



of Northwest Missouri

Life without limits for people with disabilities™



Grateful.



Dedicated.



Hopeful.

2021 - 2022 Annual Report
www.ucpnwmo.org



**Every Step
of the Way.**

Dear Friends of UCP,

Grateful. Dedicated. Hopeful. Every Step of the Way.

This is so much more than the theme for the 2021-2022 UCP Annual Report. It's our philosophy every day at UCP, and the perspective of our team, the children and adults we serve and their families. It's also the shared perspective of our leadership, our volunteers and our community who supports UCP of Northwest Missouri.

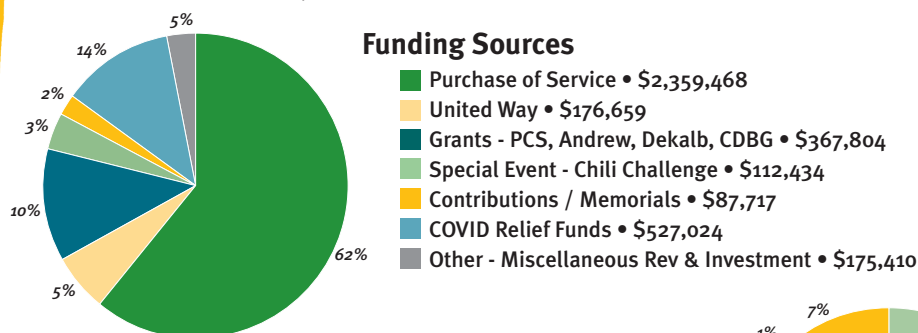
We are grateful for the laughter, the conversations, the upbeat and lively interactions and all the learning and exploring that happens every day at UCP. We are grateful for the smiling faces of our children and adults and those of our team. We are grateful for the privilege it is to serve individuals and families with disabilities, and to keep focused on our mission even in changing times. And we are so grateful for the great memories, the camaraderie and the loyal support we see year after year at our biggest and most essential fundraiser, the annual UCP Chili Challenge.

We are dedicated to our mission at every interaction and every experience. From the adults who are eagerly learning new skills to maximize their independence and volunteer in the community to the individuals who enthusiastically report to work with our employment partners, to our children who bring their curiosity and unique viewpoints to every lesson – we are dedicated to the most hopeful future possible and one filled with open doors and opportunities. We see so much ability and so much possibility. We know you do, too.

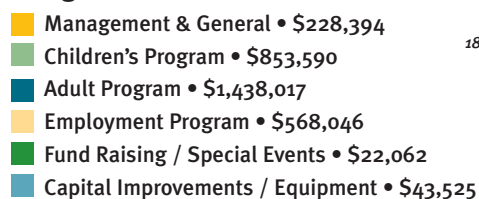
We are hopeful across every step of the way. Hopeful toward the learning environments, the resources, the service projects, the employment opportunities and the partners that remain consistent as we reach each new milestone with our participants. We are hopeful in the training and support our community and our funders provide, and all the ways they believe in us and our mission. We are hopeful toward each child, adult, employment program participant and each family who believes, as we do, that one step in front of the other will lead us to our goals – and more than we ever imagined.

Today, and every day, we extend our gratitude and our sheer enthusiasm for what the coming days, months and years hold for UCP of Northwest Missouri. Together across our team and all our partners, we are truly creating a “life without limits” for so many across northwest Missouri.

Sincerely,
Teresa Gagliano
Executive Director, UCP of Northwest Missouri



Funding Allocations



UCP's Board of Directors
Providing Leadership,
Guidance,
and Support

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Mission: To positively affect the quality of life of individuals with cerebral palsy and other developmental disabilities through the provision of direct services, community education and by empowering self-advocacy.

Vision: All individuals with developmental disabilities will have every opportunity to live life to the fullest.

Meet Henderson. Loves the Playground, Sunshine and Exploring.

(from her mom Brooke)

It's often a mother's intuition that begins a new journey ... and that's absolutely how the journey with our daughter, Henderson, unfolded. The months following Henderson's birth were filled with more love, anxiety, and coffee than I had ever previously known. As with most new moms, the new sense of worry I had was persistent. Are her pupils two different sizes? Why does she choke when she's eating? Why does she scream for two hours if she isn't asleep by 8 pm? Why does she seem suddenly frozen when we put her in the bath? Family, friends, doctors, and what seemed like everyone around me would look at her and say "she's smiling, gaining weight, and happy. You just have the new mom worries."

Alarm Bells... It wasn't until Henderson's first seizure like episode at 10 months old that an alarm bell truly rang, Henderson started to fall behind in milestones. At 12 months Henderson was army crawling, not yet pulling up or cruising along furniture. It was at this point that we started Physical Therapy and with Ms. Marsha. Marsha was and is a blessing to our family. She has been wonderful working with Henderson. Not only does she follow Henderson's lead when she may not be feeling as strong as normal, Marsha has listened to our concerns and has always been willing to provide solutions and suggestions when needed.

The Diagnosis At 19 months Henderson received the diagnosis of Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood. AHC is a rare neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by repeated episodes of weakness or paralysis that may affect one or both sides of the body. This being a diagnosis that Marsha had not come across before, she was very supportive and willing to further her knowledge in an effort to provide the best care to Henderson.

Beginning the UCP Children's Program Upon turning 2, Henderson started attending UCP's Preschool. At this time, we added Occupational Therapy, as well as, Speech therapy. Ms. Alyssa and Ms. Minnie, along with Ms. Marsha, have been a wonderful coalition of therapists to have working with Henderson alongside her preschool room teachers. Through the accommodations, therapies, and class participation Henderson has been better able to participate in social situations. She has grown to love her teachers and therapists and she instantly lights up when she gets to see them.

With So Much Gratitude – and A Future Full of Hope.

Without the UCP Children's program I am not sure where we would be. Not only did it help build a community of support and love for Henderson, but it helped ease my anxieties about Henderson going to school. This program has been such a blessing and we have seen so much growth from Henderson.



UCP's Children's Program provides a wide range of services to promote the development and learning of children with special needs from birth to five years of age. Early intervention services focus on all areas of development and children served are encouraged to embrace differences and to foster strengths within themselves and their peers.

211 Children Served

Children increased developmental skills by making progress on 98% of outcomes.

100% of children and families reported a successful transition.

3.76 Satisfaction survey results on a scale 1 to 4.

Meet Taylor. Expert Golfer. Sports Enthusiast. And Elvis Super Fan.



Taylor was referred to and served through UCP's Children's Program after being diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy as a baby. Following high school, he spent time within UCP's Employment Program. In April of 2021, Taylor began attending UCP's Adult Program.

We quickly realized that Taylor likely knows more about Elvis Presley than the King of Rock & Roll's own mother! He feels the most comfortable and the happiest when he is sharing his vast knowledge of Elvis trivia to anyone available to listen. He and his family have been to Graceland, and he has hundreds of personal photos taken during his tour. When first meeting Taylor, his fascination with The King makes for an incredible ice breaker especially when wearing his Elvis-inspired outfits. It is so fun to have him show you his photos and explain what you're seeing in each one.....until you realize that there is literally no end to his desire of sharing his phenomenal trivia facts!

As much as his Elvis knowledge is impressive, I'm sure you can understand why we'd be doing him a disservice if we never introduced other areas of knowledge. However, for quite some time, Taylor had very little desire to learn anything else that was offered. Thankfully, we have had success with finding ways

to blend his love of Elvis into brand new learning opportunities that can be challenging yet capture Taylor's attention.

To complicate things, Taylor has learned over the years that once someone is unable to continue listening to his choice of topics, the fastest way to re-gain their attention is to either say something that is inappropriate or to make a disrespectful sound. Because this learned behavior often works, we try very hard to affirm each time he engages in a conversation or participates in an activity that does NOT include Elvis, an insult, or unfortunate sound. Obviously, our goal is to provide the most attention for positive interactions.

As we have become more consistent with teaching social skills, we have enjoyed watching the positive changes Taylor has made. We are thankful that although he is still Elvis' biggest fan, he has become very willing to learn new things. Most rewarding is that he has made many friends here and often makes the conscious choice to be kind, affirming and polite while interacting with them.

Taylor ranks "The Wonder of You" as one of his favorite songs by Elvis. One part of the song lyrics state, "And when you smile, the world is brighter." This song couldn't be more fitting for you, Taylor. Thanks for brightening our world with your smile ... and your fun knowledge of the King!

UCP's Adult Program helps individuals with developmental disabilities continue to learn new skills towards greater independence through a variety of center and community-based activities. We believe that belonging to the community in which you live means much more than just living there. It means being involved in the activities and events that interest you and giving back to that community through volunteerism.

67 Individuals Served

100% of individuals learned skills toward independence

100% increased computer skills

91% of individuals were involved in community volunteer projects

Meet Bruce. McAlister's Deli Super Employee and Serious Go-Getter.

Bruce started his journey with UCP in the Summer Work Experience (SWE) in 2020 at McAlister's Deli. Upon completion of SWE, Bruce interviewed and was offered a permanent position at McAlister's. In early 2022, Bruce expressed the desire to learn a new position – taking orders and running the cash register. With the help of UCP job supports, Bruce was able to achieve this goal. Bruce is currently in follow-along services. UCP staff will continue to check in with Bruce and management regarding work performance. “UCP staff are nice and help me with the things that I need help with,” he says. It's not just the tea that's sweet. McAlister's Deli is dedicated to providing opportunities for individual's UCP serves, from hosting students during Summer Work Experience, to job shadowing to employment. Since 2017, McAlister's has hosted 8 students for Summer Work Experience and has employed 8 individuals, with 5 of those individuals remaining employed.

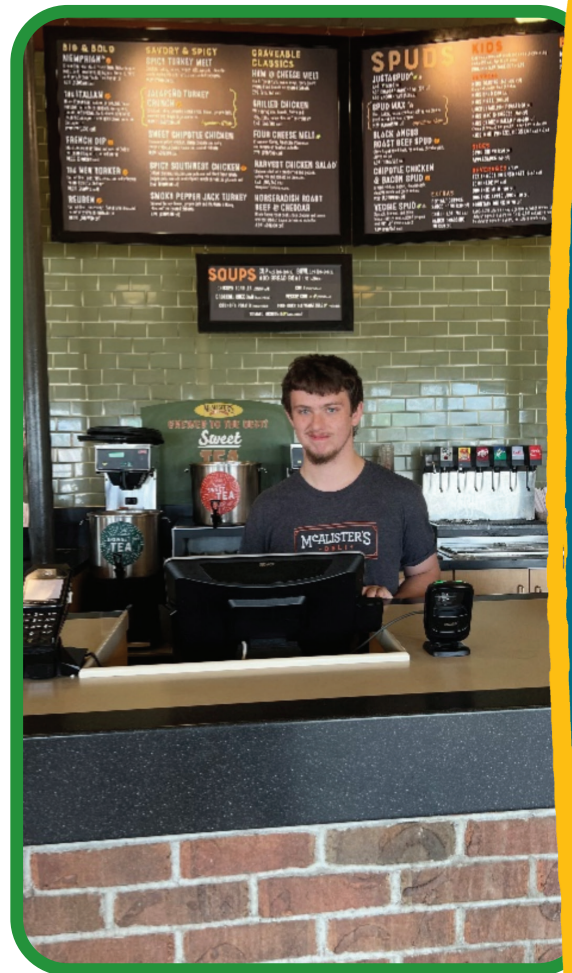
As part of the UCP Employment Program, individuals work the front counter taking orders/money transactions from guests and deliver ordered food in the dining room. Of course, both of these positions require helping out with cleaning in the dining room,



refilling beverages for guests, and washing dishes, along with other side tasks. Bruce is excelling in his position at McAlister's.

He has a supportive work environment and enjoys coworkers. Bruce states his General Manager, Colby, “supports him well!” Bruce was selected as McAlister's Employee of the Quarter for the months of November 2021 – January 2022. Bruce states McAlister's is an “awesome place to work” and the “people he works with are family.”

Bruce's supervisor, Colby, says it best: “Bruce is an exceptional employee. Working with UCP is a unique opportunity to meet and engage with potential employees. UCP Employment Staff are supportive and always on call. Every business should support and get involved with this program.”



The UCP Employment Program helps individuals with disabilities get competitive jobs with prevailing wage with high expectations. It is our mission that these individuals are seen for their abilities, not disabilities. They can do just as everyone else, and they want to!

This is all person-led; from the job to the UCP supports given.

Employment isn't just getting a job. Our team carries out many tasks to support our participants, from interview prep, to filling out applications to help with figuring out transportation, plus active, ongoing support once they have secured a job. This includes soft skills, too, such as communicating at work. We stay with participants for the entirety of the job, not just in the beginning – and we check on them years down the road if they still have that job or if they have progressed onward in their careers.

141 Individuals Served
89% obtained a job in a timely manner
100% Satisfaction on surveys
5 New businesses hired through the program

UCP 36th Annual Chili Challenge Raises \$105,000

We are grateful to every team, sponsor, vendor, volunteer and attendee at the March 6, 2022, UCP Chili Challenge. Your dedication and your efforts helped us exceed our goal — and will change the lives of local children and adults with disabilities.

Save the date for the 37th Annual Chili Challenge – March 5, 2023
Spread the word – we have room available for new teams to join – contact UCP!



1st Place Missouri State Champion Hi Ho Bar & Grill



2nd Place Boys R Back



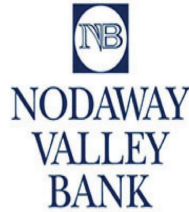
3rd Place Fletcher Construction

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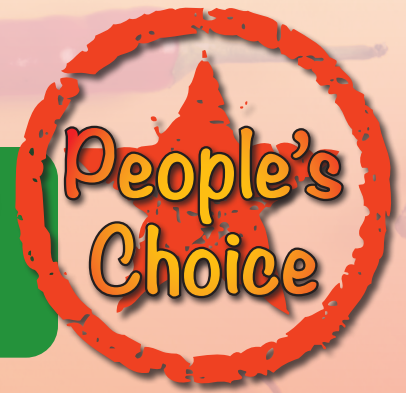
Eagle Communications: 21 KNPG • Fox 26 KNPN • Joetown 107.5 • KFEQ • K-Jo 105 • KY-102
Q Country 92.7 FM • KQ2 News • St. Joseph News Press • Suddenlink

Grateful for Dedicated People's Choice Teams



1st Place Nestle Purina
\$46,305.00

(\$719,714.00 - 14 year total)



2nd Place Sisters Three
\$12,572.00

(\$104,775.00 - 15 year total)



3rd Place The Boys are Back
\$3,140.00

(\$173,648.00 - 21 year total)



4th Place Sealed Air
\$1,855.00



Place	Team Name	Amount
5th	Clarios	\$1,846.25
6th	American Family Insurance	\$1,663.00
7th	Knights of Columbus	\$1,058.53
8th	CBIZ Insurance Services Inc.	\$873.00
9th	TBA	\$637.00
10th	Biggins Sports Bar & Grill	\$526.00
11th	Victory Chevrolet	\$476.71
12th	Helen Davis Bus Drivers	\$395.00
13th	King Cole	\$362.42
14th	Choices of St. Joseph	\$313.00
15th	Downey & Bennett Chili Connection	\$269.00

Thank You to Our Generous Donors 2021-2022

Together we are **Grateful.** **Dedicated.** **Hopeful.** Every Step of the Way. We couldn't do it without you!

Memorials

NANCY CHATTERTON

LARRY & SHANE SMITH

PAMELA BELL PFANNENSTIEL

BRENDA KLATT

VIRGINIA PELTON

JUSTIN GOULD

CURTIS & BARBARA GOULD

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MELBA PERKINS

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DENNIS & SANDY BOWLES

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