2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Don Biernacki, President
Senior Vice President
Related Midwest

David Hoffman, Vice President
Executive Vice President, Retired
Morse Diesel International

Jeff Riemer, Secretary
Executive Vice President
Lend Lease

Jim Wolfe, Treasurer
President and CEO
Knight Engineers & Architects, Inc

Christina Abbott
Senior Manager
KPMG LLP

Lee Benish
Principal
Benish Consulting & Facilitation

Rama Dandamudi
Founder & CEO
Dandamudi’s Inc.

Rich Gamble
Senior Vice President of Operations
Chicago Zoological Society

Laurie Holmes
Partner Attorney
Drinker Biddle & Reath

Sister Mary Ellen Lacy
Daughters of Charity

Jim Olen
Cardenas Marketing Network

John Trotta
Senior Vice President
WSP

Liza Zito
Senior Director
Tiffany & Co.

About Us 3
Executive Summary 4
Building a Strong Foundation 6
  College Bound and Beyond
  Rafael: Words from College
Called to Build their Futures 7
  Reflections from our Foster Parents
Our Superheroes Build the Future 10
Building Success Together 12
  Building the Future Responsibly
  2017 Financials
Building the Future with Your Help 13
  Support in Numbers
Our Friends Are Our Foundation 15
Building the Future Together 16
Roosevelt Square Community Center 17
Building the Future: Story by Story 19
SOS Children’s Villages Illinois is building the future of foster care.

At SOS Children’s Villages Illinois, we build Villages that unite brothers and sisters in foster care, surround them with a community of hope, and help them grow into caring and productive adults.

For over 25 years, SOS Illinois has offered an innovative alternative to traditional foster care in emphasizing the following five components:

1. Children live together with their siblings; 2. Children receive care and support from a full-time, professionally trained Foster Parent; 3. Children grow up in a private, single-family home; 4. Children are supported by the Village, designed as an intentional community of care; and 5. Children and families in the community are supported through preventive services and resources.

SOS Illinois operates as its own 501(c)3, with four sites in Illinois:

- An 18-home Village in Lockport, Illinois;
- A 19-home Village in the Auburn Gresham neighborhood of Chicago;
- A 14-home Village in the Roosevelt Square community of Chicago; and
- Casa Tepeyac, a site offering family strengthening services in the Back of the Yards neighborhood of Chicago.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SOS Children’s Villages Illinois makes a powerful contribution to the betterment of the lives of the children and families it serves in and around its Villages and is committed to building the future of foster care.

As we review 2017, we see it was a year of opportunities and hardships in our city, throughout our country, and across the globe. We too at SOS Children’s Villages Illinois faced a mix of both. With every success and challenge we collectively pressed forward in unwavering dedication to answer the call to action to build the future of foster care.

Data shows the number of children entering out-of-home care with more complex mental and behavioral health conditions is growing. In return, SOS Illinois is responding by providing our professional Foster Parents with a greater array of tools and resources to ensure they are equipped to address the emotional, physical, and mental well-being of each child in their care. Our supportive team, comprised of case workers, clinicians, and Village staff work in concert with Foster Parents, and are charged with the daily task of advocating for our children, while simultaneously helping siblings find their forever home. We also have in-home family specialists who undertake the intense work of helping transform a hurting family, so parents and children remain together, growing in love and respect.

All of these things happen every day, in each home. When multiplied by the nearly 500 children in our care, our ability to make a difference in the lives of so many at risk quickly approaches one million intentional acts of loving care. The power of the Village model of care is changing the lives of many families in Illinois. And it is our collective work that is making an impact on what it means to be a child in care, as well as to the prospects of the child welfare system.

In 2017, the collective strength of our community and corporate partnerships made it possible to gain exposure in the media and build a presence on platforms that encourage social networking and conversation. We witnessed amazing accomplishments in education and celebrated a 100% high school graduation rate, as well as the budding and bright futures of our recent graduates. Our Foster Parents continued to show their exceptional dedication to the mission of the organization and the vocation of caregiver to sibling groups. Additionally, our focus of surrounding children with an intentional community of care was highlighted with the unveiling of the plans to build a Community Center at our Roosevelt Square Village.

In 2018, we see even more opportunity to reinforce the stake we claim in contributing to the ongoing changes within the child welfare system to ensure children remain safe and can reach their fullest potential.

We recognize that none of this would have been possible without you. As we talk about our community, we also know with heartfelt gratitude, that you are the reason we can move forward, continue to grow, and support the children, families, and communities we serve. Thank you for your belief in the important work we do and your dedication to being a part of the SOS Illinois family.
In fall 2017, Rafael set out from one of our Villages to his newest adventure: College on the east coast. As a Posse Scholar, Rafael was chosen among 3,000 applicants for the prestigious scholarship opportunity, offering him the chance to experience a first-rate education.

We caught up with Rafael to learn about his first year at college. Rafael shared a number of thoughts on this next chapter of his life, everything from learning how to create a home away from home to how SOS Illinois helped prepare him for college. Even though Rafael was far from his brothers in Chicago, he was able to adjust to campus life and create a new home living in the dorms at school. Rafael liked being on the 100-acre campus that he noted was very beautiful with a lot of "collegiate Gothic" style architecture.

His studies were an important focus, as he wanted to finish in the top of his class. In addition to schoolwork, Rafael joined three extracurricular activities: Division 3 Wrestling, an art house on campus, and a student photographers group. Even though he met students from all around the world; students who had access to a substantially larger amount of resources than the average public school student like himself, he learned to not be discouraged by telling himself they were all in the same college. Rafael reminded himself he was capable and that he just had to keep working hard.

Rafael shared that SOS Illinois prepared him for college because in addition to living with his brothers, he also became used to a community environment. Where he saw other students who were homesick, he instead felt prepared by understanding that his friends were his community of support and that although they were not related, they could help each other out as if they were extended family.
4.2 Years of Loving Service

*Compared to the national average of 1 year of foster parent service

CALLED TO BUILD THEIR FUTURES

reflections from our Foster Parents

The SOS Children’s Villages Illinois model of care is a unique one: we employ full-time, professional Foster Parents who care for up to six siblings in a single-family home in one of our Village communities. For SOS Illinois Foster Parents, their job is not just a full-time job—it’s a full-time vocation. Here are just a few words of reflection and wisdom from our dedicated caregivers.

Mickey Haldeman
27th year of service

“My hope for the children in my care is that they are happy and productive children and adults, and that they have learned to give back. I can help make their dreams come true by always being their mom.”

Jeanette Rush
4th year of service

“The rewards of this position? I can talk about those: it’s seeing the kids smile, seeing them being happy and being content and comfortable knowing that they’re secure—and trusting me with handling everything. Children come with different traumas. They come with different expectations of a foster home, and it’s my job to make it feel like it’s their home. Those are my rewards, just seeing them thriving and moving on.”

Jenny and John Wray
1st year of service

“My mom was a foster parent when I was younger and until a few years ago, traditional in-home foster care was the only model I was aware of. SOS Illinois introduced me not only to a new model of care, but a new way of life... The Village model helps take away the stigma and isolation of being a “foster kid” by allowing the children to live with large sibling groups and/or become friends with other children in the community who share their experience.” - Jenny Wray

“The Village model is unique in that it gives you a built-in network of support that is a huge benefit, especially for me as a first-time parent. I have several friends who are foster parents in the more traditional, non-Village model and they have a lot of added stress trying to navigate everything from bio-parent visits to court dates. There are a lot of questions that SOS Illinois takes care of and allows us to focus more on parenting.” - John Wray
OUR SUPERHEROES BUILD THE FUTURE

offering thanks for Evening of Hope

Pictured above: The Evening of Hope Host Committee gather with VIP Guests, SOS Illinois CEO, Tim McCormick, and SOS Illinois Board of Directors President, Don Bernacki

Evening of Hope is SOS Children’s Villages Illinois’ annual fall event that raises awareness and funds to support the programs at SOS Illinois. This year’s event invited guests to join us in raising hope for siblings in foster care with an evening of fun, friendship, and fundraising. Our heroes-in-training are lucky to have heroes like you! We would like to thank our supporters for another successful event this year.

Approximately 450 guests attended Evening of Hope on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 19 East in Chicago and raised over $275,000 in sponsorships, ticket sales, and in-kind support.

The event featured live entertainment, delicious food, and raffle ticket sales, as well as programming with a superhero theme. Special thanks to Event Chair John Trotta of WSP USA and the Host Committee for their work on the event.

Top sponsors gathered for a VIP reception, featuring appearances by Robert Schillerstrom, Chairman, Illinois State Tollway; Dorval Carter Jr., President of the Chicago Transit Authority; and Randy Blankenhorn, Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Significant in-kind support was offered by Mosaic, Southern Glazers Wine and Spirits, and The Edrington Group.

This year’s presenting sponsor was WSP USA. Other top sponsors included: The Edrington Group, HNTB, Imperial Crane Services, Inc./The Bohne Foundation, TranSystems, and Images Inc.
BUILDING SUCCESS TOGETHER

A YEAR IN NUMBERS
Alongside our dedicated Foster Parents, staff, corporate partners, and generous donors, 2017 was a year for the books. Though numbers cannot fully capture the breadth of our year, we are proud to share the following figures that were achieved by the last quarter of 2017. These figures, and all our successes, are only achieved with your help. Thank you!

- 53,167 days of service provided to youth and families
- 453 children served through our programs and services
- 135 families served through programs at Casa Tepeyac
- 95% of Village siblings lived under the same roof
- 64 sibling groups reunited in our supportive Villages
- 49 homes provided our youth a loving place to grow
"My wife and I searched for years for an organization that not only has a wonderful mission, but that we could be certain was carrying out that mission with reliable success. There are so many organizations caring for vulnerable children, but SOS Illinois holds themselves to a higher standard; they care, but they also deliver on their promise to help the children and families that they serve not only survive, but thrive."

- Benjamin Wessels, SOS Illinois Donor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FY2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment Net</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Term Liabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Support and Special Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Functional Expenses</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BUILDING THE FUTURE WITH YOUR HELP

YOUR IMMENSE GENEROSITY HAS HELPED TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF MANY
SOS Children’s Villages Illinois strives to help the children in our care reach their full potential. Even with our successes, there still is more hard work to be done. With the support of our dedicated partners and donors, we are able to continue our commitment to helping children in foster care grow into caring, productive, and self-reliant adults.

230 new donors

$1.6M raised from private support and special events

Over 100 volunteers at special events and programs
“SOS Children’s Villages Illinois is an extraordinary program that addresses the needs of families and children in the Chicagoland community. It is important for us at Swissôtel Chicago to take responsibility in the community and continue to create educational opportunities through our career days, horticultural guidance and culinary programs. Not only do our efforts with SOS Illinois help create stability and hope, Swissôtel’s colleagues better understand the values of supporting a community outreach program.”

- Ted Sologje, General Manager
SOS Children’s Villages Illinois’ fundamental mission is to give children the resources of our entire Village. We believe a college education is of paramount importance to ensure every child’s ultimate success in life. The College Bound and Beyond Program makes this education and securing a full-time job a reality.

The main components of College Bound and Beyond are academic preparation, college outreach, application support, job readiness, and material/technological support. With the support of our College Bound and Beyond partners, we are able to approach each of these components through creating programming, mentorship, and real-life workplace experience.

**Chicago Blackhawks Foundation**

“Our vision at the Chicago Blackhawks Foundation is to create a healthier, smarter, more secure world for families in and around Chicago. Youth in foster care often have a drastic academic disadvantage because of traumatic and disruptive life experiences. By partnering with SOS Illinois and the College Bound and Beyond Program, we are providing youth in care with the tools they need to succeed in school and in life.”

- Tovah McCord, Foundation Director

**HSBC**

“SOS Children’s Villages Illinois provides invaluable services to youth in need, while providing incredible opportunities where young people begin to realize their dreams and ambitions. Whether considering college, a technical skill, or a vocation, SOS Illinois ensures that the entire family receives the support they need to succeed. HSBC is proud to partner with such a stellar organization.”

- Ray Johnson, Vice President of Corporate Sustainability
In 2017, our friends at Swissôtel Chicago went above and beyond to show their dedication to the children and families we serve.

It is truly a priority of our mission and our work in the Villages to help each young person in our care aspire to and achieve his or her dreams. With corporate partners like Swissôtel Chicago, we can help them gain the skills and experience they need to be self-sufficient and thrive.

Swissôtel Chicago does so much to help our children and families experience opportunities for growth and enrichment, from career days to summer camp to joyful holidays to culinary workshops and learning about health and wellness. We are truly grateful to have such a dedicated and exceptional partner a part of our extended family.

Villages. At our annual Harvest Festival, Swissôtel taught our children about grow towers, composting, and the connection between the garden and healthy living and eating. Additionally, through the fundraising efforts of every staff member at Swissôtel Chicago, they were able to help support the construction of a therapeutic garden at the Chicago Village.

We thank our friends at Swissôtel Chicago for sharing their enthusiasm and passion for creating new learning and enrichment opportunities for our youth, and helping us grow.

Swissôtel Chicago partnered with us in so many meaningful ways in 2017, including:
- Foster Parent Appreciation Luncheon
- the Culinary Program
- Vitality Day
- Career Day
- Cinco de Mayo
- River Dying Party
- Therapeutic Garden
- Grow Towers
- Harvest Day
- Holiday Party
- Summer Celebration Party
- and so much more!
The construction of a new Community Center is among our priorities at SOS Children’s Villages Illinois. Located at 13th Street and Blue Island Avenue in Chicago, the Center will serve as an urban prototype for the delivery of human services.
Community Center

The Center will:

- House academic, therapeutic, social, and recreational outlets for youth and families served at our Roosevelt Square Village homes
- Serve as a gathering place for community members to connect to public resources and engage in training, activities, and events
- Include multi-use and signature spaces in 11,000+ square feet
- Serve over 5,000 people annually from the surrounding neighborhoods

Intentional Design, Flexible Spaces

Architect Juan Moreno, internationally recognized for making a difference in the lives of children and their communities, has carefully considered the SOS Illinois vision and thoughtfully designed a building that offers flexible and welcoming spaces:

- Learning Annex
- Family Enrichment Rooms
- Meeting Spaces
- Staff Offices
- Playground
- Community Garden
- Culinary Kitchen

Signature Culinary Kitchen

The signature setting of the Community Center is the culinary kitchen and dining space, which will allow for:

- Culinary Demonstrations
- Food and Nutrition Education
- Hands-on Learning Experiences
- Job Skills Training

The Future Unfolding

Breaking ground in 2019, the Community Center will be the ultimate example of the collective power of Foster Parents, staff, the surrounding community, and our dedicated donors and friends.

Naming opportunities for a selection of spaces are still available. Please contact us for more information.
building the future
story by story

TEEN HONORED BY MAESTRO CARES

#RAISINGSUPERHEROES

ANOTHER YEAR OF CARE

CRAIN'S AD SERIES

LOVE IN ACTION

WXRT INTERVIEW

CHICAGO'S FINEST ROCK™
To read about these stories and other special moments in our Villages and beyond, please visit sosillinois.org/connect.
“I love everything about the children in my care. I love the way they look at me, the way they make me feel when they wrap their arms around me, their smiles, their joy, it’s all contagious!”

- Cynthia Hernandez, 2nd year of service

Interested in becoming a Foster Parent? Visit sosillinois.org/fpq