



CLEARBROOK
Creating Opportunities for People with Disabilities

SECURING
OUR FUTURE

F A Q S

FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS



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1. WHO IS CLEARBROOK?

Choose any first name you'd like and you'll begin to put a face on Clearbrook.

Clearbrook is Terrence. A young man whose life dream was to follow in his mother's footsteps and work in the hospitality field: "The staff provided me with my dream job working in the hotel industry. Now I receive a paycheck to use for whatever I want."

Clearbrook is Tracey. A woman who lives and works at Clearbrook: "I have been at Clearbrook for 10 years. I live at a Clearbrook residence. (At work) my job is to help them out and help out the other clients. I get to walk around with the clients in wheelchairs and talk to them."

Clearbrook is parents like Mike's mother Charlotte: "As a parent, you think there is a natural progression. You have kids and you are very hands on and then they grow up. Our children at Clearbrook grow, but don't progress to being on their own. I care about Clearbrook's future because I care about my son's future."

Clearbrook is volunteers like Barry: "Clearbrook is a great organization that provides special services to special individuals and families. I am glad I can provide some of my skills and experience and assist this dedicated group anyway I can."

Clearbrook improves the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities across their lifespan. Headquartered in Arlington Heights, Illinois, 40 program locations are scattered across the north and northwest

suburbs. Hundreds of families receive services in their homes throughout Metropolitan Chicago and eight other counties. Innovative programs, services and supports are provided for more than 3,000 individuals and their families. More than 700 trained and dedicated staff offer services and therapies for children birth to three and supports for their families. A continuum of services for adults includes: specialized day programs, employment training and job placement, clinical services and therapies, and residential options.

2. WHY IS CLEARBROOK RELEVANT TOMORROW?

Thousands of families depend upon us and that will only continue to increase. Children with autism are being served in staggering numbers and individuals with developmental disabilities are living longer. Their needs for specialized day and residential services will be enormous.

In addition, the funding from public resources will continue to decline, and the cost of doing business will continue to increase; however, our commitment remains unfaltering to families for whom Clearbrook is and may be in their future.

Despite the enormous challenges we face as a human service organization, business, and employer, **our commitment made yesterday is one we make today and a promise we make for a secure tomorrow.**

3. WHAT ARE SOME OF OUR GREATEST CHALLENGES?

The challenge is to meet the complicated and increased needs of individuals with developmental disabilities over their lifespan in an environment that has no financial certainty.

Impacted by every cost that affects families and businesses, we also face the uncertainty of government funding.

The number of children with autism is unprecedented. Our challenge is to respond. Adults with developmental disabilities are living longer. As with any aging population, our challenge is to adapt their homes to accommodate their ever-changing needs.

Ultimately, the challenge is to secure financial resources that will enable us to maintain our commitment to families across the lifespan of their family members.

4. WHAT IS THE CAMPAIGN "CLEARBROOK - SECURING OUR FUTURE: WHILE WE CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE WE CAN PLAN FOR IT"?

Our current funds are used for operating costs and other immediate needs. This campaign allows us to take action today to create lasting benefits. Funds raised in this campaign will help us meet the following initiatives:

A. Reduce long-term mortgage debt of \$7.5 million on 19 facilities.

B. Establish preventative maintenance and renovation fund for residential facilities to ensure safety, changing needs of aging population and licensing requirements.

C. Build the endowment to provide long-term, predictable revenue.

D. Fund accounts to benefit unfunded client services (i.e., Special Olympics, specialized/adaptive equipment).



5. WHY SHOULD I MAKE A GIFT TO “SECURING OUR FUTURE”?

• Our focus has always been and will continue to be to provide the very best for our clients. Balancing our budget through the “**Securing Our Future**” campaign allows us to plan for and take our extraordinary program initiatives to the next level. Your thoughtful gift will impact many lives and make an immediate difference to people like Terrence, Tracey and Charlotte who count on Clearbrook day in and day out.

Current gifts will directly build on the four previously outlined campaign initiatives. Gift payments made over the next five years allow us to plan for impending needs. Legacy gifts, made through a will, trust or other estate planning techniques, provide future funds that will bolster and strengthen our resource base for our future clients. With a waiting list for residential services of more than 400 individuals, it is apparent that the need is great. Thus, our reliance on donors like you is even greater.

6. WHAT ARE WAYS A GIFT CAN SECURE CLEARBROOK’S FUTURE?

Gifts made to “**Securing Our Future**” can be as unique as the people who give them. Please take a moment to review the **Ways to Make a Gift** to consider a gift method that is right for you. Your generosity can take many forms and can also extend over time. We encourage you to consider your ability to make a gift that can be payable up to five years. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Clearbrook’s Director of Principal Gifts, Kelly McGraw, is available to answer questions. She can be reached at 847-385-5014 or kmcgraw@clearbrook.org.

CLEARBROOK

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