

A Word From Luana Vaetoe

Chief Executive Officer

ear Friends and Supporters,

History is often used as a tool for imagining the future. When we interview a prospective employee, we ask about their employment history. Anyone who has gone through the loan application process has had past financial decisions scrutinized. Even television networks rely on the previous season's ratings when determining whether to renew a show. History, both good and bad, can be a reliable predictor of future outcomes.

The history of the human services field for adults with developmental disabilities is rich with examples that range from fear-based, to well intentioned, to innovative reimaginings. The mid 1900's were at our annual gala were able defined by institutionalized living. In the years that followed, we recognized a desperate need for change, and found successes moving from institutional living to sheltered workshops, to communitybased programs by consulting history and asking ourselves: How can we do better?

A look into Becoming Independent's own more recent providing services to adults with Rosa campus. developmental disabilities. This milestone year started off with a record-breaking gift from the Finley Foundation, which fueled our ability to begin our exodus from sheltered, congregate settings and into an inclusive community experience.

Our recent history included our exciting debut into national television, as the PBS series, Visionaries, arrived on campus to film our organization. This series, hosted by Sam Waterston of the acclaimed television show Law & Order, captured the magic that happens at BI every day, and they will be sharing that magic with our nation this year.

A few months later, the guests to view a sneak peak of the Visionaries footage. The abbreviated segment was played during our Paddle Pledge portion of the evening and it was clear that our guests were inspired by what they saw. Last year, BI had the largest amount of individual gifts made during the Paddle Pledge in the gala's 25 year history. Icing on the cake: The whole event took place in our beautifully

history includes our 50th year of redesigned garden at our Santa

Nearly 70 years ago, with a handful of determined parents at the helm, a national movement was sparked. These parents rallied and engaged their peers and community officials on behalf of their children with developmental disabilities. Becoming Independent joined this movement at our inception twenty years later. We have rallied and engaged our communities, and over the decades, we have proven to be innovators in our own right.

Becoming Independent's history is a proud one. It's a history of transformation, innovation, and service. We have set a standard for others to follow, and we have laid a foundation that will support our future. And if history is any indicator, we can expect the next 50 years to be the best ones yet.

Sincerely,



Luana Vaetoe Chief Executive Officer Becoming Independent

Winter Formal The Flamingo Hotel













Talent Show

Finley Community Center













Olympics

Santa Rosa Junior College







2016-2017 Outcomes of **Becoming Independent Services**

Success and progress experienced by individuals served by Becoming Independent are measured in real terms. BI tracks the number of people served, how many hours of service they received from staff, the number of hours of work they performed and wages they earned, and their level of inclusion in mainstream community activities. BI also gauges overall satisfaction with the Becoming Independent experience.

People Served 1,037*

Hours of Work

101,847

Hours of Service 546,064**

Hours on Inclusion

\$754,465 524,794

Rate of Satisfaction 93%

*Includes an average of 90 attendees per month during this fiscal year served at community dances hosted by Becoming Independent at Steele Lane Community Center.
*Includes 2,700 hours of service during this fiscal year for service through community dances

Support & Revenue



OTHER INCOME

\$24,370 (0.2%)

Expenses



PROGRAMS

Community Living Supports \$7,479,184 53.8% Day Program & Activities \$770,962 5.5% Transportation Services Total Program Services \$11,908,206 85.5%

SUPPORTING SERVICES

\$1,358,279 9.7% \$2,033,246 14.5%

and tax return are available at BecomingIndependent.org

Many Thanks

Becoming Independent thanks the following for their support and generous donations throughout the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

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Legacy Circle... Many thanks to the following individuals who have included Becoming Independent with a legacy gift in their estate plans, most often through a bequest

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Elevating human abilities

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Independent

2016 - 2017

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