

Summer 2023

VOL.12: ISSUE 1

VOLUNTEER
Building Freedom Since 2003
sawramps.org

SAWS connections

NEWS FROM SERVANTS AT WORK ► SAWSRAMPS.ORG

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BUILDING FREEDOM, CHANGING LIVES



As the new Executive Director of Servants at Work, Inc., we face changes and challenges in the second half of 2023.

We've built freedom for 120 households so far in Indiana. Thank you to our dedicated volunteer leaders and crews.

Welcome to our new Operations Manager, Mike Page, who is actively involved in ramp planning. However, our backlog of clients in need of ramps is growing. We rely on your support through donations and volunteering to restore freedom to clients.

Thank you, and let's look ahead together. God bless!

Tim Thurston

SAWs celebrated 20 years with a fundraiser and silent auction in April 2023. Visit @sawsramps on YouTube for more pictures from the event.



20 YEARS OF BUILDING MOBILITY FREEDOM

SAWs was Blessed from the Beginning

From its founding in 1838, Second Presbyterian Church has been passionate about mission work throughout Central Indiana. In 2003, the mission committee was entertaining ideas for a new, more recurring opportunity to offer to volunteers. Reverend David Berry and Rik Hagarty proposed building wheelchair ramps, patterned after an existing program in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. This endeavor received enthusiastic support from Second Presbyterian Church membership and staff and quickly became a standing mission project of the congregation.

Originally named “Second at Work” the resulting organization was renamed “Servants at Work” and was successfully recognized as an IRS 501©(3) organization in 2011.

To this day, Second Presbyterian Church is among SAWs' biggest supporters, to help the continued success of this calling.



The first ramp in 2003. (l-r, 1Bill Mummert, Rik Hagarty, Christine Lucas, Tim Junk, Jenny (client), Lauren Lucas, Don Lucas)

SAWs now partners with religious organizations to provide ramps to communities throughout the state. **Email rhagarty@sawsramps.org today to sign up and share our ministry with your congregation.**



Client Barry in Greencastle, IN, 2009.

HELPING SENIORS AGE IN PLACE

Ramps Make the Difference

In the spring of 2005, David Boyer and Kathy Minx, both members of St. Luke's Methodist Church came and told us that they wanted to partner with us. Kathy, a board member at Central Indiana Council on Aging (CICOA), had available funds and David indicated there were volunteers to be had at St. Luke's. A partnership was born.

According to Dan Amonett, CICOA is committed to supporting older adults who desire to remain as independent as possible, by making aging in place a priority as an alternative to institutional care.

“One of the longest and strongest partnerships is with SAWs to build ramps for homebound seniors, Amonett reports. “The cost to build a ramp with SAWs is less than half the cost of building with a contractor. These savings allow us to build more ramps and help more seniors stay safe in their own home-where most seniors want to be. We are so lucky to have SAWs in our community!”

For more information on CICOA services and options, please call (800) 432-2422 or visit CICOA.org.

EVERY ACT COUNTS

Make a difference effortlessly by participating in the Kroger Community Rewards program. This user-friendly donation program allows you to support local organizations through your everyday shopping. It's a simple and effective way to contribute to Servants at Work (SAWs).

To get started, visit the link provided below and sign up as a Kroger loyalty member. Once registered, you can select SAWs as your preferred organization from the list of eligible entities in your area. By doing so, **a portion of your purchases will automatically be donated to SAWs at no cost to you.**

Together, let's maximize the power of our shopping to make a lasting impact in the lives of those in need.

Sign up today at <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

"Demand is outstripping our build rate! Your support is essential in getting ramp services to the community"

*Tim Thurston
Executive Director, Servants at Work*



PARTNERING WITH LOCAL HEALTHCARE

In Servants At Work's Corporate Team Building program, companies are given the opportunity to fund ramps, as well as allow their employees to build with our project managers as part of service weeks or community day events.

Over the past three years, Community Health Network has referred patients to SAWs numerous times. They continue to help through their Serve360 program. Each year, thousands of Community Health Network caregivers volunteer at various non-profit organizations, of which, SAWs is a grateful participant.

IU Health Network has also been an active referral agent for SAWs as well as champion ramp builders. Last year IU Health stepped up and built 5 ramps around the state and this year they are poised to increase that number of ramps as part of their "Days of Service" program.

Other notable healthcare systems that refer patients to SAWs include Eskenazi Health, Franciscan Health, St. Vincent's, St. Joseph Health System, Reid Health and Hendricks Regional Health. Together, these referral partners join SAWs' growing number of agencies focused on providing freedom to people with mobility challenges.



84% Easier to Enter and Exit Residence

Growing Relationships and Infrastructure

Attend Religious Services

Engage with the Community

37% Increase of On-time Appointments

52% Increase in
Independency

Reconnect with Friends

Spend Time with Family

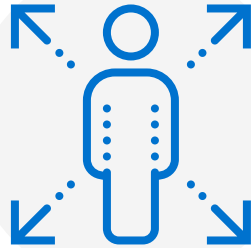
Run Errands

81% Decrease of Fear of Exiting in Emergency

Go Out Shopping

Access for Emergency Services

Caregiver Support



WHY RAMPS SERVE MORE THAN THE CLIENT

People are often surprised when we share the far-reaching impact of a gift to SAWs. We interview our clients after they receive a SAWs ramp. The feedback indicates the incredible ripple effect that mobility freedom can have on a family and a community.

Give a transformative gift today at sawsramps.org



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