

Gate – Gateway to Independence 2014 Annual Report



GATE – GATEWAY TO INDEPENDENCE, PO BOX 6023, MARYVILLE, TN 37802

A Letter from the Executive Director

The year 2014 was a milestone for *The Gate* as we celebrated 10 years of Gate programming. Applause all around! Applause for the community of friends and organizations that supported *The Gate* with their time, talent and treasures during 2014, applause for the staff and volunteers who make every day memorable at *The Gate* and applause for the Gate participants who continue to create a welcoming community where everyone can find a special place.

The mission of Gate – Gateway to Independence is to help young adults with disabilities to achieve independence by providing social activities and pre-vocational training. In 2014, we expanded our vision – what if the participants at The Gate could reach out and help others at the same time that they were socializing and developing their independent skills? Those of us who know *The Gate* participants always knew they had much to offer. In partnership with ALCOA Kiwanis, *The Gate* established an AKTION Club for the purpose of enabling us to seek out opportunities for community service. In 2014, Gate participants completed four community service projects including collecting and presenting supplies to Blount County Animal Shelter, cleaning up litter at Springbrook Park, making stuffed bears for first responders and for a mission in Kenya, and purchasing backpacks to be given to children at Haven House. Gate participants have received help from others and now we strive to pay it forward. Each of these projects had a dual purpose- helping participants to expand their opportunities to socialize and practice independent living skills while helping others.

The Gate also had the unique opportunity to host 15 Maryville College students who were enrolled in a Genetics class. These students each spent 12 hours at *The Gate*. Again, this was a mutually beneficial project- as participants helped the college students to understand their unique abilities and challenges, the students engaged with us and enriched our social opportunities.

These two partnerships illustrate the creativity of the staff, the enthusiasm of the participants, and the positive impact *The Gate* can have in the community. They are also a testament to the commitment that this community has made to insure that everyone is welcomed and included. These partnerships represent only two examples among many organizations and individuals that assist us to fulfill our mission. Thank you to each person and each organization that has shared their time, their talent or their resources to insure that *The Gate* and each participant will continue to grow and thrive for the next ten years.

With gratitude,

Christy Walsh, Executive Director

Children in Kenya with bears made by Gate AKTION Club in 2014.



Board of Directors 2014

Dale Baker, President
Richard Schenk, Vice President
Georgia Vaughn, Treasurer
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Bill McClain
Lorene Nevels
Kathi Parkins
Suzanne Rhoden
Mandy Sitzlar
Michael Trost
Jeff Wadley

Gate Staff

Christy Walsh, Executive Director
Trudy White, Program Director
Steve Bowen, Program Assistant
Tonde Carter, Program Assistant
Tene Lewis, Program Assistant
Jill Mertz, Program Assistant

Routine Volunteers

Elissa Adkinson
Marion Brink
Becky Carleton
Brad Carleton
Frank Faber
Janet Harville
Donna Hooker
Polly Morgan
Ruth Purchase
Jean Smither
Nan Taylor
Janet Webber
Maryville College Students



Gate – Gateway to Independence Organization Benefactors 2014

- ALCOA Inc.
- Alcoa Kiwanis
- Blount British Cars, LTD
- Blount Memorial Hospital Senior Services
- Brookfield US Foundation
- Chroma – Graphics
- Crestview Dental
- Dead End BBQ
- Debra Whaley Team
- Denso
- First United Methodist Church
- Foothills Bank and Trust
- Halstead Foundation
- Highland Presbyterian Church
- Holston Conference
- Ladies In Action, Immanuel Baptist Church
- Maryville-Alcoa Civitan Club
- Maryville College
- Maryville High School
- Maryville/Alcoa/Blount County Parks and Rec Department
- Maryville Vineyard Church
- MESA, Inc.
- New Providence Presbyterian Church
- Personal Care Choices
- RIO Central
- Sycamore Tree United Methodist Church
- Ten Dollar Club United Way of Blount County



Financial Statement

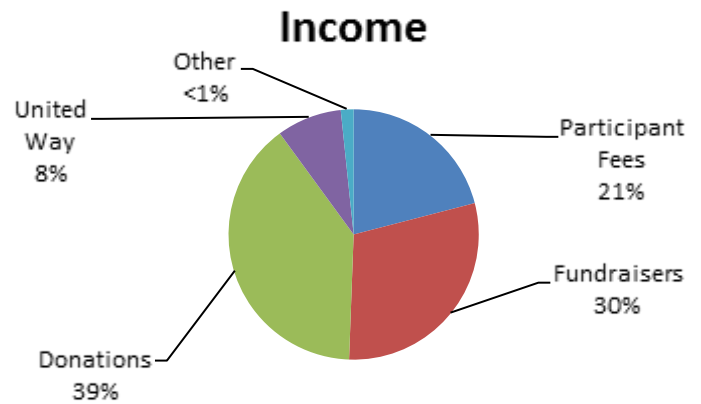
Gateway to Independence

Year Ended December 31, 2014

Income

Where the Money Comes From

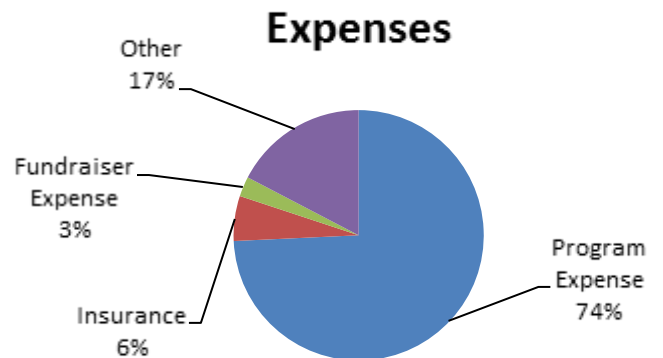
- Participant Fees
- Fundraisers
 - April Foolies
 - Dessert Fest
 - Holiday Sale
- Donations
 - United Way of Blount County
 - Other



Expenses

Where the Money Goes

- Program Expense
- Insurance
- Fundraiser Expense
- Other



The complete Financial Report is available upon request.

