

## Message from Keith Jones President and CEO



Friends of AbleLight,

I've been so fortunate to lead AbleLight for more than a year now, and in my role, I am often asked, "What do you need? How can I make a difference?"

This type of commitment from individuals like you is inspiring and motivates me to give my all each day. Everyone connected to AbleLight – the people we support, our providers, families, employees, volunteers, donors, board members and community supporters firmly believe in every person's potential.

Last year, we focused on strengthening and growing the core programs we have always been known for. Simply put, we want to expand our residential services, and we want to help more people.

With you by our side, we're committed to supporting our teams nationwide, helping them empower the people they support to live their best lives. Our attention to the quality of support we provide, and our devotion to our Christian mission are always front and center.

I am confident this Impact Report will illustrate the value of your support and inspire you to continue making a meaningful difference.

I have seen firsthand the lifechanging work you make possible. We have so much to be proud of and much more to do. As always, we are deeply grateful you are a part of our AbleLight family. Thank you for your support!

Keith Jones President, CEO, AbleLight, Inc.







## 2023 Annual Impact Report

Pioneering life-changing services that empower the people we serve to thrive.

# Moments that Matter Volunteer Ambassador brings mission to life

Like every parent, Cheryl Hanks has always wanted the best for her daughter, Renee, who was born with a developmental disability. That's why when she learned about AbleLight's programs to help people learn skills to foster independence, Renee came into our care.

#### "It's been a wonderful place for so many years," explained Cheryl.

That was 25 years ago, and today, Cheryl, who was a single mother of three children, knows she made the right decision. A partner like AbleLight gave her the opportunity to have all her loved ones blossom with the focus and attention they deserved to grow. This was especially true during COVID-19, because individuals with disabilities are at a higher risk for infection and disease. This group also had higher social isolation rates and saw a decrease in social and physical activity, which are contributing factors to their independence and ability to flourish. Cheryl credits the Magnolia House team in Minnesota with keeping her daughter safe, engaged, and feeling supported.

## "That made me say I have to do more," Cheryl said. "Praise the Lord, she's alive and thriving – that's why I got involved."

Last year, Cheryl became an AbleLight Ambassador. She began hosting *Mission Moments*, social gatherings that share AbleLight's Christian mission and invite others to get involved with our community. People learn about the vital roles of direct support professionals (DSPs) and volunteers in our homes. They also hear how they can welcome people with disabilities into their homes.











#### Get involved today

Learn how to become a DSP or welcome someone into your home. To request more information, sign up for our newsletter, or donate to support our mission, scan QR code or visit **ablelight.org**.



## Your Impact: Immeasurable Creating opportunities, one gift at a time

We appreciate every donor and dollar entrusted to us — you make our mission possible! Below we recognize those who have been able to contribute at a level earning membership in the AbleLight Leadership Giving Society. A sincere thank you to this group and to those who have contributed at this level and have asked to remain anonymous.

Gloria Barchenger Harold Bernthal Brian Casey Charles Dube William Fain Lawrence Fodor Cynthia Hackbush Gerhard Haigis Martin Hambel Ardith Hieber

#### VISIONARY (\$10,000+)

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## **ILLUMINATOR** (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

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#### **CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS**

#### \$25,000+

Merrill Lynch The Daniel's Fund Theodore W. Batterman Family Foundation \$10,000 to \$24,999

Schrader Family Fund

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**Developmental Pathways** 

**\$4,000 to \$9,999** PDC Energy

#### \$1,500 to \$3,999

Lifetime Windows HMB Legal Counsel

#### **ESTATES**

AbleLight recognizes and thanks the 171 donors who include AbleLight in their will for a combined total of \$3,169,485! Estate gifts like these allow AbleLight to be better stewards of our resources, assets and time as we are better able to plan for the future.

Kenneth Ahl Doris Alberg Vernon Aufdemberge Nancy Gnilka Robert Austen Sandra Baert Alfred Balkie Jane Barckholtz Joel Barkow Thomas Batterman **Robert Bauer** Aubrey Becker Bertrant Behm Larry Bieberich James Bier Maurice Blanchard Frederick Blume Charlotte Blumenschein Barbara Bowman David Brilleman V. Catherine Brondos Michael Brondos Eldor Bruss Edward Buerkle Philip Burck Marla Burgstahler Anthony Burke Marc Bushman Donna Byars Lori Caldeira Trina Carter Malcolm Conner David Cook Judith Cornell William Cramer **Ruth Danner** James Dauwalter Laura Davis Ann Doege Allan Dragseth **Reynold Durre** Paula Eifert Joseph Emry LeRoy Engelhardt Kurt Faasse Judith Faske Joan Firmery Nisha Gandhi

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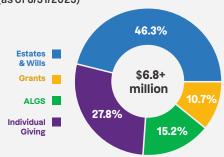
LUMINARY (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

> Ronald Rybicki Robert Sager Les Sander Geoffrey Schlicht Corrine Schreiber John Schreiner Jeanette Schroeder Doris Schuetz Jolene Schultz Frederick Seablom Rita Smazal Diana Sornborger James Sparks Marilyn Spearbraker Robert Stadler Paul Staebler Clyde Stauff **Evonna Stevens Bonnie Stottlemver** Carl Stubenrauch Shirley Sturkin **Eileen Sweenev** Irene Taube David Totenhagen Kenneth Treib Patricia Trillwood Ellen Trvtek Edward Urban **Brent Vinton** Janet Visick Karl Wagner Adeline Ward **Robert Waters** Laura Waurio Carol Wawrzvn David Wegener Iva Lou Wellmann Dennis Wendt Robert Wetzel Steven Witte Thomas Wuerzberger Naomi Wurdeman Thomas Young Kian-Ti Yu

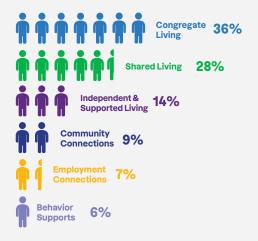
## Your Impact

Thanks to your generosity, AbleLight total donations for the 2023 fiscal year was \$6.8+ million! The impact your gifts have made means the world to us and the people we serve. Here is how those gifts are used to support people.

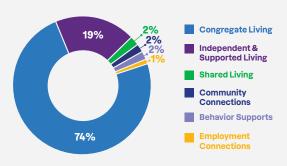




#### 914 People Supported (as of 8/31/2023)



#### **1.9 Million Hours of Support** (as of 8/31/2023)



Supporting the mission

Scan the QR code or visit ablelight.org/ways-to-give to explore ways to give. Plus, check out our handy Giving Guide for end-of-year giving and more!

\*The data is approximated.

# More than a job — A Lifeline **DSPs meeting our greatest needs**

#### Young man with autism thriving as he cares for others.

As a child, Tyler didn't meet milestones and couldn't recognize his own name. School proved difficult, and soon, Tyler was diagnosed with autism. His mother was told he would never read and certainly never graduate high school.

Yet his mother didn't give up. Years of occupational therapy and social skills classes followed. "He has a standard high school diploma even though they told me he was never going to graduate," she said.



#### "Having a job is amazing – just absolutely amazing," said Tyler.

After school, Tyler set his sights on getting a job. But he faced barriers many of us don't and looked for employment for over a year with no success. Sadly, his sense of rejection grew. But then he received a life-changing phone call from AbleLight.

Today, Tyler is a direct support professional, or DSP with AbleLight, doing what others did for him! Tyler is a caring and compassionate worker who bonds closely with the people in his care. This role supports people in a home environment, and right now, filling DSP openings is our greatest need.



#### Experience Tyler's journey to becoming a DSP.

Scan the QR code to visit **ablelight.org/tyler** to learn more about being a DSP by watching this video.

### How do I get involved?

Visit our website at ablelight.org/get-involved for more information.













- AbleLight 2023 Impact Report -

## **Moving Our Mission Boldly Forward**

During Fiscal Year 2022-2023 we continued to provide quality, caring support across all of our existing services, all while developing new and innovative ways to support, empower and create more inclusion for people in the future.



\* all data as of 8/31/2023

\*\* Includes people who may also be accessing both AbleLight's residential services and community based programs.



### Looking to explore ways to give?

AbleLight.org

Scan the QR code or visit ablelight.org/givingguide to view our handy Giving Guide for end-of-year giving and more!



## Ways to Give

However you choose to give, your generosity helps transform the world into a place where people with disabilities live with opportunity, choice, and fulfillment.



**Leadership Giving** 

With an annual contribution of \$1,000 or more, you will join the group of our most dedicated donors.



**Planned Giving** 

Join us in shaping the future and learn how to include AbleLight in your will or estate.



**Monthly Giving** Your recurring gift provides financial security and allows us to plan for the

future.



#### **Corporate Giving**

Set up your Amazon Smile account, sponsor a project or have your donation matched by your employer.



**Memorial Giving** Honor the legacy of someone who cared deeply about supporting people with developmental disabilities.



#### **Tribute Giving**

Honor the many celebrations of life through a gift that will change the lives of people with developmental disabilities.

## **Other Ways to Give**

However you choose to give, your generosity helps transform the world into a place where people with disabilities live with opportunity, choice, and fulfillment.

- Stocks and Bonds
- Donor Advised Funds
- Individual Retirement Accounts
- Life Insurance

- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Wills and Bequests
- Gifts of Real Estate
- Charitable Trusts
- Beneficiary Designation Gifts



**Call** (920) 206-4420

Email Donor.Services@AbleLight.org Visit ablelightgiving.org