SAWs 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

# Building on the Past into the Future

SAWs Servants at Work, Inc.

# FIFTEEN YEARS
# AND SO MANY MORE LIVES TO CHANGE

**A** lot can change in 15 years and for SAWs® (as Servants At Work, Inc. came to be known) that is certainly the story. In 2003, SAWs was born when a call for help was received at Second Presbyterian Church and our founder, Rik Hagarty, stepped forward to answer. Rik has since built and sustained this critically needed organization and his passion and entrepreneurial drive has delivered extraordinary social benefits for low-income, disabled citizens throughout the State of Indiana.

*"I would like to thank everyone that volunteered the build of my much needed wheelchair ramp. I appreciate all the hard work in the bitter cold. I now can safely come and go. I use it everyday!!"*

But SAWs has known it was a matter of time before others would want to carry the mission forward. That time has come, as new partners are taking steps to establish operations in the U.S. southwest and the east coast. Consequently, the Board of Directors is building a robust strategic plan to manage the challenges the future will bring.

The Board has worn two hats since its establishment in 2010 overseeing the operations of both the Indianapolis metropolitan area and the construction groups across Indiana. A first step in addressing the coming growth has been positioning the Indianapolis operations on the same tier as all other affiliates. This has given the Board a clear focus on the overall health and direction of the organization. New governing policies have been put in place to further reinforce the organization's evolving structure.

Rik has worked tirelessly from the inception of SAWs to lead the organization to its current point. He has been primarily responsible for the past growth and vitality of SAWs. But the demand is great and growing, and Rik agrees new leadership is needed to carry SAWs into the future.

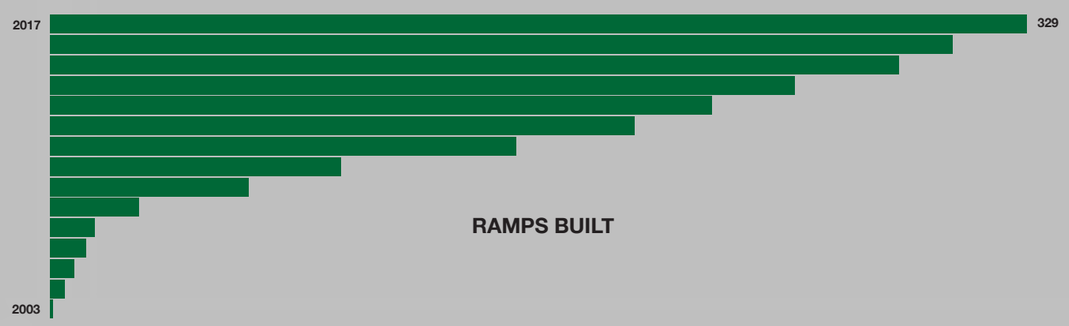
A new Executive Director will be hired by midyear to implement and oversee the new plan. SAWs has been very guarded in increasing its visibility so not to create more demand than could be met. Accordingly, a Marketing/Executive Assistant will be added to continue to grow awareness and expand our base of support. Online efforts and marketing will be enhanced and new, unused channels of communication are being considered.

SAWs will continue to develop synergistic partnerships, such as Habitat for Humanity and United Methodist Men National, to reach even more of those in need wherever they may be. Partnerships will extend the reach of SAWs without growing the organization commensurately.

This expansion will require an upgrade to the technology infrastructure of SAWs. Specifically, the databases that support volunteer and project management will need to function across the nation recognizing the varied geopolitical differences. These databases will be key to collecting impersonal data, which will demonstrate program effectiveness and help augment fundraising efforts.

Of course volunteers are the engine that drive SAWs day in and day out. Their work from intake to finish this past year has been amazing and produced another year of record builds that have changed the lives of so many clients, their families and their caregivers. The mission of SAWs is not only to give new freedom to those who would otherwise remain trapped in their homes but to also provide volunteers the chance to see that freedom arrive and understand its importance. These are life-changing moments for all and the goal of SAWs is to change many, many more lives.

*"SAWs built my ramp last year. It was built with great expertise. My experience with SAWs was a great Blessing for me right from the beginning to the end."*



# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear friends,

2017 was another fantastic year for our clients, sponsors, and volunteers. We were able to change the lives of not only the clients that received a no-cost ramp, but also the sponsors that viewed their donations being used efficiently for a great cause, and for the volunteers that reported to "receive more blessings than the clients." Overall, another year's worth of time, efforts, and resources well spent!

As our 2018 building season begins, we are looking at the challenges ahead with optimism: We are searching for a new warehouse for the Indianapolis Metro Group and executive offices; a new Executive Director is being hired; additional broadly experienced Board Members are joining; new sources of funding are being explored, including fee-based team building events. All of these are strong indications that SAWs is thriving!

*"We don't always understand others needs and situations until we are faced with similar ones."*

Researchers tell us that only about 9% of New Year's resolutions are successful. However, if they are written down, then the success rate soars to over 40%. As you consider ways that you would like to be involved with this great mission, please write your commitment down. Whether it's a donation, volunteering to answer the phone, make mailings or to help build a ramp, please write down your resolution in joining a growing organization.

*Tom Lipinski*

# LETTER FROM THE FOUNDER

The past is comfortable and something we know. The future is not yet in focus and often can be scary. As I look back over the past 15 years of SAWs, I see so many amazing things that have transpired. Each of those events had something to teach us about what was to come.

Our first project on a frosty November day taught us about the needs behind the need when we discovered our ramp kept Child Services from removing our client from her parents' home. In 2005 when we partnered with the men and women of St. Luke's Methodist Church and CICOA, we learned about the value in partnerships and collaborations. The year we first doubled our annual output of ramps taught us in small part about the tremendous need we had chosen to meet. When we formed our Board of Directors, it taught us about the wisdom of having a range of ideas, opinions, and viewpoints.

I often receive accolades for my part in the formation and development of SAWs. While the praise is appreciated and I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this ministry, I also recognize that it has taken many people, thousands of hours and millions of prayers to get us to this point.

As we look to the future, there is no cause for concern. God has guided us in the past and He will continue to guide us as we build into the future. I eagerly look forward to whatever comes next. We have a Board of Directors that is bursting with talent, varied experience and enthusiasm. We have a volunteer management staff that is insightful, knowledgeable and intuitive. And we have volunteers who are eager, dedicated, committed and loyal. Our future is bright.

Our vision is to provide every person in need of our service the ability to regain his or her freedom, independence and dignity. If we are to build on the past, we must pay attention to all the lessons it has taught us. At the same time, we must be willing to innovate, reinvent and transform our ministry in order to continue to grow and mature as an organization.

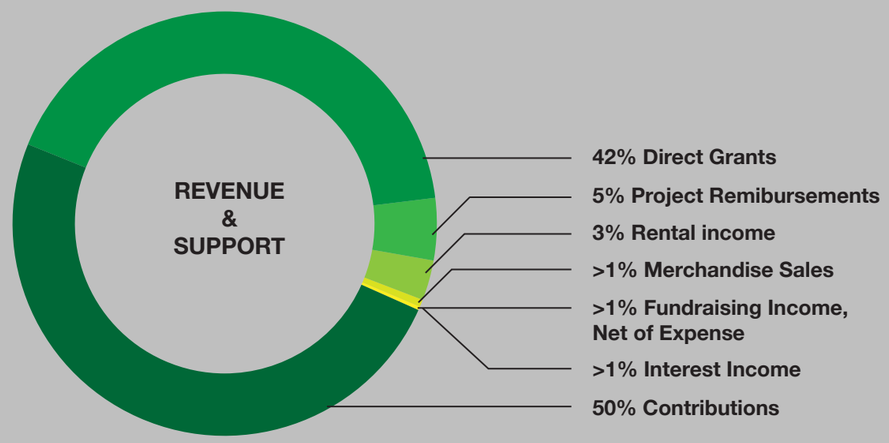
The amazing events of the past will pale in comparison to the wonders we will experience in the future.

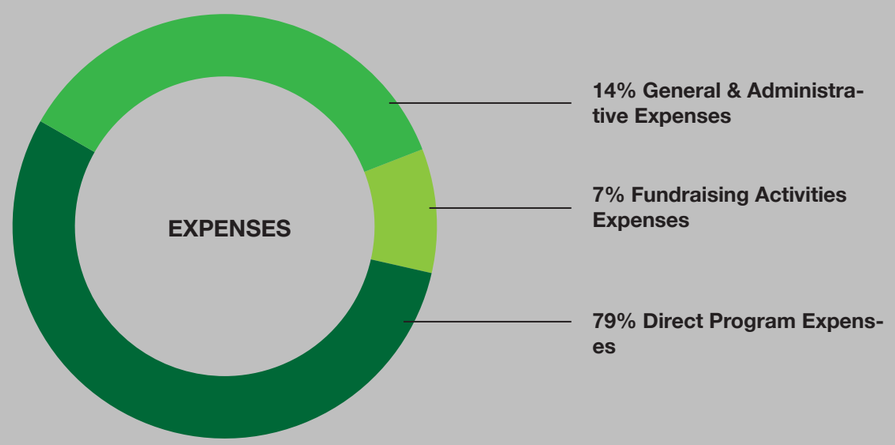
*Rik Hagarty*

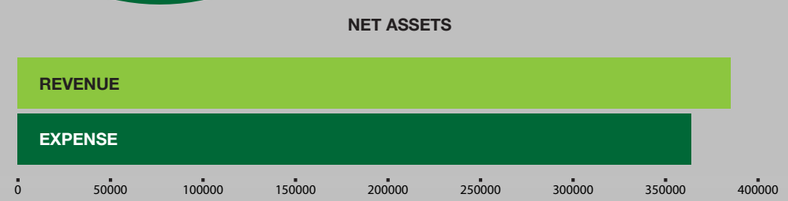
# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial position of SAWs has strengthened over the past year, thanks in large part to broader donor support. Moreover, the efficiency of dedicated volunteers who tirelessly work to grant freedom to the clients we serve continues to keep our operating costs at reasonable and predictable levels.

*Byron Chapin, Accountant*




# OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
Tom Lipinski, Chairman
David Kennedy, Vice Chairman
Alan Erickson, Treasurer
Carol Smith, Secretary
Rik Hagarty, Executive Director

**DIRECTORS**
David Bodle
Rev. Eric Burton-Krieger
Jan Edmondson
Tom Godby
Debbie Mann
Michael Mathews
Robert W. Rush
Charlie Russell
Jenna Sallee
J. Timothy Thurston
Carol Wendt
Norm Wilkens

James Gilster, Director Emeritus
Jim Hamilton, Director Emeritus

# OUR DONORS

**PHILANTHROPIST - $10,000+**
Anonymous
Grube Family Foundation Inc.
Hoover Family Foundation
Community Foundation of Howard County
Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership
Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr., Memorial Foundation
OrthoIndy Foundation
The Indianapolis Foundation, a CiCF affiliate

**BENEFACTOR - $5,000+**
Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hamilton
Hendricks County Community Foundation
Henry County Community Foundation
Kosciusko County Community Foundation
Mrs. Link Krimendahl
Legacy Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Lipinski
Mann Properties
Million Dollar Round Table Foundation
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Second Presbyterian Mayer Chapel Fund
Second Presbyterian Church Mission Committee
Second Presbyterian Women
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sweet

**SPONSOR - $2,500+**
Mr. & Mrs. Al Erickson
Montgomery County Community Foundation
Rush County Community Foundation
Samerian Foundation
Urology of Indiana Foundation
Ms. Carol Wendt
Westlake Community Church of God

**PATRON - $1,000+**
Allisonville Christian Church
Anderson Rotary Club
Anonymous
Ms. Patty Baker
Mr. Don Buttrey
Mr. Ned Campbell
Community Foundation of Morgan County
Corvette Indy
Mr. Dave Ditzler
Ms. Jacqueline Drain
Ms. Jan Edmondson
First Construction Consulting, Inc.
Garden Community Church
Godby Heating Plumbing Electrical
Mr. & Mrs. David Kennedy
Legacy Foundation
Madison County Community Foundation
Mike & Laura Mathews
Meg Lynn Fund
MET Foundation, Inc.
Meyer Najem Construction, LLC
New Hope Presbyterian Church
Northern Indiana Community Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Rush
Servant of Christ Lutheran Church
SIA Foundation, Inc.
St. Luke's UMC Women
Mr. & Mrs. William Smith III
Mr. & Mrs. Win Smith
Mr. Robert Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Theis
Mr. Allan G. Vagstad
Ms. Sandra Walden-Bailey

**SUPPORTER - $500+**
Anonymous
Mr. Brett Bayston
Susie H Beiger Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Burton-Krieger
Cross & Crown Lutheran Church
Mr. Al Dalton
Mr. Jason Drook
Faith Presbyterian Church
Family Bible Church
First United Methodist Church of Mooresville IN
Mr. John W Fultz
Hertz Investment Group
Microsoft Corporation
Needham S Hurst
Lingle Family Charitable Giving
Ms. Judith A Matthews
Mr. David F. Means
Ms. Ruth Morrison
Mulberry UMC
Peggy A Myers
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Rarick
Wes Shealey Fund for ALS Support
Ms. Patti Smith
Ms. Dorine Swartz

**SAMARITAN - $100+**
Amazon Smile
Rev. & Mrs. David Berry
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Russell
Ms. Constance C Nell
Mr. David Morgan
Dr. James Lemons
Dr. William B. Carr
Give With Liberty
Mr. John Bender
Mr. John Hunter
Mr. John Wiley
Mr. John Yeo
Mr. Jon Andresen
Ms. Kathleen A Stanton
Kroger Community Rewards
Lilly Endowment
Mr. Matt Cook
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Pelham
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Hawley
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Blackburn
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Mathews
Mr. & Mrs. Randy Clark
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Holmes
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sweet
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Pauley
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Kubesch
Mr. Chris Myers
Mr. Craig Horter
Mr. Donald J Wagner
Mr. Jack Mayhugh
Mr. Michael S Matel
Mr. Steven W Nichols
Mrs. Pamela Tubergen
Mrs. Pat Slichenmyer
Ms. Alexandra Eads
Ms. Anne Gregg
Ms. Dana Cochran-Wiley
Ms. Elizabeth Brandt
Ms. Janice Roberts
Ms. Joan Lee
Ms. Kimberly Holdener
Ms. Kimberly Nichols
Ms. Marcia Carmichael
Ms. Mary C. Segasser
Ms. Phyllis Dodson
New Hope Presbyterian Church
Mr. Ralph Bussell
Mr. Randall Reed
Mr. Ronald Knuckles
Ms. Teresa Mann
Vietnam Veterans of America #295
Waldenlip LLP
Walnut Creek United Methodist Church
Women Wood Workers Guild of Indiana

**BACKER - Up to $99**
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Abney
Ms. Margaret L Andert
Mr. Robert G Bechtel
Ms. Linda Chambers
Mr. Byron L Chaplin
Mrs. Bertha Mae Chaplin
Mr. John B Connell
Ms. Shannon Crouch
Ms. Mary Dilthey-Griggs
Ms. Phyllis Dodson
Ms. Freida S Edwards
Mr. Thomas Elam
Dr. & Mrs. Davis W. Ellis
Give With Liberty
Mr. & Mrs. John Hagstrom
Ms. Ann B. Hyer
Ms. Beverly Kelton
Ms. H Lynn Knipstein
Mr. Dennis Laakman
Ms. Donna LeFeber
Ms. Diana Lindblom
Ms. Marlene E Logan
Mr. & Mrs. Helmut Lubert
Mr. David Mills
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Morehead
Mr. Michael E O'Neill
Mrs. Julia Piper
Ms. Arlene Rotte
Soldiers of Light, Mulberry United Methodist Church
Mrs. Maggie Stimming
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Studebaker
Mr. & Mrs. James Sweet
Mr. Donald J Wagner
Ms. Walda Wildman
Mr. & Mrs. Norm Wilkens
Ms. Francis L Zahn
Mr. Philip Hester

SAWs
Servants at Work, Inc.
Building Freedom One Ramp at a Time

© 2018 Copyright Servants at Work, Inc., 8811 Robbins Road, Indianapolis, Indiana 46268-1024, (317) 844-7664