



NEWS AND NOTES

SPRING 2023

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SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, June 14, 2023
Wabash Center Aviators Day
7 P.M. - 8 P.M.
Loeb Stadium

Tuesday, July 4, 2023
Independence Day
Campus Closed

Thursday, July 20, 2023
Second Annual Golf Invitational
8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Battle Ground Golf Club

Friday, September 15, 2023
Wines on the Wabash
6 P.M. to 10 P.M.
Lafayette Country Club



CEO CORNER

We kicked off our 70th Anniversary year in March as we celebrated the grand reopening of our program building on Greenbush. During the last four years, we updated and upgraded finishes and reimagined how we use the space. Ever since, we have been working hard to honor our history while also celebrating what is ahead in our mission's work.

- The 8th Annual Grant's House Celebration focuses on our future as our community uplifts kids and young adults with disabilities, celebrating the idea that we all have the potential to reach for new heights and do big things.
- We made new friends at Westminster Village when we launched a new, unified program for adults that will meet monthly.
- We celebrated a special member of our Wabash Center family and their generous support, which will ensure Wabash Center can serve families like theirs for many more years.

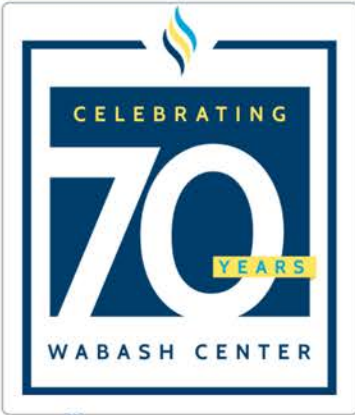
Watch for additional event dates inside so you can join us as we continue to celebrate 70 years of service to Greater Lafayette and look forward to at least 70 more!

LET'S BE SOCIAL



70 YEARS OF WABASH CENTER

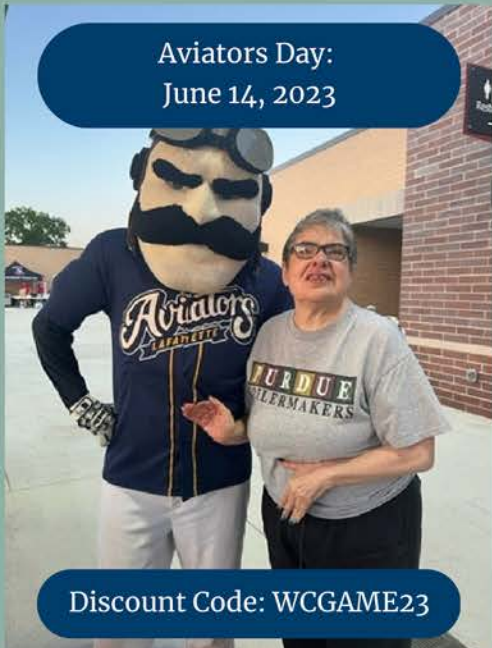
We are proud to celebrate 70 years of nurturing possibilities at Wabash Center! It is because of the continuous support of the community, the hard work of our staff and volunteers, and the determination and spirit in all the individuals we serve that we have been able to offer a constantly improving continuum of care. Our 70th Anniversary celebrations kicked off with the Grant Re-Opening of our Program Building this spring. Here's to at least 70 more years of nurturing possibilities!



Save the Date to Celebrate!

Visit us online at www.WabashCenter.com/events to purchase tickets and learn more about each event. We would love to see you this summer and fall as we continue to celebrate 70 years of service in Greater Lafayette!

Aviators Day:
June 14, 2023



Discount Code: WCGAME23

2nd Annual Golf Invitational:
July 20, 2023



Wines on the Wabash 2023:
September 15, 2023



GRANT'S HOUSE CELEBRATION 2023

We welcomed more than 900 people to the 8th Annual Grant's House Celebration! Together, we exceeded our goal of \$185,000 and raised **\$215,000 and counting!** Because of you, we will be able to create more engaging experiences for the kids and young adults at Grant's House so they can continue to play, learn, and grow together. Camp #54 campers will enjoy a summer filled with opportunities and fun. Your generosity makes reaching new heights possible for the kids and young adults we serve!



WE ARE NURTURING POSSIBILITIES

Wabash Center has provided life-changing services for people with disabilities and special needs and the people who love them since 1953. We offer dozens of programs and services to meet people where they are regardless of age and abilities. Our staff members have big hearts for service and take pride in Nurturing Possibilities and supporting people on their journeys to reaching their ultimate potential.

Self-advocates & Disability Awareness Month

March is Disability Awareness Month! This March, we had the privilege of sharing stories from the individuals we serve about the impact their disabilities have on their lives. Shawn, Micah, Ben, Hiawatha, and Karson took the time to share their stories and express their appreciation for the supportive community, as well as their frustrations with people underestimated and devaluing them. It is important to remember that individuals with disabilities are more than just their disability and are equals deserving of respect.

Shawn, Micah, Ben and Karson all hold officer positions in the Self Advocates group, as President, Sergeant-at-Arms, Secretary, and Vice President respectively. The Self Advocates group works hard to spread information about the rights and responsibilities individuals have and how they can advocate for themselves. Hiawatha is the president of Erskine Green Ambassadors, and organized a showing of "The Best We've Got", the story of Carl Erskine and his impact on Special Olympics. He works hard to spread awareness through the community of all the things individuals with disabilities are capable of.

Check out our socials for full stories on each of these amazing individuals! We hope for more opportunities to share the stories of individuals with disabilities and make their voices heard.



Breaking Ground at Grant's House

There's been some groundbreaking work happening at Grant's House! Thanks to the wonderful support of our community, the adaptive playground is complete. Watch for details about a ribbon cutting in the future. Scan the QR code for a construction time-lapse video: we love seeing how things are come together, but it's even more fun to see kids and young adults enjoying this new, accessible space!



NURTURING POSSIBILITIES, TOGETHER

So many people join us in making our mission of service possible. From attending events, to volunteering to support our weekend programs, or giving generously to ensure our future, Wabash Center does not do this work alone. We are honored to be joined in this work by so many generous volunteers, community leaders, and donors. We are nurturing possibilities, *together*.

The Steutermans: Announcing our first legacy gift and honoring the late Ron Steuterman

Wabash Center is beyond excited to celebrate its first legacy gift: a historic \$2.5 million from Erika Steuterman, a dedicated member of our community. Erika and her late husband, Ron, have been connected to Wabash Center for many years, helping us make great strides in our mission. Their contributions have been invaluable to the community, including building the first waiver house in West Lafayette. Before he passed away, Ron said the greatest thing he ever did was build a house for Wabash Center. We are honored to be a recipient of their generosity. Erika shared with us, "It was important to Ron that we do good where we can, and after he passed away, I took steps to ensure our girls would be taken care of, which included taking care of Wabash Center." In May, friends and family from across the country gathered to dedicate a tree and celebrate Ron's memory. Wabash Center is humbled and thankful for all the Steuterman family has done in support of our mission and our future.



An Exclusive Evening with Bruce "The Piano Man" Barker and his Band

Thank you to everyone who came out and partied with us at an exclusive evening with Bruce Barker and his band! Our amazing community, staff, friends, family, and individuals gathered at The Stables Event Center for a night of tacos, drinks, dancing, and fun. The dance floor was never empty! Thank you to The Stables for having us, to the Guac Box for providing tasty treats, and to Bruce and His Band for a night filled with music and laughter. We appreciate your continued support of Wabash Center and Grant's House!



CENTER SPOTLIGHT

Grant's House Spring Break Camp

The young individuals we serve spent their spring breaks at Grant's House! Along with Emerging Adults, kids had fun at the basketball court, built creations in the STEM lab, and had yoga class as a big group! Additionally, Hannah from the YWCA came by to teach a dance class. Everyone enjoyed spending time with their friends and staff at Grant's House, and we got warmed up for Camp 54 this summer. Watch our next issue for photos of our summer



Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is National Volunteer Month! The help volunteers provide is invaluable whether at monthly Saturday Fun Day events we host for people we serve or at large-scale community events, we are grateful for volunteer support. A group of dedicated volunteers from Alpha Phi Omega at Purdue helped us serve food and guide people to their spots for Bingo. "We all had a lot of fun and met a lot of amazing people as a result of our participation. Thank you for having us!" (Zac Hamilton, Alpha Phi Omega).



Every year at our annual Grant's House Celebration, Jenna Winger and her team from Wabash help prepare and serve food to all of the attendees. "There is something special that happens when you volunteer as a team at a place as special as Wabash Center. While we were breeding fish for the event, everyone was laughing, talking, and making heartwarming connections with their co-workers, employers, and community."

Wabash Center is appreciative of our volunteers and all they do to support our organization!



CENTER SPOTLIGHT

Indianapolis Airport Art Display

Individuals with disabilities from across the state of Indiana submitted art pieces for consideration for the INARF art display at the Indianapolis International Airport. Two artists from Wabash Center were selected, and their work was displayed in Civic Plaza through the month of April.

Nellie and Mary (right) attended the opening reception and celebrated their creativity with artists from across the state, representatives from INARF, the airport authority, and Lt. Governor Crouch.



Day Services Making New Friends at Westminster Village

This April, we kicked off a unified Senior program with Westminster Village called "W3You+Me: Westminster Wabash Wednesday!" The first day of this program was very special for everyone! Individuals from Wabash Center Day Services, regardless of age, participated in an outing to the Art and Fitness studios at Westminster Village West Lafayette. Westminster residents paired with people from Wabash Center, and together, they created collaborative artwork and engaged in a group fitness session. New friendships began to form, and we know those connections will continue to grow during this monthly program. Thank you to Westminster Village for welcoming us!

Autism Awareness Month: Meet Milo!

April is Autism Awareness Month! We are always working towards new opportunities and nurturing possibilities for the individuals we serve whether they are on the spectrum or live with a different disability. Wabash Center was fortunate to connect with RoboKind through our partnership with The Arc of Indiana to pilot a robot named Milo! Milo teaches skills mastery through practice, repetition, and progression. We are all about continuous growth and aiding the individuals we serve in gaining independence. Milo is a great tool to help individuals improve their communication and social skills.

Check out our socials or scan the QR code to watch our video on Milo and see him interact with Sydnie, an individual we serve at Grant's House.

Milo teaches her facial expressions and their names, as well as when that expression would be used. He's a fun tool for the individuals to use and they love getting to learn with Milo!



CENTER SPOTLIGHT

Employees of the Month

Congratulations to each exemplary employee honored as Employee of the Month from December through April! We are so proud of our staff and all that they do in service of Wabash Center's mission to optimize the quality of the lives for people with disabilities and special needs. They go above and beyond to grow as professionals, adapt to unexpected situations, and better the lives of everyone around them.

Shakira Torrence



Gaynell Mann



Adam Kennell



Kylee Chase



Sonya Hudson



Getting to Know You: Board Member Bio

Meet Mike Musleh! Mike is a new member of our Board of Directors, joining in December 2022. He has been volunteering at Wabash Center since 2010, when he gathered volunteers from Oerlikon/Fairfield Manufacturing to help out at many different events through the years. Mike currently leads Stratic Global Sourcing, a global sourcing company and division of Oscar Winski, located in Lafayette, IN. With his experience in executive roles and supply chain functions, he is looking forward to bringing companies together in support of our cause and finding new ways to save and generate money to help us continue improving our standard of care. Mike says, "Volunteering at Wabash Center provides the volunteer with more rewarding feelings than what he or she will give in hours. In all my interactions, the individuals served are pure of heart, loving, and giving."