

A photograph of two men standing side-by-side in front of a large, abstract mural. The man on the left is Black, has a grey beard, and is wearing a blue t-shirt and brown shorts. The man on the right is white, has glasses, and is wearing a light green t-shirt and red shorts. The mural behind them features bold, black and white geometric patterns, including a large, stylized letter 'A' and various radiating lines. The text 'COURAGE. COMMUNITY. CONNECTION.' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

**COURAGE.
COMMUNITY.
CONNECTION.**



2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Braxton Thomas and James Bodle

The background is a solid blue color with a faint, stylized American flag pattern. The pattern consists of horizontal stripes and a grid of stars, rendered in a slightly darker shade of blue, creating a subtle watermark effect.

**TOGETHER
WE CAN DO
GREAT THINGS.**

DEAR FRIENDS,

As human beings, we all share this earth. We share the air that we breathe, and the ground that we walk on. We share the sun that warms us, and the moon and stars that guide us at night. We also share our human biology, but it's our shared humanity that truly bonds us. A desire for community and for connection transcends all of our differences.

Braxton and James are two men who are living life on their own terms; together. They've been best friends for 10 years, Braxton and James do most things together. They both live in Find-a-Way apartments. They travel together. They work out together at *Fit For Life*, LADD's group exercise class. And, they go to the grocery, and cook healthy meals together. You might say they're a model fitness team, but this wasn't always the case.

Braxton wasn't motivated to exercise. His relaxed easy-going style didn't totally jive with the regimented structure of the gym. At the urging of LADD's Health and Wellness Team, James asked Braxton to join him for workouts. From that moment on, everything changed. James made sure Braxton was at every fitness class, and Braxton gave James the courage he needed to try new things. Health and wellness is now an integral part of their lives. They are getting stronger and feeling healthy, and they couldn't have done it without each other's support.

LADD exists to ensure that **all people** have the opportunity to pursue community and connection whether it is the chance to part of the Flying Pig Marathon, the opportunity to live independently, or the freedom and dignity to take risks and make mistakes every once in a while.

It takes **Courage** to pursue one's dreams, a **Community** committed to supporting those dreams, and a **Connection** to each other that gives us the strength to realize our dreams.

Like Braxton and James, we are stronger together. I thank you for your unwavering support. With the help of our community, we are building a more inclusive world, a world where people can pursue their best life.

Sincerely,



Susan Brownknight,
CEO, LADD

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

BY THE NUMBERS

11

People

Senior Living
at Victory
Parkway

12

People

Innovative
Support
Specialists

63

People

Community
Supported
Living

39

People

Find-A-Way
Apartments

39

People

Margaret B. Geier
Apartments

74

People

Community
Connections

50

People

Remote
Supports

54

People

HLADD

306

People

SOAR

61

People

Supported
Employment

14

Average Hours of Training Each
Employee Receives Per Year



Pam Riley is a member of the Special Olympics Hamilton County bowling team. Pam uses a wheelchair, but with the support of adaptive equipment, and the friendship and compassion of her teammates, Pam has become an integral part of the team.

LADD's health and wellness program is one of the only programs in the nation focused on health and wellness for people with developmental disabilities.

709 Total People Served
by LADD

SURVEY OF PEOPLE SERVED, FAMILIES AND STAKEHOLDERS

95%

satisfied with services provided

96%

of people served say services help them live more independently

96%

of people served feel safe when they participate in LADD

96%

of people served feel LADD staff help them when they ask for help and teach them how to do things so they can be more independent.

79%

of DSP time spent providing direct services



Jim Fox

“I’m very happy with staff and I like people seeing me doing things on my own because then they know they can do it also.”

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FOREVER, HOME

Forever Home is a model of community living for people with disabilities which supports independent living, fully integrated with the community. LADD builds or remodels clusters of homes located in, walkable communities.

In 2022, **Phase II of LADD's Forever Home Campaign** was completed. We now have six Smart Homes, serving 22 individuals, located in 2 community clusters: one in Blue Ash and one in Anderson Township. Two new homes were finished in the Anderson Cluster; *The Jeremy Simpson Home* and *The Immaculate Home*. Each home is equipped with technology that supports health, safety, and independence for the 3–4

“I feel pretty confident that I can make my dream come true—my dream is to be out in the community a lot more.”

Sarah Osner

people with disabilities living in each home. The Forever Home approach to community living addresses three major obstacles and one all-consuming hope. The obstacles are an ever-increasing demand for disability services, funding that covers less than half of the current need, and an overwhelming shortage in the number

of people needed to provide support service. The hope is that adults with disabilities can live the most independent and fulfilling lives possible.

In October of 2022, LADD hosted an open house at our Anderson Cluster. *The Jeremy Simpson Home* was one of the 3 homes featured. It was named after long-time LADD supporter Jeremy Simpson who died in December 2020. Sarah Osner is one of the residents of the *The Jeremy Simpson Home*. She remembers feeling both excited and nervous when she moved in, “I don’t know how to describe it—I was happy. Ecstatic. But I was a little bit nervous, and scared, and sad all at once.” Sarah enjoys the freedom and independence she feels in her new home, “I feel

pretty confident that I can make my dream come true—my dream is to be out in the community a lot more. I don’t want to be stuck at home. Talking about my life right now is so fun. It just feels like it is all falling into place.”

Championing a new model, LADD has launched **Phase III of our Forever Home Campaign** to transform services delivery for people with developmental disabilities. This phase is dedicated to scaling Technology Enabled Smart Living Supports, and championing a new model of living for our aging population at our Victory Parkway location.



Sarah Osner and Don Cameron in their new Smart Home

Aging in Dignity

Over half of people with Down Syndrome develop early onset dementia and Alzheimer's as they age, and over a quarter of the people who receive services from LADD are over the age of 55. LADD is raising funds to



ensure that people with developmental disabilities have the ability to age in dignity with independence. We believe that "Aging at Victory Parkway" will transform care for seniors with developmental disabilities and develop a service model for providing community integrated supports for people to age in dignity as their needs grow.

Scaling Technology Enabled Smart Living Supports

Due to the crisis in the DD system caused by staffing shortages, there is increased pressure to accelerate the timeline to bring Smart Living Technology Enabled Supports outside of LADD.



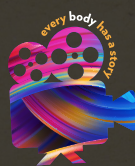
Anne Gerhardt, Joslin Martin, and Isabel Ganz moved into their new Smart Home in LADD's Anderson Cluster. This is the first time these three women have lived away from their families. Isabel said, "I was hesitant and apprehensive at first, but once we moved in and I got to know my new housemates, it started to feel like home."

Forever Home is a new model of community living for people with disabilities. It supports independent living that fully integrates into the community. LADD builds or remodels small clusters of homes located in desirable, walkable communities. Each home is equipped with technology that supports health, safety, and independence people living in each home.

Across the country people are clamoring for a solution. After the considerable success of the pilot phase of Technology Enabled Smart Living Supports, LADD is raising the funds needed to be able to build the infrastructure for the Technology Enabled Supports service model to be available for people receiving services outside of LADD. This model has already been scaled at a beta level with providers in North Carolina and Iowa.

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OVER-THE-RHINE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

organized by ladd

“The films were such reinforcements that we are not so different from one another after all.”

THE OVER-THE-RHINE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

In 2022, The Over-The-Rhine International Film Festival hosted 2,500 attendees, 46 films, at 4 venues, over 4 days. It's the nation's first diversity film festival led by people in the disability community and was voted one of the **25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World** by *MovieMaker Magazine*.

Opening Night featured a funny, heartfelt drama called *Poppy* from writer-director Linda Niccol. *Poppy* is about a young woman with Down Syndrome eager to take control of her life and pursue her dream of becoming a car mechanic. In addition, 2022's curated slate included *Here. Is. Better.*, which addresses PTSD among veterans, allowing them to share their own stories in their own voices; 2022's Sundance Film Festival's Audience Award in the US Dramatic category, *Cha Cha Real Smooth*, written

and directed by Cooper Raiff and starring, Dakota Johnson, Brad Garrett, Leslie Mann and newcomers Vanessa Burghardt and Evan Assante. This romantic comedy is about a 22-year-old named Andrew who is fresh out of college and stuck at his New Jersey home without a clear path forward, he begins working as a party starter for bar/bat mitzvahs where he strikes up a unique friendship with a young mom and her teenage daughter. After the film, Actress Vanessa Burghardt,

continued on page 10



“This is a newer festival but it is mighty. Highlighting disability filmmakers and marginalized filmmakers, this festival works hard to promote the films, and had events and amazing accommodations for filmmakers.”

— Iman Zawahry,
MovieMaker Magazine

2500

Festival Attendees

589

Volunteer Hours

Over

100

films submitted
via Film Freeway

11,000

website visitors



Tt Stern-Enzi, Artistic Director
of the Over-the-Rhine
International Film Festival



Justice Richard H. Bernstein



Jack Youngelson, Director of Here. Is. Better.



Violinist Preston Bell Charles III



“[The film festival] helped me understand what other folks with developmental disabilities go through in their daily lives.”

mate returns and fails to practice safe social distancing, she finds that boredom may be the least of her worries.

These are just a few of the diverse voices we heard at the 2022 Over-The-Rhine International Film Festival. The festival brings together stories that celebrate differences, and honor our shared humanity. Using cinema, community events and conversations as tools to build empathy, we hope to create experiences that expand beyond the screen into the outside world and into real human relationships.

who plays the teenage daughter Lola in the film, participated in a panel discussion where she talked about the movie and navigating the entertainment industry as an actress with Autism.

Closing Night featured *Never Better*, a film by local film maker Julianne Fox. *Never Better* is a small and personal story

amongst two humongous things, a once-in-generation pandemic and experiencing it while living with the chronic condition, Cystic Fibrosis. Terese is a young woman with Cystic Fibrosis stuck in the time loop of quarantine. She fights her boredom with beer, and an unstoppable internal dialogue. When her self-interested room-

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Saul Schottenstein
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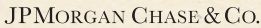
“The film festival helped me see life through a different light.”

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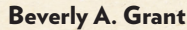
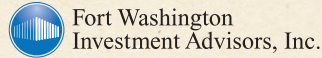
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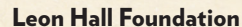
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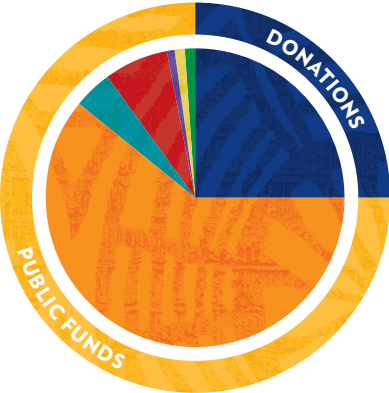
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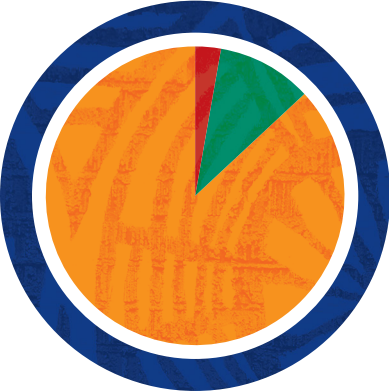


Revenue

11.8

Million

- Donations 25%
- Public Funds 75%
- Ohio DODD Medicaid Waiver..... 61%
- HCDDS Levy 4%
- Private Service Contract 7%
- Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities 1%
- HUD Service Coordinator 1%
- Other..... 1%



Expenses

11.3

Million

- Fundraising 3%
- Management and General 10%
- Programs Services 86%

“I’m very happy with LADD! My coach helped me find my dream job and helped me learn ways to do my job that made it easier for me. She is a good coach to me! I am so glad she helped me!”



Daniel Hunt

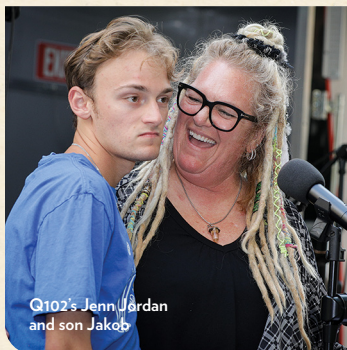


LADD CEO Susan Brownknight and Isabel Gantz



Cincinnati Filmmaker David Chimusoro

“I feel that people who care for you can make a difference. If you don’t ask for help people won’t help or understand what you need as support. So it’s okay to ask for help.”



Q102’s Jenn Jordan and son Jakob

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

	TOTAL RAISED	CONTRIBUTORS
Car Raffle.....	\$232,300.00	1318
Capital Campaign.....	\$1,573,500.00	20
Operating Support	\$625,783.79	499
Film Festival.....	\$489,391.75	266
Endowment Support.....	\$15,000.00	3
Smart Living.....	\$150,000.00	2



Mathew Bentley was nervous about hiking in Hocking Hills, and Old Man’s Cave was a bit more difficult than they imagined. Mathew would repeat “I’m scared” under his breath. But with the help of his DSP, Patrick Cost, he completed the entire hike. Everyone cheered him on, including other passersby. He was so happy and proud of himself after completing the journey.

LADD’s Community Connections program is one of the first community-focused day programs for people with developmental disabilities. Participants in Community Connections are empowered to explore the world around them.

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“We love working with LADD. They are exceptional and always listen to our needs and address them promptly. We are very happy with LADD.”

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OUR VALUES

WE BELIEVE...

- Meaningful engagement grounded in love is the foundation of all we do.
- Self-determination is a human right.
- Achieving our vision demands bold, creative and collaborative solutions. Guided by the belief that every person has Ability and Value, we Empower Adults with developmental disabilities to Live, Work, and Connect.
- There is strength in a culture and community that welcomes diversity.
- Commitment to quality requires a relentless pursuit of excellence.
- The pursuit of health and wellness is critical to our success.

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