Cafe Parkers' Restaurant Patrick Commercial Real Estate PayPal Giving Fund Perma-Seal **Republic Bank** Rocco & Rocco **RTT Cycle Shop** Spenga Style Studio Suburban Door Check and Lock Service Suburbanite Bowl Subway Tivoli Theatre Trader loe's Truist TW Group David & Bridget Van Eekeeren Charitable Fund Village of Western Springs Weber Grill Wheatstack Wintrust Financial Corp Woodridge Park District Your Cause

Service Club Gifts

SEASPAR recognizes the following service clubs for donating to our programs in FY 2017-2018.

Clarendon Hills Lion Club Downers Grove Iunior Woman's Club Downers Grove Rotary Club Knights of Columbus, St John Council #3738 Knights of Columbus, Robert P Connelly Council #5918 Knights of Columbus, Father John Guiney Council #8522 Knights of Columbus, Bishop James Fitzgerald Council #14649 Knights of Columbus, St Joan of Arc Council #15168 Knights of Columbus, St Mary of Gostyn Council #16062 Lemont-Homer Glen Rotary Club Lisle Lions Club Lisle Rotary Club United SERTOMA Woodridge Rotary Club

Individual Donors

SEASPAR is very grateful for all of the generous donations we received from individual donors in FY 2017-2018, including those from our Annual Appeal. Individual donors are recognized in our seasonal program guide and on our website at SEASPAR.org/donations/donors.



This list included donations received between June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018. We apologize if there are any errors or omissions. Please bring any concerns to our attention at 630.960.7600 so we can correct our records.

financials: donor recognition

DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund

The **DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund**, a donor-advised fund of the DuPage Foundation, was developed as a means for the physicians of DuPage Medical Group to give back to their community. In 2015, the Fund presented its first of four grants to SEASPAR to initiate a "Commit to Be Fit" program for participants in our EAGLES Adult Day Program. This first grant of \$14,607 immediately changed the EAGLES culture to a more health-focused environment through education, meal planning, and exercise.

The Fund awarded additional grants to SEASPAR in 2016 (\$14,607) and 2017 (\$15,000). The money has been used to purchase Fitbits for the EAGLES, organize an annual 5K, plant gardens, and much more. In 2017, we recognized the Fund's philanthropy with our Community Partner Award, but the generosity did not end there. In February 2018, SEASPAR was selected as one of two organizations to receive proceeds from its "Fund a Need" campaign at its Care Affair event. This resulted in an additional grant of \$22,177. With its financial support now totaling an amazing \$66,391, the DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund has helped our participants embrace healthy habits that will benefit them for the rest of their lives.





Level UP Basketball Academy

Level UP Basketball Academy of Downers Grove was formed in 2011 to provide children with high level basketball coaching in a positive, fun, and encouraging environment. Level UP began partnering with SEASPAR in 2015 by inviting its athletes to practice with our Special Olympics basketball teams and encouraging its athletes and their families to volunteer at SEASPAR athletic events.

In 2016, Level UP began hosting an annual basketball tournament fundraiser to benefit our Special Olympics programming. This year's event alone had 54 teams and raised \$4,000, all of which was donated to SEASPAR. Over the last three years, Level UP has donated an incredible \$13,000. At our Believe & Achieve Recognition Banquet held in May 2018, SEASPAR presented Level UP with our Community Partner of the Year award.

organizational highlights

New Leadership

In July 2017, Susan Friend retired from her position as Executive Director of SEASPAR after 38 years with the organization. She was celebrated for her significant contributions to SEASPAR's extensive growth in the number of communities served, programs offered, and individuals served by the agency during her tenure.

The role of Executive Director was filled by Matthew Corso, a 27-year veteran of special recreation, with 13 of those years spent at SEASPAR. During his first year in his new position, he has focused on identifying opportunities for program development, streamlining customer service processes, and reorganizing fulltime staff duties to maximize efficiency.

Matthew's leadership is not limited to SEASPAR, as he was sworn in as Chairman of the Board of the Illinois Park and Recreation Association in January 2018. He looks forward to ensuring that SEASPAR continues to meet the needs and exceed the expectations of the communities we serve!

Website Renovation

SEASPAR's website, SEASPAR.org, was relaunched with a major facelift in September 2017.

In addition to a new look and feel, the site was optimized for mobile devices and audited for compliance with Section 508 Standards and Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. New amenities included a flipbook program guide, translation service, social sharing tools, and integrated Flickr and YouTube applications. In December, online and fillable pdf forms for participants were added to further enhance customer service.

These improvements proved successful, as the website saw a 12% increase in visitation in FY 2017-18 versus FY 2016-17, with a 24% increase in the number of pages visited on the site. These increases were most notable for mobile devices, on which the website was difficult to use prior to the relaunch. If you haven't seen the new site yet, be sure to visit SEASPAR.org from any device to see the improvements!

Risk Management

Risk management is one of the highest priorities for SEASPAR – when we say, "Safety First," we mean it! Our insurance provider, the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA), regularly analyzes our activities and procedures for safety through its Loss Control Review. A perfect score on the Loss Control Review is 100%, and in May 2018, SEASPAR received our score of 99.05%. As a result, we were awarded PDRMA's highest honor for achievement in loss control – Accreditation. We are proud to have received this recognition, but we are more proud of all of our staff who are committed to ensuring the safety of our participants every day, in every program.









discover abilities achieve potential realize dreams

You've seen what we've put together in 2017-2018 - now get a piece of the action in 2018-2019!



Contact Us! SEASPAR • 4500 Belmont Road • Downers Grove, IL 60515 630.960.7600 • 630.960.7605 TDD • 630.960.7601 Fax

Discover Us! SEASPAR.org f 💟 🖸 🖸 💿