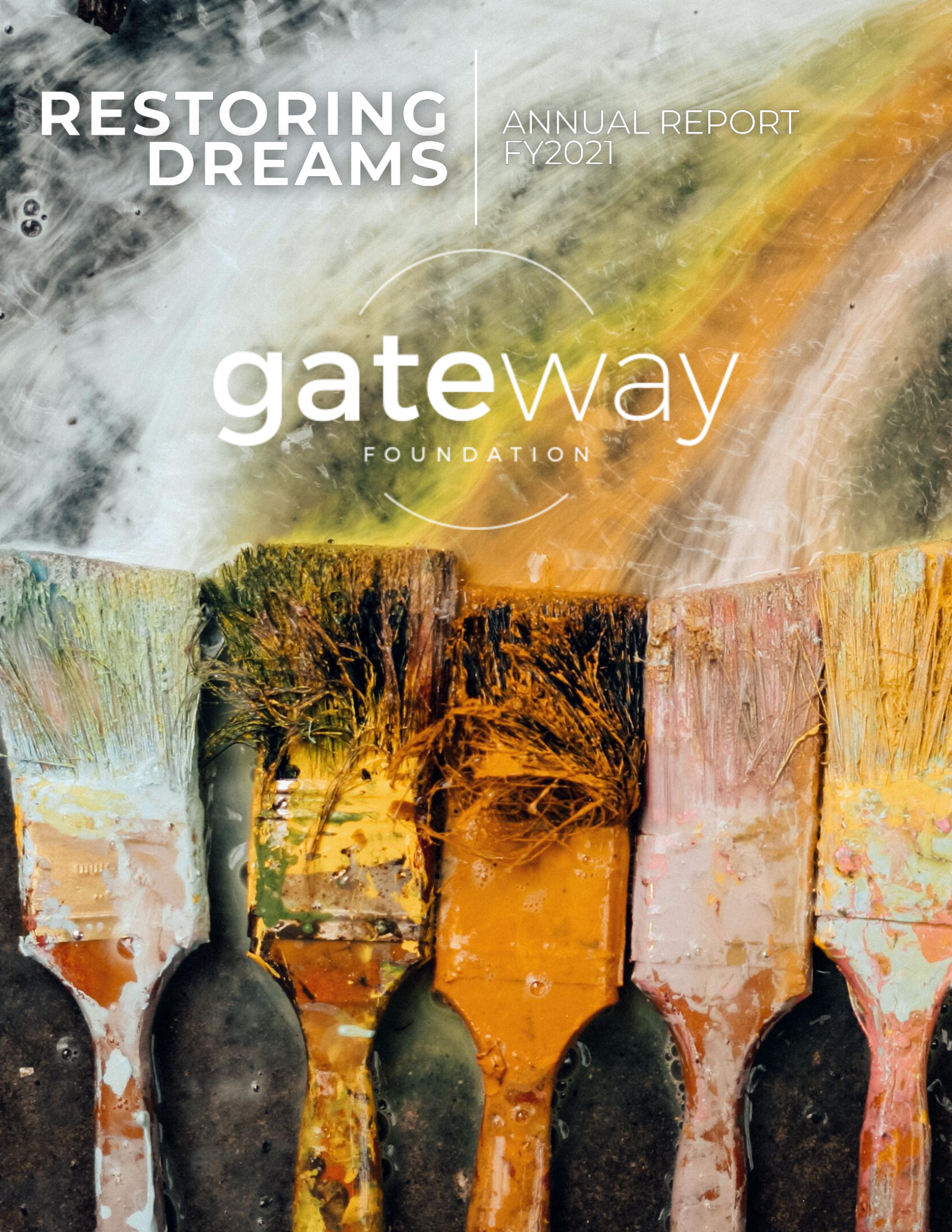




RESTORING DREAMS

ANNUAL REPORT
FY2021

gateway
FOUNDATION

OUR MISSION

GATEWAY FOUNDATION IS A NATIONAL, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO REDUCING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND CO-OCCURRING MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS THROUGH EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT TREATMENT PROGRAMS.

OUR VISION

GATEWAY'S VISION IS TO BE THE NATION'S LEADING TREATMENT PROVIDER, HELPING TO CREATE ACCESS THROUGH AFFORDABLE, HIGH-QUALITY HEALTHCARE FOR SUBSTANCE MISUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FOR ALL WHO NEED IT.

OUR GOAL

SINCE 1968, OUR GOAL HAS BEEN STRAIGHTFORWARD: HELP CLIENTS GET THEIR LIVES BACK ON TRACK AND ACHIEVE A LIFE WITHOUT THE USE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL. A LIFE THAT IS PRODUCTIVE, SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE, AND HEALTHY. WE ARE ONE OF THE LARGEST NONPROFIT TREATMENT PROVIDERS IN THE US WITH TREATMENT PROGRAMS THAT SPECIALIZE IN SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS FOR INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE, INCLUDING THOSE DIAGNOSED WITH CO-OCCURRING MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS. GATEWAY'S CLINICIANS CURRENTLY SUPPORT OVER 7,000 PEOPLE A DAY TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE TREATMENT BY DEVELOPING A PERSONALIZED PLAN TO TREAT THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF SUBSTANCE USE—NOT JUST THEIR ADDICTION TO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL.

OUR LEADERSHIP

DR. THOMAS P. BRITTON
CEO & PRESIDENT

TOMAS DEL RIO
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

GREGG DOCKINS
DIVISION PRESIDENT | CORRECTIONS

MARC C. TURNER
DIVISION PRESIDENT | COMMUNITY

DR. TERESA GARATE
**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS &
ENGAGEMENT**

DAN MOLITOR
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

DR. ROUEEN RAFAYAN
CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

PATRICIA SANCHEZ-AITKEN
CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER



WHAT AM I GRATEFUL FOR?

- I am grateful that we have continued to grow despite the pandemic and are now in almost 100 communities throughout the country.
- I am grateful that we were able to expand our presence to 24 hospitals in Illinois where we work to support emergency rooms across the state. This comes at a crucial time in the drug and opioid overdose epidemic, which takes away 275 loved ones each day.
- I am grateful that this past year we raised over \$1M in grants and contributions to help us continue our mission, expand treatment programs, and reinforce our safety-net services.
- I am grateful that we were included in the State of Illinois' Budget to receive a \$9.2M capital grant that will ensure that we are able to build a 32-bed recovery home in Aurora, Illinois. The facility will serve thousands of individuals in transition from treatment to long-term recovery for years to come.
- I am grateful that we are included in the Federal Government's Budget, under Senator Duckworth's congressionally directed spending program. We are slated to receive \$1.33M in capital funding to invest into our oldest facility – the Kedzie Recovery Home on Chicago's West Side.
- I am grateful that despite the pandemic our team remained engaged and strong – leading us to being named among the Top 100 Places to Work in Chicago by the Chicago Tribune.

FROM OUR **PRESIDENT & CEO**

As we reflect on the events of the last fiscal year, I am filled with gratitude. I recently heard a motivational speaker who started his talk with a sense of gratitude and the message that great leaders not only feel gratitude but also demonstrate it in everything that they do. I aspire to be a great leader for every one of the 1,400 heroes Gateway Foundation employs, every one of the 36,000 lives served this past year, and the countless lives touched by the mission we fulfill each day. I am grateful that I have the opportunity to lead this organization with the support of my team and each and every one of you – together we are restoring dreams and rebuilding lives and opportunities.

Fiscal Year 2021 brought us many opportunities to celebrate while still dealing with the challenges of providing treatment during a global pandemic. I, like many others, felt a glimmer of hope that with vaccines and continued safety precautions, COVID-19 would be past us by now – but we haven't quite gotten there yet. In spite of this continued challenge, I am proud of and grateful for the growth and innovation you will read about in the pages of this report. It truly shows that we are leaders in the field – strong and poised to overcome anything the future brings.

Your support, generosity, and commitment to our mission is what keeps me going every day. Even on the very difficult days, when we hear about losing loved ones, either to substance use disorders and mental health challenges, or to COVID-19, I am filled with hope and gratitude for all we have. My hope is inspired by the accomplishments and stories you will read about in the pages of this report. Please, continue supporting our work to restore dreams for decades to come.

With Gratitude,

Dr. Thomas P. Britton

FROM OUR **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



The last time I addressed all of you, I wrote about how we made it through a global pandemic in 2020. Today, we address you with news of positive growth and innovation that Gateway Foundation experienced in FY 2021. While we were still operating during the COVID-19 pandemic, I am amazed at how much our President and CEO, Dr. Tom Britton, along with his Executive Management Team, were able to accomplish.

Our programs continued to operate and provided life-saving substance use-disorder treatment to over 36,000 individuals (36,827) in eight states. As you read the highlights of our accomplishments at Gateway Foundation during this past year, I hope that you will recognize the work we do to combat the drug and alcohol addiction epidemic and why your continued support is critical during this time.

Although the Covid-19 pandemic has been at the center stage of public health concerns, we cannot forget that for years we have been also battling a deadly epidemic – one of addiction, suicide, and overdoses. In 2019, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the US reported 70,000 overdose deaths – in the 12-month period from April 2020 - April 2021, the reported number jumped to over 100,000 overdose deaths – the highest number ever recorded according to preliminary CDC data. We are looking at a 25% increase in a year's time and I am worried about what the numbers will look like in their September 2022 report. This is why, now more than ever, I am resolved to continue doing everything I can to support the mission and the work of Gateway Foundation.

This past year we opened new programs, expanded and enhanced our virtual programming support, and secured the greatest amount of capital grant dollars in our organization's history.

These successes mean that Gateway will expand access to treatment and provide improved state of the art services in the months and years to come. With generous donations from planned giving gifts, state and federal grants, the upcoming FY 2022 promises to be a busy construction year.

Since its founding in 2019, Gateway's Young Professionals Board has more than doubled in size – from four to 10 active members. This young group of professionals has been working hard to raise awareness around substance use disorders as well as fundraising to support our organization's work.

As donors, my wife Maria and I are grateful for the opportunity to leave our mark on history by supporting Gateway Foundation's projects and we invite all of you to get involved. This coming year is the start of a multi-year capital campaign to raise \$3.5M to complete the Lake Villa Illuminating Wellness Center. I hope to see all of you at our third annual gala, which we will be hosting in May 2022.

As the world continues to move forward with hopes of the day when the pandemic will be just a terrible memory, I have renewed hope in the success of Gateway Foundation with partners and supporters like you.

On behalf of my fellow Board of Directors – thank you for all you do – you are making an impact every day.

Warm wishes,

Andy Smith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR | ANDY SMITH
VICE CHAIR | ARLA LACH
TREASURER | AMALESH SANKU
SECRETARY | FRANCE PITERA
GLENN BAER HUEBNER
SIDNEY BRADLEY

JULIE BRADY
JOHN DREVS
RICHARD EICHHOLZ, PH.D
MATTHEW GRIFFIN
WARREN HARRINGTON
DAVID JOHNSON

DR. KALEEM MALIK
MARY CESARE-MURPHY, PH.D.
JEAN RANGE
LAWRENCE E. SINGER
IVY WALKER
ELIO MONTENEGRO

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD

CO-CHAIR | MISSY STELLA
CO-CHAIR | GINA SHKOUKANI
KELLY CURTIS
PETER KUCHAN

KRISTINA ALEXANDER
JAY GHESQUIERE
CORINNE BILLER
MIKE HILL

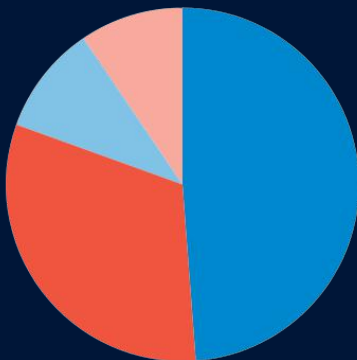
PETER MENDEZ
KAROLINA STRACK

2022 ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

WHAT Gateway Foundation Illuminating Wellness Luncheon
WHEN May 26, 2022
WHERE Chicago History Museum

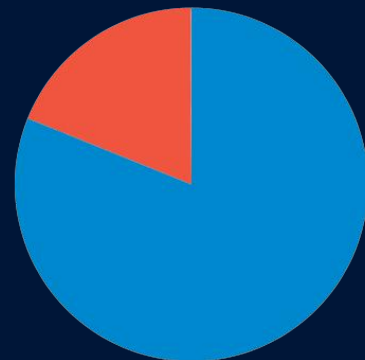
Gateway Foundation will be launching the kick-off for our Illuminating Wellness Capital Campaign. The support we receive will go towards the completion of a planned health and wellness center at our flagship treatment campus in Lake Villa, Illinois. This new center will feature a multi-purpose client community room, art therapy space, a healing garden, mindfulness labyrinth, fitness center, and renovations to the existing gymnasium.

FY 2021 REVENUE



COMMUNITY DIVISION REVENUE	49%
CORRECTIONS DIVISION REVENUE	32%
GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS	10%
OTHER REVENUE	9%

FY 2021 EXPENSES



PROGRAM SERVICES	81.9%
ADMINISTRATION	19%
FUNDRAISING	0.1%

SECOND ANNUAL

ILLUMINATING RECOVERY GALA



BEHIND THE SCENES
**LIGHTS,
CAMERA...
ACTION!**

NEW APPROACH

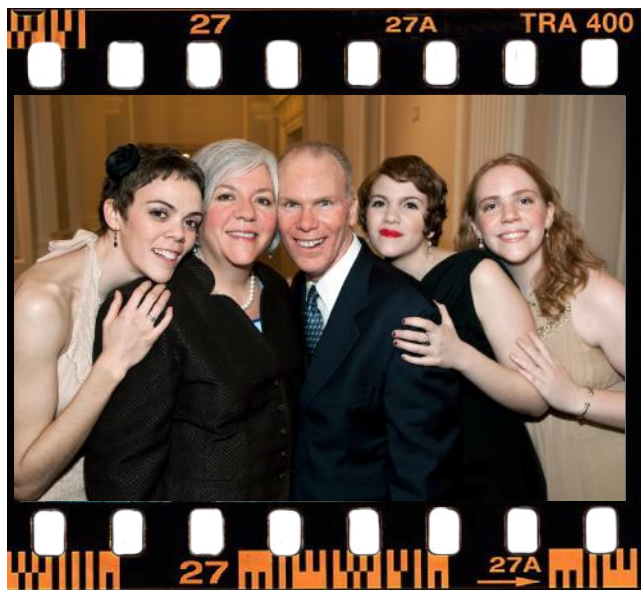
FINE DINING & FUNDRAISING FROM THE COUCH!

Back in April, our community of supporters and partners got together virtually to champion Gateway Foundation's mission of saving lives and providing substance use disorder treatment. Our first-ever virtual Illuminating Recovery gala featuring gourmet meals delivered to our guests, recognition for the heroes of the year – our healthcare workforce, as well as stories of triumph from our recovery community.

The night was a great success for raising awareness around addiction as well as bringing in generous donations that will be used to enhance our non-profit's treatment programs. We extend our warm thanks on behalf of our leaders, team-members, and client community – we couldn't do this without your enduring support!

OUR HONORED

GUESTS & SUPPORTERS



THE PETER J. O'BRIEN FAMILY

The O'Briens are a well-known Chicago family, the owners of O'Briens restaurants and MADO Healthcare, a group of mental health recovery treatment facilities.

After losing their son to mental illness, Peter found a way to use his family's experience to draw attention to the damage that secrecy and shame can do to people with mental illness.



STATE SENATOR JULIE MORRISON

Passed a measure to expand court protections for people with disabilities. Continues to call on the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services to find ways to best serve our state's at-risk youth.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

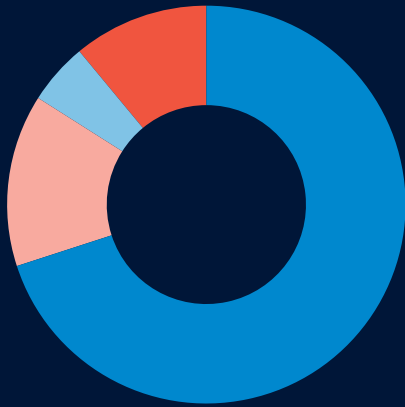
Advocate for Chicago's West Side community and portions of the western suburbs that encompass the 8th District he represents in the Illinois General Assembly.

COMMUNITY DIVISION

RESTORING LIVES, HOPES,
AND DREAMS SINCE 1968.



RACE / ETHNICITY



WHITE / CAUCASIAN 70%
BLACK / AFRICAN AMERICAN 14%
HISPANIC / LATINO 5%
OTHER 11%

15,409

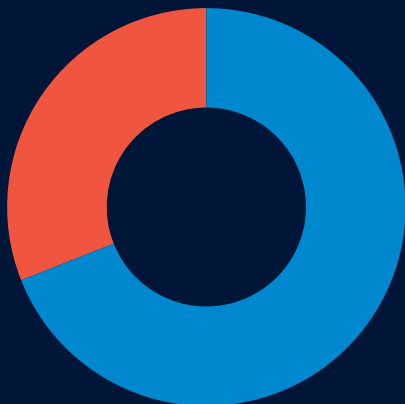
CLIENTS SERVED IN FY2021

Although FY 2020 came with its own unique challenges in the midst of a global pandemic, it also brought the gifts of knowledge, perseverance, and resilience to take with us into FY 2021.

Our community based treatment in Illinois continued to forge new partnerships, strengthened existing programs, and opened new programs for outpatient services and virtual programming. We stood on the front-lines of the opioid overdose epidemic by distributing Naloxone in the communities we serve; we kicked our virtual programming into high-gear with the launch of “gateway connect” positioning us as a market sector leader in telehealth and making sure that access to treatment and recovery support was as accessible as possible.

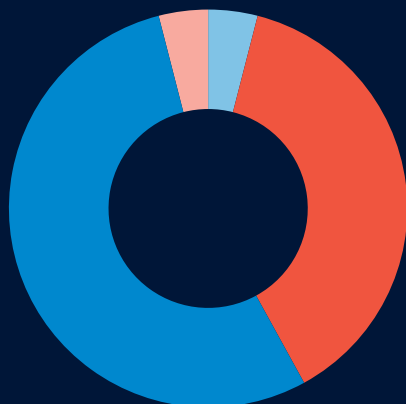
Our supporters, our team, our clients, our alums – the community we have worked tirelessly to build since 1968 – make Gateway Foundation what we are today. Our reach has expanded to 16 communities in Illinois, and we are committed to serving all who walk through our doors – help is here, recovery is possible.

GENDER



MALE 69%
FEMALE 31%

TREATMENT TYPE



DETOX 4%
OUTPATIENT 38%
RESIDENTIAL 54%
RECOVERY HOME 4%

95.4%

OVERALL CLIENT SATISFACTION WITH COUNSELOR

JEDI

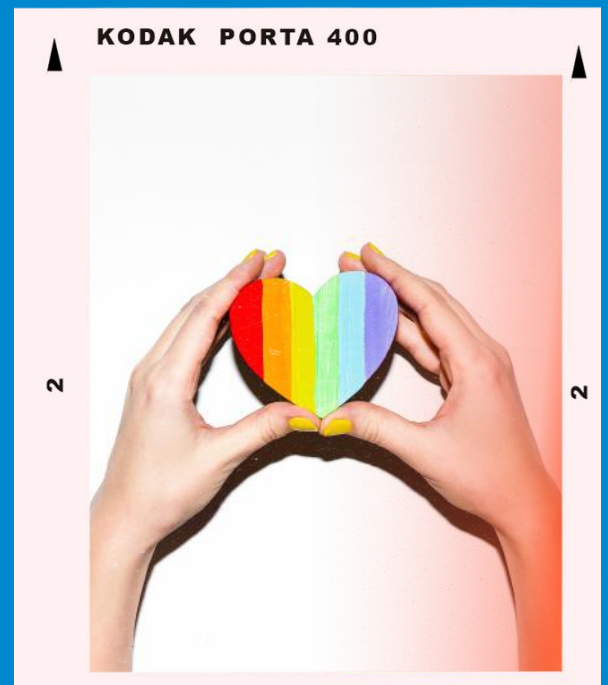
JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Undeniably, 2020 was a tumultuous year on many fronts, and the national reckoning on socio-political and economic injustices highlighted the struggles of historically marginalized groups. The events that unfolded led to a lot of self-reflection for our leaders, our team, our clients, and for our organization as a whole.

At the Gateway Foundation, we have a longstanding commitment to creating diverse, inclusive and equitable experiences for clients and team members alike but as an organization with a culture of continuous improvement – we knew we could do more. In FY 2021 we launched a robust Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) strategy to complement our existing policies. We are committed to fighting for these values and to ensuring that we are doing everything in our power to be a part of the solution.

As an organization that is all too familiar with how social determinants of health impact marginalized populations and under-resourced communities, we recognize that in order to be good partners in re-shaping the world into one that demands and provides justice, equity and inclusion to all – we have to listen. This past year we listened by engaging with stake-holders, leaders, and activists from across Illinois. We utilized our virtual platforms to host educational, meaningful, and provocative panels and discussions, featuring people with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

While this is just the beginning of our multi-year initiative, we have learned a lot – and we promise to make good use of all the insights as we work to improve treatment, recovery, and work environments in our communities. Our framework will include examining the principles of JEDI within the context of our workforce, workplace and marketplace and we are committed to making this a reality for our entire organization.





gateway connect

adaptive recovery

Last year re-shaped so many facets of our lives – from how we get groceries to how we celebrate birthdays to how we learn and everything in between. Providing treatment and recovery supports also changed – at Gateway Foundation we made big strides in taking recovery online and bringing access to our clients' fingertips.

We know that social isolation and substance use disorders are not a good match, so in FY 2021 we were determined to build upon what we started in FY 2020, we dreamt big and our dreams came true. In just one short year, we were able to grow the number of users on our "gateway connect" app threefold and we provided over 87,294 virtual interactions!

Night owl? Early bird? It doesn't matter what time it is or where our clients are – there are now over 2,000 users connected from the palm of their hand, creating a robust and supportive recovery community network.

MONTHLY SNAPSHOT

1,081

POSTS

6,086

LOGINS

8,908

REACTIONS

10,483

INTERACTIONS



2,313

NUMBER OF USERS
THROUGH FY 2021

787

NUMBER OF USERS
THROUGH FY 2020



#wedorecover

One of the core principles of treatment at the Gateway Foundation is that you never have to walk alone in recovery – and our team of recovery coaches exemplify camaraderie and service, day in and day out. The trio of coaches who staffed our virtual recovery community in FY 2021 have more in common than just their job titles and living in long-term recovery – they are all Gateway Foundation alums!

With a combined total of 15+ years in recovery Amber, Tim, and Cameron all have a unique connection to the clients they now serve. They have all been in that same spot, completing active treatment and wondering – what's next? From grabbing coffee to attending group meetings to finding housing and everything in between, they guide and support clients entering the next chapter of their journey.

FROM GATEWAY CLIENTS

TO HEALTHCARE HEROES

CAMERON

"I was 13 when I first started using drugs and I was 23 when I entered recovery. I was relatively young, sobriety and recovery aren't really popular for people in their early 20s. I remember going through treatment the first couple of times and thinking I didn't have a problem – everyone else was the problem. But it takes what it takes. What it took for me was desperation – I walked in with an open mind, I had nothing else left. I had no money. I had no place to live. And it doesn't take that for everyone - but my substance use disorder was so profound that having nothing else left is what it took for me. Today, when I see what I have – I am amazed at what my life is compared to what it was."

"I want to say that this whole thing (being a recovery coach) was planned for me. I wasn't even looking for this career but it found me. And here I am now. I love this work, I get to be around so many people in recovery, people from all different walks of life, but we have this thing that ties us together. I get to work closely with clinicians and observe the different types of treatment and the various approaches present in treatment. It has been a remarkable experience, I'm getting to work with people that were or are struggling with the same things I went through and it's a career that comes with a great feeling of solidarity – in recovery we are all equal."

AMBER

"I just celebrated 4.5 years of recovery and it has been a journey. Before I entered recovery I was living in a studio apartment, without a job, without a car. I got a DUI. Using drugs was my full-time job. I would sit in my studio apartment alone and use as much as I could, hoping that my heart would just explode from doing crack cocaine. But it didn't happen, no matter how much I tried. I ended up getting evicted from my apartment and I moved to a different town. That change in environment was crucial for me and allowed me to enter recovery. I got 20 months in before I told myself that if I started using again – this time it would be different, that things wouldn't get as bad as they were before. A few hours passed after my relapse and I reached out to my recovery community and they supported me and told me that recovery was still possible – and for the first time, I truly believed it."

"When I entered recovery, I always planned on getting into this line of work. I have been a case worker for people experiencing mental health issues and I have a degree in psychology so I definitely wanted to pursue this line of work. I wasn't sure if it would happen but one fateful Facebook message and here I am! I started in August of 2020, so I have been doing this for over a year now and I see that our alums' greatest need is connection to combat the loneliness that exists in these times. Oftentimes addiction is lonely, but recovery can also be lonely. And we are there, we are available, and the gateway connect app has been crucial in allowing us to reach people that might be a bit more challenging to reach in-person."

TIM

"I overdosed on heroin and six doses of Naloxone nasal spray didn't bring me back – I still wasn't breathing, I still didn't have a pulse. By some miracle the paramedics were able to save my life but that was just the beginning. My wife is the one that found me and did everything to try and save my life that day. She didn't even know about my secret life with a substance use disorder. I took inventory of my life and I met with Gateway's Engagement Specialist at my bedside in the hospital, while recovering from the heroin overdose. I was a real hard sell – I didn't want the stigma of 'Tim went to rehab' following me around but as I laid there I realized that I had to go. I didn't want to die, I didn't want to miss my daughters' prom, graduation, walking them down the aisle – if I didn't go I would miss all of that. My youngest and I have back to back birthdays and I just kept thinking about how I would ruin all her future birthdays if I died."

"What got me to being a recovery coach at Gateway Foundation was perseverance and just wanting something better for my life. I was working at the Sunglass Hut, two years of recovery under my belt and my former Gateway counselor convinced me to apply for this role. It is the most rewarding job I have ever had. As dark and painful as my addiction was, I am so grateful that I can use that experience today, to help people who still suffer from substance use disorder to build a life filled with hope. It is one of the best things I have ever done, it's become a passion. My true reward is when I get to see Gateway clients transition from Day #1 to Day #13 to Day #28 and then it turns into two, three, seven months in recovery."

CHAMPIONING THE UNDERDOGS & FIGHTING HEALTHCARE DISPARITIES SINCE THE 1980S.

INTERVIEW WITH SENIOR
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR
CHICAGO OPERATIONS



Years before earning the respect as a leader in the field, Dr. Ciuiual Lewis was an undergrad student at Western Illinois University, forging a way to a career in psychology-sociology until some unexpected news changed her life forever.

She found herself with the opportunity to support a loved one with the diagnosis of HIV at a time when no-one really knew what it meant and years before it was considered a chronic disease and before the issue of stigma had even been presented.

Dr. Lewis shares this memory, "He showed up at my apartment right after that, sheer devastation on his face...I just kept replaying it in my head – there has to be a better way for people to be treated in the healthcare system in regards to things like this. So, with strength and resolve I embarked on educating myself about HIV, and that really drew me in the direction of public health as a means of empowering people to take charge of their lives. It happened organically, it wasn't something I sought out to do but everything that was going on around me at that time drew me and piqued my interest to become an advocate."

The stressed public health system and educational resources in the 1980s were quickly overwhelmed by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, marred by the system's shortfalls and often-times calloused approach to vulnerable populations.

Despite inadequacies and challenges, thousands of professionals, like Dr. Lewis, answered the call, rolled up their sleeves, and helped shape the way we use public health to answer some of the most pressing health issues of our time.

Dr. Lewis has used this passion and resolve throughout her career to pursue health equity and access and this past year she joined our leadership team to continue that work as our partner.

Dr. Lewis' passion and dedication made her a natural fit to lead Gateway's Chicago programs. With professional and lived experience in addressing social determinants of health and system disparities experienced by people of color, people with mental/behavioral health disorders, and other marginalized communities, she will be an asset to our organization's mission of providing quality and accessible treatment to people from all walks of life.

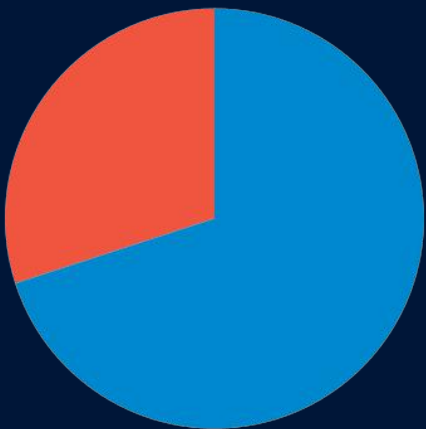
When asked about what individuals and communities can do to help combat substance use and mental health disorders, Dr. Lewis shared the message that she imparts when speaking with African American communities that experience a lot of stigma associated with drug and alcohol addiction.

"Normalize treatment. Don't let people feel ashamed. It's a chronic disorder, it affects over 20 million people in this country, and it is treatable. Four out of five people with substance use disorder also have a mental health disorder. So many people still look at these issues as a moral failing but addiction is a disease – it is not a moral failing."

According to Dr. Lewis, creating connections within communities and building bridges to connect resources are imperative to long-term success and positive outcomes when it comes to healing from a substance use disorder.

“NORMALIZE TREATMENT. DON’T LET PEOPLE FEEL ASHAMED. IT’S A CHRONIC DISORDER, IT AFFECTS OVER 20 MILLION PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY, AND IT IS TREATABLE... SO MANY PEOPLE STILL LOOK AT THESE ISSUES AS A MORAL FAILING BUT ADDICTION IS A DISEASE – IT IS NOT A MORAL FAILING.”

DR. CIUINAL LEWIS



OVER 70 % OF
OVERDOSE DEATHS
INVOLVE OPIOIDS

21
MILLION

AMERICANS HAVE A DRUG
AND/OR ALCOHOL
ADDICTION BUT ONLY 10%
RECEIVE TREATMENT



OVER 100,000 PEOPLE
DIED FROM DRUG
OVERDOSE IN THE
PERIOD FROM APRIL
2020 TO APRIL 2021

CORRECTIONS DIVISION

COMPREHENSIVE
SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDER
TREATMENT
PROGRAMS THAT
REDUCES
RECIDIVISM AND
REBUILDS LIVES.



MAKING CONNECTIONS & INCREASING RESILIENCY

After having a challenging year in FY 2020, marred by the rise of a global pandemic, we stepped into FY 2021 equipped with knowledge, determination, and grit. As for many in the human services field, coming up with ways to adjust to the new normal was often filled with trials and tribulations. Our Corrections Division team worked together and alongside our partners, in seven states, to ensure that our life-saving substance use disorder treatment programs kept providing hope and healing to thousands of justice-involved individuals.

MAKING TREATMENT ACCESSIBLE

Gateway's St. Louis Community Corrections Outpatient program has employed the use of various virtual treatment delivery systems to maintain engagement with hundreds of clients and to deliver individual and group treatment modalities, family counseling sessions, case management, and medication management using cutting edge telehealth. The team in St. Louis is the first group in Gateway Foundation's Corrections Division to use the "gateway connect" application to engage our justice involved clients.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

In Harris County, Texas we developed a closer relationship with our community partners as we collaborated on strategies to deal with new challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gateway was pleased to recently be awarded a renewal to our existing contract with Dallas County. Our dedication to continued growth and innovation over the years has proven that we are the leading treatment provider for justice-involved residents and a stronger provider to our partners. We continue to be a market leader focusing on quality and outcomes for our partners and clients.

NEW TREATMENT PRACTICES

Our treatment and management teams in both our Missouri and Wyoming markets worked diligently to implement the new Cognitive Behavioral Interventions curriculum. CBI allows clients to examine their thoughts, recognize when negative thoughts are occurring, and the ability to apply a number of strategies to alter negative thoughts/emotions - increasing chances of long-term positive outcomes.

OUR DEDICATED WORKFORCE

With staffing shortages due to COVID-19 pandemic induced factors, we developed creative solutions to ensure we met all obligations and client needs. Our team members stepped outside of their comfort zone to serve in new and creative ways. Our team is resilient, tough, and full of dedicated and hardworking men and women!

21,418

CLIENTS SERVED IN FY2021



DELAWARE 11%



FLORIDA 47%



MICHIGAN 12%



MISSOURI 2%



NEW JERSEY 18%

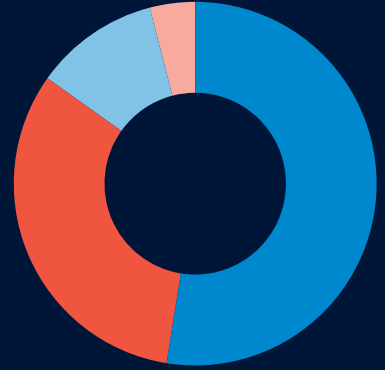


TEXAS 9%



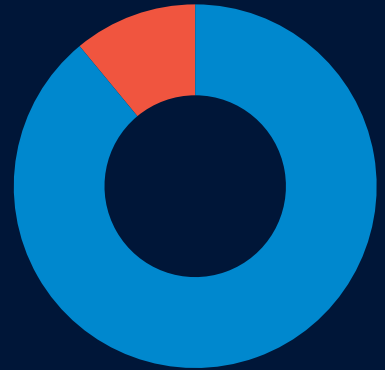
WYOMING 2%

RACE / ETHNICITY



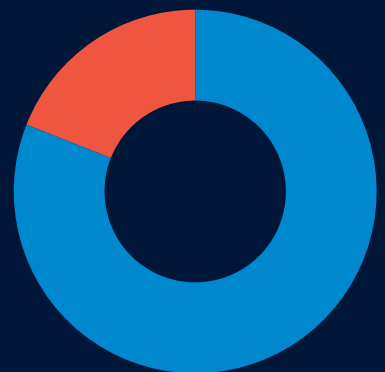
WHITE / CAUCASIAN 52%
BLACK / AFRICAN AMERICAN 32%
HISPANIC / LATINO 11%
OTHER 5%

TREATMENT SETTING



IN CUSTODY 89%
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS 11%

GENDER



MALE 81%
FEMALE 19%

JUST A DAY AT A TIME

THE CLASSIC MANTRA
BEHIND OUR MARION
PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S
36 YEARS IN RECOVERY

When Dan Eberlein picks up the phone at his office, in Marion Correctional Institution (Marion CI), you instantly feel like you're chatting with an old friend. Dan is a gladsome veteran of life, recovery, addiction treatment programs, and self-admittedly – not very good at retiring.

He has retired twice from Florida Department of Corrections in the past 13 years, but retirement does not suit him. Each time Dan retired he found himself back, within a month or three, in the halls of the facility he first stepped into 36 years ago.

In 1985, Dan was introduced to Marion CI as an outside sponsor for a 12-step program, recognizing that this is where he would end up if he relapsed. In 1989, Dan joined the treatment team at Marion CI and later became the director. His career in corrections has had many twists and turns moving through administrative responsibilities. Dan joined Marion CI Gateway in July of 2018 - moving into the same office he had in 1989, never really leaving. He celebrated 36 years of recovery and 36 years of connection to Marion CI in 2021.

When asked if he likes his job, Dan answers affirmatively but quickly drives home the point that he is a man of the people, viscerally connected to those he serves – through a tragedy from his own life.

"I like the work and am rewarded by serving the clients in our Gateway corrections program. Many men we serve have not only substance use disorders but also have been victims of trauma themselves. I had a brother who had a history of substance use that died at the age of 47 in prison so this is not just a job for me – it is personal. If I can make any difference in a life like my brothers then I know that I am exactly where I need to be."



The emotional connection to his career comes balanced with a hearty dose of pragmatism from this 80 year-old program director, husband, father, grandpa, and great-grandpa.

"Interestingly, there are two aspects: one, I understand the drivers of family units that have this element in it - I have lived through being a visitor on one side of the gate, and two, is when I have daily involvement on this end of the business – I know what incarcerated clients see looking back toward the gate so I have two perspectives and I think that gives me an advantage. I know what it looks like from both sides."

Outside the walls of Marion CI, Dan has a penchant for restoring vintage furniture and breathing new life into pieces that have been relegated to the out of sight shadows in basements and attics, too damaged to use. His off-the-clock hobby is an unmistakable analogy to how Dan views those that find their way to the substance use disorder treatment program under his tutelage.

Dan knows that recovery is a process and when he speaks about clients that complete the program, the pride in his voice comes across with unmistakable clarity.

"Back in 1991 a young man - 16 years old - walked into my office and I discharged him from the program because of his attitude, it just wasn't working. Right now - today - about 60 feet from where I'm sitting is the peer facilitator's office....that young man from the 90's is there – working. He's 48 today, five times in prison, just completed our program and became a peer facilitator. He finally got it and he's a mentor and a coach to the other clients in the program. Now I ask you, isn't that what it's really all about?"

HAPPY RETIREMENT!

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THE GATEWAY FOUNDATION WAS HONORED TO RECEIVE A LEGACY GIFT FROM THE LARSON FAMILY IN 2021. THIS GENEROUS GIFT COMES FROM THE ESTATE OF GAYLEN LARSON, FORMER GATEWAY FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER, AND HIS WIFE, JOANNE LARSON. KEEPING WITH OUR TRADITION OF PROVIDING HOLISTIC TREATMENT, THE FUNDING WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT OUR ILLUMINATING WELLNESS CAMPAIGN TO OPEN A STATE OF THE ART HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER AT OUR FLAGSHIP TREATMENT CAMPUS IN LAKE VILLA, ILLINOIS. THE PLANNED HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER WILL FEATURE A MULTI-PURPOSE CLIENT COMMUNITY ROOM, ART THERAPY SPACE, A HEALING GARDEN, MINDFULNESS LABYRINTH, FITNESS CENTER, AND RENOVATIONS TO THE EXISTING GYMNASIUM.

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