



# A Symphony of Voices: How Community Input Guided Our Growth

At Gateway Foundation, growth is more than a goal—it's a vital response to the pressing needs of our communities. Our mission drives us to evolve strategically to address the urgent challenges facing those we serve.





In recent years, the data has painted a stark picture: rising rates of mental health disorders, escalating substance use, and increasing overdose deaths. Undergirding these realities is the undeniable disparity in access to substance use treatment. Only about one in four individuals who needed treatment actually received it. Furthermore, those without health insurance, those who were incarcerated, or those living in poverty face an increased risk of fatal opioid overdose, highlighting significant gaps in the accessibility and equity of comprehensive, evidence-based care.

These numbers motivate us to act, but the voices of our community truly guided our efforts—revealing how we should act, where we should focus, and what we should provide. Here at Gateway, we've embraced feedback by implementing systems designed to improve the sustainability of its collection and elevate guidance from diverse voices in our annual strategic planning. This past year, through surveys, focus groups, town halls, team meetings, we attentively listened to thousands of individuals, helping us grow in ways that are both equitable and intentional, addressing the specific needs of the communities we serve.

Hearing from our community and stakeholders has been an incredible privilege and honor. We are deeply grateful for their trust and the authentic insights they shared, which have been instrumental in shaping our approach and priorities. While distinct themes emerged across various regions and groups, a clear, unifying need was evident: access to high-quality services, which remains our top priority. In response, we:

- Opened new locations across Illinois, Georgia, and Florida.
- Reinvested in existing facilities enhancing infrastructure, expanding services and levels of care, and streamlining operations.

- Began updating our treatment curricula to address the holistic needs of our patients.
- Invested in the growth and development of our staff with new training opportunities and an advanced education benefit.
- Enhanced the capacity of our team by adding new positions and recruiting and promoting skilled individuals.

Additionally, we deepened our community connections, fostered camaraderie among individuals in Recovery, and, for the first time in Gateway's history, invested in developing mental health and substance use disorder programs in California.

Finally, we are committed to being responsive to our community's needs, as well as **being a voice for our community**. Through our new Public Policy Group and working with local lobbyists, Gateway will be a staunch advocate for expanding substance use, mental health and wellness resources that meet the needs expressed by our community.

We are proud to say that this past fiscal year was informed and inspired by a chorus of thousands of voices. Their collective input became our favorite song, one we played loudly and kept on repeat, ensuring our efforts were closely aligned with the community's most pressing mental health and wellness needs.

Whether you sang a solo or joined the chorus, we thank you for sharing your voice. By listening to you, we are growing!



Larry Singer Board Chair



**Jeremy Klemanski** President & CEO



Gateway Foundation is a national, nonprofit organization helping people build healthier lives by reducing substance use other addictions, and improving mental health.

We are one of Illinois' largest nonprofit treatment providers. Founded by nine individuals in 1968 on Chicago's south side, Gateway's purpose has remained steadfast: to give people struggling with substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders the ongoing care and support they need to recover and reclaim their lives. Since its founding over five decades ago, Gateway Foundation has significantly expanded its reach. We now operate residential, outpatient, and recovery home locations throughout Illinois, along with a range of corrections programs in Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, Texas, and Wyoming. In 2020, we introduced our adaptive recovery toolkit, designed to maintain accessibility for thousands of patients facing barriers to in-person treatment and to support a thriving network of alumni at every stage of their recovery iourney.

#### **Executive Leadership**

Jeremy Klemanski

President & CEO

**Gregg Dockins** 

President, Corrections Division

**Jim Scarpace** 

President, Community Division

**Tomas del Rio** 

**Chief Finance Officer** 

Roueen Rafeyan

MD, Chief Medical Officer

**Robert Miller** 

Chief Marketing Officer

**Deborah Solmor** 

General Counsel

**Yolanda Johnson-Davis** 

Interim Chief Human Resources Officer

Alex Zozulia
Chief Information Officer
Ave Costa

Director of Development

#### **FY2024 Governing Board**

**Arla Lach** 

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**Lawrence E. Singer (Larry)** 

Vice Chair

**Ivy Walker** 

Secretary

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Simone Jones J.D., M.PH.

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#### **Our Mission**

We help people build healthier lives by reducing substance use, other addictions, and improving mental health.

#### **Our Vision**

We will be a national leader in reducing substance use, other addictive disorders, and improving mental health and overall wellbeing by creating access to affordable, efficient, and high-quality services.

#### **Our Core Values**









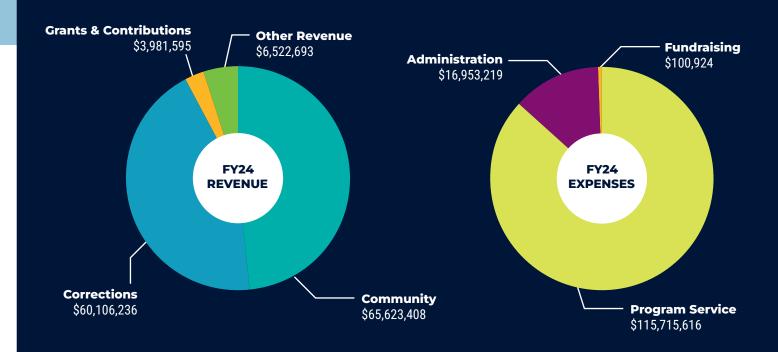






**Gateway Financials** 

FY '24 Unaudited Financial Statements





Gateway has touched over one million lives and counting. We take pride in our diverse alumni community, committed to long-term Recovery.

Each year, our expert clinicians create personalized treatment plans for over 40,000 individuals, designed to:

- Foster lifelong Recovery
- Utilize evidence-based practices
- Address the whole person
- Inspire and empower patients to heal and thrive

### The Satisfaction and Experience of all Gateway Patients Matters

92%

of **Gateway Community Residential**Patients Were Satisfied with Their
Treatment Experience.

93%

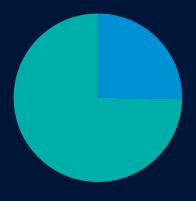
of **Gateway Community Outpatient**Patients Were Satisfied with Their
Treatment Experience.

91%

of **Gateway Corrections Patients**Were Satisfied with Their Overall
Experience.

#### **Gateway Treatment Offerings**

Our treatment offerings are diversified to meet unique needs—providing residential and outpatient treatment, recovery homes, and specialized programs designed to address the unique challenges of SUD for women, young adults, survivors of domestic violence, and patients diagnosed with co-occurring mental health disorders.



In FY '24, Gateway supported the Recovery of over 10,300 people across our Community Division and over 30,400 people across our Corrections Division.



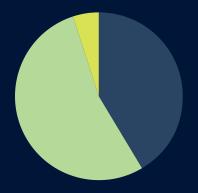




86% of Gateway Corrections patients received treatment while in custody and 14% received community-based treatment.





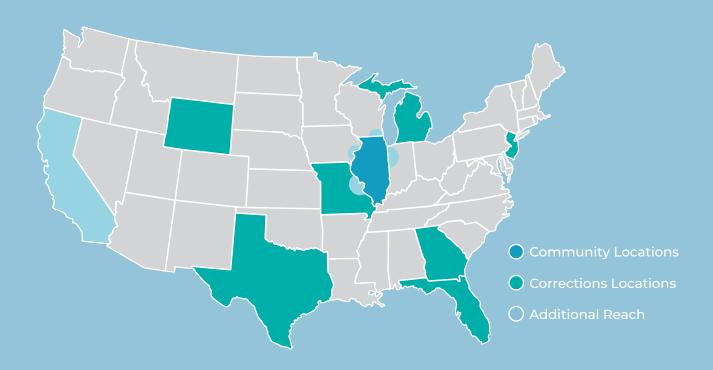


42% of Gateway Community patients received outpatient treatment, 53.5% received residential treatment and 4.6% participated in the Recovery Home program.

- Outpatient Treatment
- Residential Treatment
- Recovery Home Program



At Gateway, we are committed to providing a continuum of care that ensures high-quality services are accessible to those who need them. With a growing footprint nationwide, we're able to reach and support tens of thousands of individuals each year. Currently, we operate residential, outpatient, and recovery home locations throughout Illinois, along with corrections programming in Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, Texas, and Wyoming.



#### **Across the Nation**



#### **Illinois - Community**

Aurora • Bloomington • Carbondale • Caseyville • Chicago Independence • Chicago Kedzie • Chicago River North • Downers Grove • Gurnee • Jacksonville • Joliet • Lake Villa • Peoria

• Skokie • Springfield • Springfield Outpatient • Swansea • Chicago: Central Office



#### Florida - Corrections

Arcadia · Avon Park · Bowling Green · Brooksville · Bushnell · Century · Chipley · Crawfordville

- · Crestview · Daytona Beach · Havana · Jasper · Lake City · Live Oak · Madison · Malone
- Milton Monticello Ocala Orlando Perry Polk City Sanderson Trenton opening in 2024



#### Georgia - Corrections

Bainbridge · Cochran · Dallas · Garden City · Hawkinsville · Rock · Spring · Sycamore · Valdosta

Wrightsville



#### Michigan - Corrections

Chippeway • Kinross • Algera • Marquette • Newberry • Baraga



#### Missouri - Corrections

Bonne Terre • Boonville • Bowling Green • Cameron • Charleston • Chillicothe • Farmington

- Fulton Fordland Jefferson City Kansas City Licking Maryville Mineral Point Moberly
- Pacific St. Joseph St. Louis Tipton Vandalia



#### **New Jersey - Corrections**

Annadale · Avenel · Bordentown · Bridgeton · Clinton · Leesburg · Newark · Trenton

Woodbridge
 Wrightstown
 Yardville



#### **Texas - Corrections**

Humble • Lancaster • Del Valle



#### **Wyoming - Corrections**

Lusk • New Castle • Rawlins • Riverton • Torrington



# Gateway Foundation's Call Center: The Heartbeat of Patient Support

At the heart of Gateway Foundation's operations lies an often overlooked yet critical component: the Call Center. This Call Center serves as the first point of contact for many individuals seeking help, offering a lifeline to those in crisis and a beacon of hope for families and friends of those affected by substance use disorders.

At Gateway Foundation, our call center is more than just a support line; it's a cornerstone of our mission to deliver compassionate, effective treatment for substance use and mental health disorders. Operating around the clock, our call center ensures that help is always within reach, handling an average of 3,000 inquiries each week.

Thank you for choosing Gateway Foundation, how can I assist you today?

I need help and need to get into treatment. Do you have anything open for today?

I can help you with that. I'll just need to get some information from you to better understand your options...

## **Expertly Trained Staff: Providing Compassionate and Informed Support**

What distinguishes Gateway Foundation's call center is the staff's personalized and empathetic approach with callers. The calls received are not your typical customer services inquiries but rather an opportunity to connect with an individual struggling with SUD, or their loved ones, to initiate a life-changing recovery journey.

Each call is treated with the utmost sensitivity and confidentiality and our staff recognize the critical role they play in guiding individuals through an incredibly vulnerable time. They understand the importance of establishing trust and offering each caller a personalized, empathetic experience—ensuring that everyone who reaches out feels heard, understood, and supported.

Notably, when someone with SUD calls our center, it's a crucial opportunity to guide a motivated individual towards the right treatment. That is why call center staff members are more than mere operators—they are highly-trained professionals with the expertise needed to provide accurate information and make informed decisions about the best course of action for each caller.

Our call center team is comprised of Care Advocates, Admissions Counselors and Manager. Each role plays a vital part in the support process.

### **Enhancing Support with Advanced Technology and Efficient Systems**

Human connection is essential in facilitating treatment admissions, but technology also plays a pivotal role. In these crucial moments, any lapse in efficiency due to outdated or malfunctioning technology can easily become a barrier to treatment. The Gateway Call Center leverages advanced technology to ensure calls are managed efficiently and effectively. A sophisticated call management

system helps route calls to the most appropriate staff members, reducing wait times and ensuring that each caller receives prompt attention. The system also allows for seamless integration with Gateway Foundation's broader network of services, enabling smooth transitions from the initial call to intake and treatment.

#### The Call Center's Impact: Building Trust and Dignity Through Empathetic Support

The impact of Gateway Foundation's call center is profound. For many, the first call to the center marks the beginning of their journey to Recovery. The support and guidance provided by the call center staff can be life-changing, offering hope and direction at a critical time. Families and friends of those struggling with substance use disorders also find solace in the knowledgeable and compassionate assistance offered. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our call center team for their fidelity and dedication. Their role is essential in advancing our mission to support individuals and families in overcoming substance use disorders and achieving lasting Recovery.



In 2023, an estimated 49 million individuals aged 12 and older experienced a substance use disorder within the past year. Among them, approximately 20 million adults also faced a co-occurring mental illness, and 12.8 million adults had serious thoughts of suicide. It's broadly understood that these realities are the consequences of an undeniable disparity in access to substance use treatment. Over 85 percent of those classified as needing SUD treatment did not receive substance use treatment in the past year.

Furthermore, those without health insurance, those who were incarcerated, or those living in poverty face an increased risk of fatal opioid overdose, highlighting significant gaps in the accessibility and equity of comprehensive, evidence-based care.

As we expand our services, we're committed to meeting the urgent needs of communities grappling with substance use and mental health challenges. This section of our FY '24 Annual Report features how we've expanded our reach and services to provide critical support to individuals in need.

# **Expanding Our Mission to Support a Broader Range of Mental Health Care Needs: Gateway Opens New location in Bloomington IL**

For over 55 years, we've had the privilege of helping individuals achieve Recovery from substance use disorders and rebuild their lives. But what if we could intervene earlier—before a substance use disorder (SUD) takes hold and before lives need rebuilding? We recognize that mental health and substance use are intricately linked, often forming a vicious cycle. Research indicates that while having an SUD can increase the likelihood of developing mental health disorders, conditions like ADHD, anxiety, and mood disorders can also elevate the risk of developing a substance use disorder.

At Gateway, our commitment is to provide a continuum of care that ensures high-quality services are accessible to those who need them. We've identified a crucial opportunity to enhance our services by focusing on mental health conditions that may precede the development of SUDs.

On March 22, 2024, Gateway Foundation proudly opened its newest treatment center in Bloomington, Illinois. This state-of-the-art facility marks not only an expansion of our reach but also a significant enhancement of our services. In addition to continuing our evidence-based treatment for

substance use disorders and co-occurring mental health conditions, Gateway Bloomington will be the first Gateway location to offer mental health support to individuals not identified as having a substance use disorder.

Our Bloomington location offers a team of skilled psychiatrists, counselors, nurse practitioners, and clinical support staff, all dedicated to delivering exceptional, individualized treatment for substance use disorders (SUD) and mental health conditions. Our clinicians develop personalized treatment plans tailored to each patient's unique needs, utilizing a broad range of evidence-based practices, including Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

Beyond offering outpatient treatment for SUD and mental health conditions, Gateway Bloomington is also designed to enhance the overall quality of care throughout central Illinois. The facility includes designated space for a future Behavioral Health Training Center, which will be pivotal in delivering essential workforce training and continuing education for healthcare professionals across the region.





# Gateway Foundation Jacksonville: A Pillar of Comprehensive, High-Quality Care for Lifelong Recovery

Shortly after its opening in 2018, Gateway Foundation Jacksonville (Gateway Jacksonville) is regionally significant to our mission to provide comprehensive, high-quality care across Illinois. This new facility was established in response to the closure of The Wells Center, a 50-year-old non-profit organization in Jacksonville that shut down in April 2017 due to the state's budget crisis and lack of funding. Gateway was approached to continue providing vital services at this location, ensuring ongoing support for the community of Morgan County and surrounding counties, including Cass, Pike, Scott, Brown, Greene, Sangamon, and Macoupin.

The Gateway Jacksonville facility is unique in its design and capacity, offering both residential and outpatient services all under one roof. It features 16 male residential beds and 30 male recovery home beds, serving clients from all Gateway locations across Illinois. As the only residential and outpatient service provider in Jacksonville and one of only three residential providers in a 90-mile radius, Gateway Jacksonville plays a crucial role in our network of care.

By offering a full spectrum of care, Gateway Jacksonville supports patients at every stage of their recovery journey, promoting the positive community reintegration needed for life-long Recovery.

As one of the staff members aptly put it, the true measure of success comes from our alumni's positive feedback and progress. "When an alumni calls us with an update of their success that they attribute to their experience at Gateway Jacksonville, our team's collective perspective is that 'THIS is the paycheck," said Dustin Lieb, Counselor Supervisor.

Gateway Jacksonville's success is not just about the facility itself but also about the dedicated team that operates it. Since opening, the facility has been instrumental in meeting the growing demand for high-quality SUD treatment services. Our Jacksonville team has worked diligently to maintain high occupancy rates and continuously adapts to meet the community's evolving needs.

From the facility's leadership to Recovery Coaches, Counselors, and the daily operating staff, each member brings a strong work ethic, commitment to Recovery, and a passion for helping our patients and their families. Every individual plays a pivotal role in delivering quality care and fostering a supportive environment for Recovery. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our Gateway Jacksonville team for their unwavering dedication to providing high-quality care that is truly lifesaving.

#### **Gateway Foundation's Jacksonville Team**

Kerry Henry
Senior Regional Director
Kasia Loniewska LCSW, CADC
Program Director

Dustin Lieb AA, CADC
Counselor Supervisor
Josh Weinant
Maintenance Supervisor

# Gateway Expands Support for Justice-Involved Individuals with Substance Use Disorders in Florida

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, about 63% of individuals in jail and 58% in prison suffer from substance use disorders. Research indicates that those struggling with SUD are more likely to remain engaged in criminal activities. At Gateway, we believe that expanding access to reliable, evidence-based SUD treatment for those involved with the criminal justice system is crucial for reducing recidivism rates and the incarceration of nonviolent offenders. We also recognize that continued SUD treatment, whether during incarceration or under community supervision, supports a more positive reentry into the community and helps individuals rebuild healthier lives.

In Florida, we've partnered with the Florida Department of Corrections (FDC) to provide services under Gateway's Corrections division to address the state's increasing need for substance use disorders (SUD) treatment among individuals under community supervision, commonly known as probation. In May 2021, the FDC reported having over 84,000 community-supervised offenders, with approximately 61% needing substance use disorder treatment. Today, the department reports supervising over 140,000 offenders.

Through our partnership, Gateway was awarded the opportunity to provide outpatient treatment and aftercare services within the state's Judicial Circuits 1 and 2. This program will help clients successfully complete probation, avoid further legal consequences, and support their long-term Recovery.

#### **Our services include:**

- Screening & Orientation
- Outpatient Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Individualized Treatment Plans
- Group Counseling
- Individual Counseling
- Outpatient Treatment Plan Review
- Aftercare Services

Gateway launched its Community Corrections program for Judicial Circuit 2 in July 2023, covering five counties in the Florida Panhandle. In its first year, we have served over 200 individuals.

We anticipate opening our Circuit 1 program in fiscal year '25 and plan to assist over 200 individuals in the first year.

We are honored to have the opportunity to branch out into the community corrections sector and assist individuals in their journey to long-term recovery"

Mayli Clark

Florida State Director · Gateway Foundation Corrections Division

## **Gateway Corrections Contract Milestones**

FY24 (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

- July 2023: Florida Circuit 2, Launched Outpatient and Aftercare Services in Florida Community Corrections
- August 2023: Texas Travis County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, Re-awarded security contract
- March 2024: Florida Day Reporting Pilot (Circuit 10), Awarded in March 2024 with plans to become operational in FY25
- April 2024: Wyoming In-Prison Services, Re-awarded statewide contract
- May 2024: Florida In-Prison Services, Re-awarded Regions 1, 2 & 3



### **Larson Family Wellness Center Groundbreaking Ceremony**

On April 3, 2024, Gateway Foundation celebrated a significant milestone with the groundbreaking of our Lake Villa expansion project. The event marked the start of a campus-wide improvement initiative designed to enhance the well-being and recovery of our patients.

The highlight of this expansion is the Larson Family Wellness Center, a cornerstone of our commitment to well-rounded care. This new facility will feature a healing garden, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and various other enhancements aimed at creating a supportive and nurturing environment for our patients.

The groundbreaking ceremony was a momentous occasion, made even more special by the presence of key figures

who have supported this endeavor. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Paul and Heather Larson, Andrea Larson Jones, Lake Villa Mayor James McDonald, Lake County Board Member J. Kevin Hunter, and representatives from the Lake County Health Department, including Lisa Williams and Heather Robbins. We also appreciate the teams from Executive Construction Inc. and MKB Architects, whose expertise will bring our vision to life.

As we embark on this exciting project, we look forward to the positive impact the Larson Family Wellness Center will have on our community, reinforcing our mission to foster Recovery and well-being.

# **Expanding to Support Communities**











Individuals struggling with SUD and mental health disorders have already lost precious time—time spent with family, friends, or working towards personal aspirations. As partners in their Recovery, it's crucial we don't waste any more of their time. We take this responsibility seriously, employing only evidence-based treatments and practices that are proven to work. Our rigorous, research-backed approach ensures the highest standard of care, aiding individuals in reclaiming their lives, reuniting with loved ones, and reintegrating as valued members of their communities.

By prioritizing effective interventions, we strive to make every moment count in their journey toward Recovery and a healthier future. This section highlights some of our specialized treatment programs that have helped thousands of people get their lives back and allowed their communities to welcome them back.

# Transforming Lives Through Empowering Recovery: Gateway Foundation's Impact on Alcohol Use Disorder

Alcohol is one of the most prevalent substances used globally, distinguished by its prominent role in socialization, spirituality, and cultural traditions. Yet, the rise of high-intensity drinking has increasingly impacted public health. From 2007 to 2017, the number of patients listed for liver transplants due to alcohol-associated liver disease (ALD) surged by 63%. Research also highlights that alcohol misuse not only significantly elevates the risk of liver disease but also heart disease, depression, stroke, and various cancers. Notably, alcohol use disorder (AUD) is the most common substance use disorder in the United States. In 2023, 10.2% of individuals aged 12 and older—approximately 28.9 million people—experienced an alcohol use disorder in the past year.

At Gateway Foundation, we're proud to make significant strides in helping individuals overcome alcohol use disorder (AUD) across all of our treatment facilities in Illinois. The following data specifically highlights the success of our AUD program at our Aurora treatment center. In FY24, our Aurora team treated 130 patients whose primary diagnosis was AUD. On average, each individual participated in the program for 25 days, benefiting from our personalized approach to Recovery.

#### **Gateway Foundation Aurora AUD Program Highlights**

- Personalized Treatment Plans: Our approach to treating AUD is rooted in personalized care. Everyone receives a tailored treatment plan that addresses their unique needs and circumstances. In FY24, we successfully implemented over 500 personalized treatment plans, ensuring that each patient receives the most effective care possible.
- Innovative Therapies: We have integrated several innovative therapies into our program, including Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), and Motivational Interviewing. These therapies have proven highly effective in helping patients develop coping skills, manage their emotions, and stay motivated throughout their recovery journey.

- Community Engagement: Recognizing the importance of community support in Recovery, we have strengthened our partnerships with local organizations and community groups. Our outreach programs have reached over 1,000 individuals in the Aurora area, providing education, resources, and support to those affected by alcohol use disorder.
- Success Stories: The true measure of our program's success lies in our patients' stories. In FY24, 87% of our patients completed their treatment programs and are leading healthier, more fulfilling lives. One such success story is John, who, after struggling with AUD for over a decade, has now been sober for 18 months and is actively involved in our alumni support group.

#### **Looking Ahead**

As we move forward, Gateway Foundation remains committed to expanding our services and reaching even more individuals in need. Our goals for our current fiscal year include:

- Expanding Access: We aim to increase the accessibility of our services by opening additional outpatient clinics and offering more virtual therapy options.
- Enhancing Support: We plan to improve our aftercare programs to provide ongoing support to our alumni, helping them sustain their Recovery and continue their personal growth.
- Research and Development: We will continue to invest in research to stay at the forefront of addiction treatment, ensuring that our patients benefit from the latest advancements in the field.

Gateway Foundation's Alcohol Use Disorder program is more than just treatment; it is a beacon of hope for those struggling with alcohol use.



### **Expanding Access to Medication Assisted Treatment**

At Gateway Foundation, we're invested in providing comprehensive treatments that are proven to be most effective in addressing substance use disorders (SUD). One such proven tool is Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). MAT combines medication with counseling and behavioral therapies to address substance use disorders. These medications work to stabilize brain chemistry, block the euphoric effects of alcohol and opioids, alleviate cravings, and manage withdrawal symptoms, thereby helping individuals maintain their Recovery.

Research highlights the benefits of MAT, including:

- Increased Patient Survival Rates
- Improved Treatment Retention and Completion
- Reduced Illicit Opioid Use and Associated Criminal Activity.
- Increase Employment Attainment and Retention
- Improved Birth Outcomes for Pregnant Women with SUD

Despite these benefits, MAT remains underutilized and relatively inaccessible. Nearly all U.S. states have insufficient capacity to provide MAT to every patient who could benefit from the treatment. The 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health by SAMHSA reveals that only 1.9 percent of people aged 12 or older who identified as having a past-year alcohol use disorder received MAT. Similarly, only 18.0 percent of the 5.7 million people with a past-year opioid use disorder received MAT.

Gateway Foundation is proactively working to increase access to MAT through MAT-centered initiatives in our Community and Corrections divisions. We are collaborating with state departments and community organizations in Missouri and Illinois to provide MAT to more individuals.

#### **Gateway Foundation's RRMAT Team**

Jessica Newton

STL RRMAT Supervisor

Sherry Parkhurst KC RRMAT Supervisor

Sylvia Richardson
RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist

Markeitta Brown

RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist

Nancy Mirabal RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist

LaShonna Parker

RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist

**Ariel Bradley** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Shannen Prusinowski** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Jori Ruprecht** 

**RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist** 

**Keith Losing** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Brooklyn Riddell** 

**RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist** 

**Dane Brown** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Grayson Stagner** 

**RRMAT Re-Entry Specialist** 

**Bradley Wood** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Taylor Myers** 

Peer Support Specialist

**Livah Johnson** 

Administrative Assistant

### **Incorporating Medication Assisted Treatment to Help Reduce Recidivism**

In partnership with the Missouri Department of Corrections and the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Gateway Foundation offers MAT to justice-involved individuals struggling with SUD. This initiative aims to support successful reintegration into the community, reduce recidivism rates, and prevent overdose deaths among those released from incarceration.

Research shows that opioid overdose is a leading cause of death among individuals who are released from prison, with a risk more than ten-fold the general population. Death rates were highest in the first two weeks after release and among those with mental health or substance use disorder treatment needs.

Our collaboration began in 2014 when Gateway was awarded a contract to implement MAT at three Missouri men's institutions through the RR-MAT program. Over the past decade, the program has expanded significantly, providing MAT across all Missouri Department of Corrections facilities and offering comprehensive post-release support and aftercare.

Key components of the expanded RR-MAT program include:

- One-on-One MAT Education: 60 days before release, patients are provided MAT Education and one-on-one consultation with a Re-Entry Specialist
- Pre-Release MAT: Patients receive their prescribed MAT medication, such as Vivitrol or Sublocade, 1-3 days prior to release.
- Post-Release Aftercare: Patients are scheduled in their home areas to comprehensive treatment programs for continuing care and MAT access.
- Peer Support Specialist: This position provides prerelease support groups, and assists patients upon release, offering support from individuals with lived experience in SUD Recovery.
- Medicaid Application Assistance
- Warm Hand-Off: We connect patients with their assigned community probation officers and Peer Support Specialists who will support them throughout their Recovery journey and community supervision period.

Between 2020 and 2021, 915 individuals received MAT through the RR-MAT program, with 80% receiving pre-release Vivitrol and 23% receiving post-release Vivitrol. Two years after their release, 37% of participants had completed aftercare, and only 12% had recidivated.

From 2023 to 2024, 470 individuals participated in the program. For FY 25, the RR-MAT program will continue expanding by offering MAT during incarceration, enhancing support for participants before and after their release. Additionally, the program will provide all FDA-approved medications for Opioid and Alcohol Use treatment, expanding our ability to tailor treatment to meet individuals' needs.

Our heartfelt thanks go to our dedicated Missouri-based team, whose unwavering commitment and impactful work in implementing and managing this program are saving lives across the state.



Gateway Corrections team members Grayson Stegner, KC Re-Entry Specialist, Sherry Parkhurst, KC-RRMAT Supervisor, and Natalie Hutchison, Chillicothe Correctional Center Program Director represented Gateway at the Peer Support Career Fair

# Streamlining Patient Admissions from Hospital to Community-Based Care in Missouri and Illinois

As opioid use continues to rise, so does the number of individuals presenting to emergency rooms with opioidrelated health crises, including overdoses. While ER staff are skilled in stabilizing patients and managing acute symptoms, they often face challenges in connecting patients with specialized treatment providers who can address underlying substance use disorders (SUD) and co-occurring mental health conditions. At Gateway Foundation, we are committed to partnering with hospitals to enhance their capacity to identify patients who would benefit from SUD treatment and to facilitate a smooth, efficient transition of care for these individuals. We achieve this through two primary programs: The Warm Hand-Off Model operating in Illinois and ER Diversion programming operating in Missouri. While distinct in scope and execution, both programs share a common goal: linking patients who present to hospitals with opioid-related health crises to long-term recovery solutions.

Additionally, both programs leverage Peer Recovery
Coaches or Recovery Coaches, who have personal
experience with SUD, to educate patients and their families
about long-term Recovery, including treatment options such
as MOUD, structured sober living, and inpatient programs.
Recovery Coaches are at the heart of this work and play a
vital role in its success. Their lived experience enhances
their ability to connect with patients, fostering engagement
in treatment, harm reduction practices, and sustainable
Recovery.

The Warm Hand-Off Model is part of our Community Services Division and is partially supported by the Illinois State Opioid Response Grant (SOR). The program establishes partnerships between hospital-based clinicians and Gateway Recovery Coaches who work together to apply evidence-based approaches like SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) to quickly assess hospital patients and, if needed, facilitate their seamless transfer to community-based SUD treatment programs. The model also provides crucial education to families affected by SUD and deploys life-saving tools like Naloxone for opioid overdose reversal. Currently, this program is active in over 20 hospitals and medical centers across Illinois.

In Missouri, our ER Diversion program centers around our partnership with EPICC (Engaging Patients in Coordinated Care), a community-based program that trains and deploys Peer Recovery Coaches across Missouri to link patients with SUD to appropriate treatment programs.

Gateway is an EPICC designated Substance Use Treatment Provider for the program's Eastern region. Our team's connection with patients begins when they are seen in a hospital for an opioid-related health event and referred to our care. Upon arrival at Gateway's St. Louis outpatient facility, patients undergo withdrawal management and are assessed for the appropriate American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) level of care combined with MAT. During FY 23, Gateway received 68 referrals to our community Corrections treatment program.

These initiatives demonstrate Gateway's commitment to bridging the gap between emergency care and long-term Recovery, ensuring that individuals in crisis receive the specialized support they need to reclaim their lives. We are grateful to our dedicated teams in Illinois and Missouri, whose lived experience, empathy, and expertise make a profound difference in helping people embark on their path to Recovery.

#### **Gateway Foundation's EPICC Team**

Carla Collins
Program Manager
Jeffrey Gallo
Recovery Coach
Angie Braasch
Recovery Coach

William Marvel
Recovery Coach

Darrick Carter
Recovery Coach

#### **Gateway Foundation's SOR Team**

Christopher Thomas
Program Director
Sarah Glessner
Clinical Supervisor
Jane Millier
Admin Assistant
James Mcdaniel
Recovery Coach

Kathy O'Brien
Engagement Specialist
Kathleen Kaphaem
Engagement Specialist
Lawonny McCoy
Recovery Coach

# Gateway Team Explores Motivational Interviewing to Inspire Positive Behavior Change

Gateway team members came together to learn more about Motivational Interviewing (MI) and MI techniques. Motivational Interviewing is a counseling approach designed to help people find the motivation to make a positive behavior change.





Community is essential in recovery for individuals grappling with substance use and mental health disorders, as well as for the stakeholders dedicated to supporting their journey.

Addressing the rising rates of SUD and mental health disorders, dismantling stigmas, and overcoming barriers to treatment requires a unified community effort. In this section of our annual report, we highlight two initiatives designed to foster supportive environments that extend beyond our facilities: our alumni program, which strengthens connections among individuals in recovery, and our active participation in community outreach events aimed at raising awareness about local resources and support services. These efforts are pivotal in creating a collaborative and nurturing network that supports long-term recovery and reintegration into the community.

# Gateway Foundation's Alumni Program: Fostering Essential Social and Support Connections for Sustained Recovery

It's well-established that having a solid and reliable social support network is crucial for maintaining long-term recovery from substance use disorder (SUD). However, individuals with SUD often face the challenge of having fewer social supports compared to those without the disorder. Additionally, many social activities involve legal substances like alcohol, which can be triggering for those in recovery. As a result, opportunities to build and nurture supportive relationships can feel limited for those working to maintain their recovery. That is why Gateway Foundation, through our Alumni Program, has committed to fostering

social support networks for those in and graduating from our care. Our mission to promote a lively, supportive, and engaged community has flourished, with alum connections growing stronger and more extensive.

## **Enhanced Event Offerings and Record-Breaking Attendance**

Over the past year, our alumni program has experienced significant growth. We've broadened our reach by hosting diverse events across six regions and deepened our connections with alums through targeted support

initiatives. These efforts have created a nurturing environment where alums can thrive personally and professionally.

We're thrilled to report record attendance at our alumni events this year! Across our locations, our Alumni Coordinators hosted over 70 diverse events—from bowling nights and baseball games to cookouts and community walks—welcoming more than 2,800 alumni and their loved ones. While varied in its focus and activities, each event offered invaluable opportunities for our recovery community members to enhance their social support networks, forge new friendships, and celebrate the strong community ties that unite us.

Additionally, we expanded our support group offerings to enhance our alums' well-being further. Our virtual support groups, facilitated by Certified Recovery Support Specialists under Gateway's Digital Toolkit program, continued to be a cornerstone of our support services. Hosted three to four times each week on average, these groups have become a vital resource for alumni, offering a safe space to share experiences, receive mutual support, and gain professional guidance as they navigate life's challenges in recovery.

We remain steadfast in supporting and fostering meaningful connections within our alumni community. At Gateway, we are committed to life-long recovery, viewing ourselves as a continual partner in the recovery journey of those we serve. Our alumni programming provides patients with post-treatment experiences, reinforcing their recovery and our commitment to their ongoing success and

well-being. As Shane Hassler, Director of Alumni and Recovery Support Programs and a Gateway Foundation alumnus, put it,

"I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of our [alumni] community, he said. "Over the past year, I have seen countless individuals embrace their journey of recovery, drawing strength and inspiration from the support and resources we provide. Gateway Foundation remains a beacon of hope and resilience, offering a steadfast lifeline to those navigating the complexities of mental health and substance use disorders. In my role, I am dedicated to fostering an environment where our alumni can thrive, grow, and reclaim their lives. I am confident that together, we will continue to build a foundation for enduring recovery and a future filled with purpose and fulfillment."

As we reflect on the successes of our Alumni Program, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to the Gateway Alumni Team. Their unwavering dedication and hard work have been instrumental in making this year's achievements possible. Many of our team members are themselves in recovery, and their personal experiences bring invaluable empathy and insight to their roles. Their commitment to supporting their peers enhances our program's effectiveness and exemplifies the spirit of resilience and solidarity that defines our community. We are profoundly grateful for their contributions and proud of the impactful work they continue to do in fostering hope and supporting lifelong recovery for all our alumni.

#### **Gateway Foundation's Alumni Team**

Shane Hassler
Director of Alumni and
Recovery Support Programs
Lucy Gabinski-Smith
Alumni Coordinator

Jackie Homles Alumni Coordinator Troy Green
Recovery Support Coordinator
Patrick D'Alessandro
Recovery Support Coordinator
Danielle McDermott-McGill
Recovery Coach

Tim Beck
Recovery Coach
Keith Settles
Recovery Coach
Judy Fulton-Lennox
Recovery Coach

## **Gateway Foundation Alumni**











### **Gateway in the Community**

#### **Annual Recovery Awareness Community Walk**

Hosted and organized by Gateway Foundation Aurora, the 4th Annual Recovery Awareness Community Walk was a vibrant celebration of recovery! The local community, Gateway alumni, friends, and family gathered for a day filled with joy and support. The event featured resource booths with valuable information for those in recovery or struggling with substance use disorders, and participants walked in honor of recovery. Attendees heard from inspiring guest speakers and connected with alumni, sharing their personal stories. Thank you to our Aurora team, community partners, and volunteers for organizing and hosting this event!

#### The West Side Heroin and Opioid Task Force and International Overdose Awareness Day Event



In July 2023, Gateway Foundation joined Rep. LaShawn Ford and other partners at a press conference for the West Side Opioid & Heroin Task Force to address the impact of the addiction and overdose epidemic on Chicago's communities. Gateway Foundation's Senior Executive Director, Dr. Ciuinal Jones Lewis, highlighted our commitment to the West Side and our advocacy for improved policies and funding to combat this crisis. Established in 2016, the Task Force unites community agencies, faith-based organizations, government entities,

recovery groups, health care providers, and individuals with lived experience to address opioid overdoses and related deaths. In September 2023, team members from Gateway Independence and Central supported and contributed to the Task Force's Annual International Overdose Awareness Day Event.

#### **Lewis University's Out of the Dark Campus Walk**

Gateway Foundation participated in Lewis University's Out of the Dark Campus Walk as an Advocate Sponsor to help raise money for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Members of our team joined the walk of hope and healing at Burnham Nature Trail in Romeoville, IL in the fight to prevent suicide.



#### **10th Annual Drug Overdose Awareness Walk**

Gateway Foundation joined Rebecca Rogers and her family for the 10th Annual Drug Overdose Awareness Walk. Rogers, a Rockford-area community member, started the walk after losing her brother Jay to a drug overdose. The annual event aims to combat stigma and judgment by fostering a greater understanding of SUD and elevating resources available for those struggling with SUD.

#### **Recovery Community Center of Joliet Town Hall**

This summer, our Alumni team hosted a town hall meeting for the Recovery Community Center of Joliet (RCCJ). The RCCJ is set to open in 2024 in Will County. This event brought together community members and stakeholders to discuss the exciting developments for the center. Through Gateway's Will County ARPA Grant, Troy Green, our Recovery Support Coordinator, has helped organize and support the Recovery Community Organization (RCO).





#### RecoveryFest

Gateway joined the first annual RecoveryFest in Peoria, IL. Hosted by Jolt Foundation, RecoveryFest is a community event that honors those struggling with SUD. The event featured arts & crafts, resource vendors, and motivational speakers sharing their stories.

### **Gateway in the Community**

#### Gateway's Michigan U.P. Team Visits the Detroit Recovery Project

Gateway Counselor, Susanne Wicklund, and Program Director for Michigan's Upper Peninsula (U.P.), Heidi Dragan, visited the Detroit Recovery Project, a non-profit prevention, treatment, and recovery center serving the Detroit community since 2005.

The visit aimed to assess the SUD treatment needs in the Detroit area, aligning with our mission to enhance access to continuums of care. Many Gateway patients, who receive treatment in U.P. Correctional facilities, return to Detroit upon their release. During their visit, Susanne and Heidi engaged with the prevention mobile unit, which provides a clean needle exchange program, substance abuse resources and referrals, STI testing, and various health education services.



#### **Florissant Community Block Party**

Our Missouri Community Corrections team participated in a Community Block Party in Florissant, Missouri handing out Narcan and informational resources.



#### **Ride-Along with Preferred Family Healthcare**

Gateway team members in the St. Louis area, participated in a ride-along with Preferred Family Healthcare for their Metro Outreach program.



#### **Missouri Learning Collaboratives**

In 2024, Gateway Corrections' Missouri team participated in multiple learning collaboratives and conferences including the Trauma Informed Learning Collaborative, Zero Suicide Academy Learning Collaborative, NATCON, Spring Institute, Saint Louis STAR Summit, and DEI Training and Collaborative.



Wyoming-based Gateway Corrections team members, Jon Oickel (WDOC), Frank Craig and Maria Wells, at the Meth Conference Presentation

# **Gateway Foundation Announces Grant Funding Opportunity to Preserve Legacy of Historic Beacon House**

This spring, Gateway Foundation announced \$2 million in funds from the sale of the historic Beacon House, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in Pacific Grove, California, will be used to expand access to substance use disorder treatment, mental health, and wellness services in Monterey County through grantmaking to other missionaligned organizations and/or to reestablish services similar to Beacon House in the future.

Beacon House was one of the first treatment centers for substance use disorders in the Western United States. For decades, it was a pillar of hope and recovery for the Monterey County community. Although Beacon House ceased operations in 2021, Gateway Foundation, the former operator, created the grant program to preserve the organization's legacy and commitment to supporting health and wellness initiatives in Monterey County.

"We are pleased to announce that some funds from the sale of the Beacon House property will be used to support nonprofit organizations dedicated to promoting health and wellness from substance use disorders," said Jeremy Klemanski, President and CEO of Beacon House and Gateway Foundation. "Although Beacon House operations have ceased, our commitment to improving health remains unwavering. We believe these grants will continue to serve the Monterey community in meaningful ways."

Nonprofit organizations with missions aligned with the former Beacon House were encouraged to apply for grant funding, giving priority to initiatives focused on providing treatment for substance use disorder, co-occurring mental health, education, advocacy, and outreach to underserved populations.

"We recognize the importance of ongoing support for wellness initiatives, especially in light of current challenges," said Klemanski. "By investing in organizations with similar purposes, we aim to continue Beacon House's mission of fostering healing, resilience, and hope in our community."

Gateway has received ten grant applications from nonprofits in the Monterey County area and will announce the grant recipients later this year.







We are committed to leveraging our position as a trusted, long-standing leader in the field of substance use and mental health services to help educate policymakers about the critical needs of our communities, the challenges we face, and the essential steps required to deliver wide-reaching, effective services. Through this advocacy, we aim to champion policy changes that would improve access to treatment, strengthen the workforce in our field, and help our communities achieve lasting, transformative outcomes. This section outlines how we've collaborated with policymakers, local government officials, and community leaders to raise awareness and drive meaningful change.

### **Introducing Gateway's Public Policy Group**

Launched in August 2023, the Gateway Public Policy Group, an external workgroup, provides leadership in developing, advocating, and promoting public policies that serve and benefit Gateway Foundation and the people we serve.

The group focuses on enhancing governmental, industry, and public support for mental and behavioral health – including workforce development needs. Members work collaboratively to identify topics and concerns that impact our organization, sector, and patients — ultimately working to encourage a positive climate and greater investment in mental and behavioral health, including the Social Determinants of Health.

MEMBERS: Jeremy Klemanski (CEO & President); Karolina Strack (Government Affairs Director); Gregg Dockins (Corrections Division President); Jim Scarpace (Community Division President); Dr. Roueen Rafeyan (Chief Medical Officer); Deborah Solmor (General Counsel); Kerry Henry (Senior Regional Director); Alexis Rosales (Executive Director of Business Development); Shane Hassler (Alumni & Recovery Support Programs Director); Josh Rubin (Health Management Associates); Helen Kwan (Illinois Lobbyist); John Corrigan (Illinois Lobbyist); Robert Kent and Stephanie Campbell (Kent Strategic Advisors)

# Partnering with Policymakers Across Illinois to Expand Access and Improve Substance Use and Mental Health Services

This past year, we had the privilege of forging new relationships and strengthening existing ones with government leaders across Illinois. These collaborations aim to enhance access to high-quality substance use and mental health services in high-need communities.

#### Behavioral Health Advocacy Day in Spring ield, IL

Gateway Foundation participated in Behavioral Health Advocacy Day in Springfield, IL to advocate for greater healthcare access. The event was hosted by Illinois Association for Behavioral Health, CBHA, and Illinois Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

#### **Recovery Month Conversation with IL State Senator Collins**

During September Recovery Month, Gateway Foundation Alcohol & Drug Treatment hosted a sit-down conversation with State Senator Lakesia Collins (5th District). The event, at Gateway's Chicago Independence location, focused on how behavioral healthcare providers and the state legislature can help more residents find treatment.

"We invest in people's recovery so they can reunite with their families and get back to work. The more people we can help, the more our communities will thrive," says Jeremy Klemanski, Gateway Foundation CEO. Senator Collins added, "The Gateway clients were honest and living their truth. We need to keep supporting them post-treatment with housing and jobs." Both sides agreed the more we can all teach others about the triumphs and tribulations of a substance use disorder, the more people we can help into a life of recovery.

#### **Looking Ahead: A Preview of FY 25 Grant Funding**

- CORS ILLINOIS OPIOID SETTLEMENTS
- \$350,000 for Community Outreach & Recovery Support Pilot in St. Clair County
- INC BOARD
  - \$50,000 for community outreach pilot program in Kane County
- STRONGER TOGETHER COOK COUNTY HEALTH
  - \$1M for Level 3.7 Detox, recovery support, mental health, and psychiatric services
- CMHC ILLINOIS HFS & ARPA
  - \$250,000 for CMHC program start up
- COOK COUNTY DRUG COURT
  - Three-year contract award; approximate value of \$75,000/year



PHOTO: Winston Henry (Executive Director) and Karolina Strack (Government Affairs Director) in Springfield, IL







Illinois. Senator Lakesia Collins with Chicago Independence Recovery Home residents.



Congressman Bill Foster visits Gateway Foundation in Downers Grove to observe the LENS (Low Energy Neurofeedback System) demonstration



Gateway Foundation treatment centers are licensed by the State of Illinois and accredited by The Joint Commission, who accredit and certify 19,000+ health care organizations and hospitals nationwide. Accreditation by The Joint Commission is an internationally recognized indication of quality.



#### **Aurora**

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Recovery Advantage
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### **Bloomington**

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare



#### Carbondale

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment/Virtual IOP
- Outpatient Treatment
- Her Story Residential Program for Women
- Recovery Home
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Caseyville

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### **Chicago Independence**

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Recovery Home
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Chicago Kedzie

- Recovery Home
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Alumni Programs
- Aftercare



#### **Chicago River North**

- Day Treatment
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### **Downers Grove**

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Gurnee

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### **Jacksonville**

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Recovery Home
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Joliet

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Virtual Intensive Outpatient
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Lake Villa

- Residential Treatment
- Day Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Skokie

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### Springfield

- Detox Treatment
- Residential Treatment
- Triumph Program for Working Professionals
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



#### **Springfield Outpatient**

- Day Treatment
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare



#### Swansea

- Intensive Outpatient Treatment/Virtual IOP
- Outpatient Treatment
- Aftercare
- Alumni Programs



Expanding access to high-quality SUD and mental health treatment is a vital community effort, and we at Gateway Foundation are deeply grateful for the support of our partners. Your generous donations play a crucial role in advancing our mission to provide essential recovery services and support to those in need. Thank you for helping us make a meaningful difference in the lives of many.

## FY24 Charitable Giving (July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024)

#### Gifts of \$10K+

Elizabeth Crown and Bill Wallace
Entertainment Industry Foundation

#### Gifts of \$5K+

Francis Beidler Foundation

Illinois Casino Gaming Association

#### Gifts of \$2,500+

Symetria Health

#### Gifts of \$1K+

American Online Giving Foundation Greater Chicago Food Depository

Arla Lach\* David Stein

#### Gifts of \$500+

William Barton

Charityvest Inc.

John Loch

Andrius Susinskas

The Trustmark Foundation

Mickey Vukic

Samuel Weinstein Family Foundation

**Gary Younker** 

#### Gifts of \$250+

Edward Ballard, Jr

Big Rock Fire Department

Charities Aid Foundation America

Ave and Dino Costa

Steven Gabinski

William Miller

Gina Shkoukani

#### Gifts of 100+

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Your continued support is essential in driving our mission forward. Every contribution, big or small, helps us provide life-saving treatment to more people in need. If you'd like to contribute to our work and help us make a lasting impact on those we serve, scan the QR code, visit GatewayFoundation.org/donate, or contact Gateway Foundation's Development Department at 312.663.1130 ext. 5397.





Gateway Foundation Inc.
Gateway Charitable Foundation

**Central Office:** 312.663.1130

55 E. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1500

Chicago, IL 60604

GatewayFoundation.org GatewayCorrections.org







