

HOMELIGHTS

A Newsletter For Friends and Families of St. Coletta of Wisconsin



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Partners Working Together

A message from St. Coletta of Wisconsin President Tony LoDuca

Dear Friends and Family of St. Coletta,

What an exciting year this has been for our organization! This holiday season marks the conclusion of a year full of significant change that will positively impact the people and communities we serve for years to come.

In June, we successfully transferred our organization's headquarters into the recently renovated Alverno building off of Hwy Y. Utilizing this specific piece of property as the new heart of St. Coletta, we are able to preserve our legacy and maintain the ties we have with the Jefferson community. With the renovations, came a new chapel for celebration filled with historic pieces of the original buildings constructed as far back as the 1800's. Stained glass windows, the Stations of the Cross, and other artifacts have been relocated to our new quarters so friends, new and old, can enjoy them.



The move to a new location also brought upon big changes for our day programs. Our Excel program, which helps to educate persons with developmental disabilities life skills, is now housed in our new administrative building. Furthermore, our Golden Options program, which provides stimulating day care activities for the elderly, has also been brought in-house. Both programs serve a multitude of people daily and will continue to do so as we move towards a future of growth & expansion.

Another noteworthy event occurred mid-November, as we finalized the sale of our old school property to Todd Schultz of Sanctuary Ridge, LLC. We see this sale as an exciting opportunity for St. Coletta and the Jefferson community to grow with new industry trends. It was a major component of a planned transformation that will allow us to focus more time, energy, and resources on further developing community integrated services for persons served all the while enhancing community partnership initiatives. The property is now under development to serve Jefferson in new ways while maintaining the integrity of its original purpose.

In addition to the school campus sale to Sanctuary Ridge, our Waukesha program that serves twenty-seven individuals, is in the middle of a large residential expansion project constructing two brand new state-of-the-art fully accessible homes that are set to be completed by the end of this year. We are very grateful to the donors who stepped forward, providing us the resources needed to construct these facilities. The new homes in Waukesha have been designed with the future of those St. Coletta serves in mind, allowing them to 'age in place' further preventing any admission into a costly nursing home typesetting. These residences are an excellent addition to our housing options and they accentuate perfectly our mission inspired by the Franciscan Values of compassion, dignity and respect.

As you see, we have much to celebrate this year and could not be more proud of our organization's achievements. Please keep us in mind in the upcoming giving season as we strive to further advance our programs & services. We look towards the futures with great excitement, as we are certain there are many good things to come on our horizon. Here's to a safe and happy holiday season!

Best regards,
Anthony LoDuca
President & CEO
St. Coletta of Wisconsin

Vintage Nativity Scene is Brought Back to Life

It took over a dozen people working 100 plus hours to revitalize the historic piece of art originally donated to St. Coletta of Wisconsin in the 1950's.

The Nativity scene's figurines were originally donated by Archbishop



Cardinal Cushing, and the manger set was built and donated from Stengel Construction. The structure of the Nativity scene and all the figurines has received a fresh coat of paint and a new set of shingles has also been added to the manger. Jefferson locals remember seeing the crib for many years at the old campus, but very few remember seeing it with all the pieces on display. According to Facilities Manager Ted Hoffman, this year will be the first time in five years that all of the pieces have been used in the scene.

"It was a pleasure to participate in the process of restoring our nativity

Jonathan Berger puts the finishing touches on one of the figures in the nativity entourage

scene!" says Jonathan Berger of St. Coletta "The Nativity set has been such a historic staple to this community and now it will continue to provide joy for years to come," Berger goes on to state.

Early in December a blessing was conducted for the Nativity scene, as clients and staff gathered around led in prayer by Steve Steele, Director of Mission Effectiveness and closed with the group singing 'Away in the Manger'. "The blessing of the Nativity scene today was a great opportunity for all of us in our new building to reflect the great gift that God has given us during this holiday season," stated Steve. The Nativity Scene will be on display for the remainder of December and we invite you to stop down and view this large than life piece of history!

First Public Holiday Open House A Success!

Held in conjunction with Jefferson's 175th birthday celebration, St. Coletta of Wisconsin hosted its first annual holiday open house at its new headquarters located off of Hwy Y in the original Alverno buildings.

Horse drawn wagon rides and facility tours were given while holiday snacks

and beverages were served. The rainy weather was not a factor as the Jefferson community reached out to support us with over 200 people in attendance. "What an amazing turnout and warm welcome we received from the community. We are blessed to have had such amazing support from our friends, families, clients, and donors. Thank

you to everyone who came out and celebrated on our big day!" said Robin Novesky, Director of Marketing for St. Coletta.

If you were not able to attend the holiday open house, but would still like to visit St. Coletta, please call ahead and we will do our best to accommodate you.



The day was full of hayrides, tours, cookies, cider and good cheer!



National Disability Employment Awareness Month

St. Coletta Focus' on Two Clients

Every year in October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is celebrated. NDEAM is a national campaign that raises awareness about disability employment issues and celebrates the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

This concept originates back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. Finally, in 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name

to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."

For years, St. Coletta of Wisconsin has been offering the Access Community Employment Program to help qualified people with disabilities choose, obtain, and maintain jobs in a competitive work environment. Access provides employers in the local community with capable, motivated workers. The program participants are positive people who strive to exhibit positive work attitudes, and are productive in both entry level and experienced positions. The number one goal is to assist businesses in meeting their staffing needs while helping program participants achieve long-term employment goals.

Many people flourish through this program, and continue to excel every day. Jeff, an Access program participant, is an example of this success. Jeff has Attention Hyperactivity Disorder, a mild developmental disability, which often makes everyday activities more difficult. Jeff is employed by Epic Resins which is based in Palmyra, Wisconsin. Epic is a custom formulator of epoxy resin and polyurethane compounds for original equipment manufacturers. Jeff is employed as a full time custodian and receives all benefits offered to full-time employees. Some of Jeff's responsibilities include cleaning the administrative offices, manufacturing warehouse, and laboratory portion of the complex.

Jeff's coworkers have wonderful things

Fall Spirits not "Dampened"

Annual St. Coletta Picnic A Big Success!



The annual Picnic was held at the newly remodeled St. Coletta of Wisconsin administration building in Jefferson on Saturday, August 13, 2011.

"The picnic is really a celebration of the friendship that exists between so many of our clients that have grown up together," explains Steve Steele, Director of Mission Effectiveness.

This year's picnic featured a barbeque, music and a variety of carnival inspired games for the 500 attendees. Al and Cheryl Di Luigi of Naperville, Illinois chaired the event.

The picnic is made possible thanks to donations and support from families of St. Coletta clients and the Jefferson community.

Despite a few early morning showers everyone had a great time at the Festival. Nearly 500 guests enjoyed games, music, food and fun. Pictured above left from left to right as they hand out prizes: Bob Schmidt (Manager of Vocational Services) and Erika Boettcher (Job Developer)

The St. Coletta Festival & Picnic, in conjunction with Family Community Weekend, was a big success. Pictured (above right) Chandra Brinsko and James Brinsko prepare to volunteer at one of the game booths.



Jeff is employed as a full time custodian at Epic Resins. Some of Jeff's responsibilities include cleaning the administrative offices, manufacturing warehouse, and laboratory portion of the complex.

to say about him. He has made a very positive impact in the lives of many people, including Bonnie Pauli, a close co-worker and friend of Jeff.

"Jeff is very, very self-sufficient. I think I can speak for everyone here at Epic Resins that working with Jeff is a real pleasure. He is just so accommodating, upbeat, respectful, and a lot of fun to be around. He is the first face that I see every morning and he always has a smile for me!"

Jeff has been bringing joy to people's lives at Epic Resin since January 1998. Over time, Jeff's relationship with the other employees has evolved from simply co-workers to becoming like friends and family. Epic Resins shows its support when Jeff attends National Games and other Special Olympic events by granting time off requests

and celebrating his achievements with good luck cards and cake.

"I enjoy everyone here [Epic Resin]. I enjoy working for Brad because he is a fun and easy-going boss. I'm very thankful for the support of everyone at Epic and St. Coletta."

Jeff's best achievement as a result of maintaining competitive employment is his ownership of his own home. The Access Community Employment Program has given both Jeff and Epic Resins a great opportunity to grow professionally every day. Jeff's accomplishments

exemplify the long-term success that can be achieved.

More recently, Noah, another Access client, is just beginning his journey to success using the Access Community Employment Program. Noah has Asperger's Syndrome, a disorder that is characterized by significant difficulties in social interaction. Noah is an employee at Central Coast Restaurant, a fine dining restaurant, banquet facility, and ballroom dance club located in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. Noah works Friday and Saturday evenings as a dishwasher, washing all dishes including cookware using a commercial dishwasher. Like Jeff, Noah has also created a fantastic experience for his co-workers at Central Coast. Rich Sweed, Executive Chef, states, "Noah is a really hard worker. He is a very dependable

employee and always gets his work done. I am not overly familiar with programs like the Access program; however the goal of the program has been successful as Noah fits in well here and gets along with all of the staff. We're like family."

Noah started his work at Central Coast in August 2011, and has already made an amazing difference. The Access program has not only improved Noah's life professionally but also the lives of the other employees at Central Coast.

It is apparent that these two men have made an extremely positive impact on their co-workers' lives. Not only do they work extremely hard at their jobs every week, but they also bring a smile to everyone they work with. The Access Community Employment Program has given these men and many other people the opportunity to build long lasting friendships and has made the workplace a part of their family. Access Community Employment Program offers multiple benefits to qualified participants as well as their employers.



Noah works evenings as a dishwasher, washing all dishes including cookware using a commercial grade equipment.

Summer Highlights: St. Coletta Moves Into Newly Renovated Building

Construction is now completed for the new St. Coletta of Wisconsin headquarters in the former Alverno building on County Road Y. The building has been vacant since 2009 when the organization partnered with the State of Wisconsin to close its Intermediate Care Facility for the Developmentally Disabled (ICFDD).

Completed in May 2011, the organization officially moved from the space that served as its corporate headquarters for over a century. The new space is smaller and more appropriate to the organization's current provision of community-integrated services in Wisconsin and Illinois.

"It is an exciting time for our organization as we complete our transition to fully community-integrated services. A lot of hard work and energy has gone into developing accessible community-based housing that can support people with disabilities as they age," said Anthony LoDuca, St. Coletta President and CEO.

It now houses two of the organization's programs: Golden

Options for Adults, which has been providing daytime services for Jefferson-area seniors and others in need of support since 1982 and Excel, a day service for people with developmental and other disabilities that offers skills training in the areas of daily living, personal-social, recreation-leisure, and functional academics. The new space will provide room to continue the recent growth that these programs have experienced.

"As we complete the transition to being a provider of community-based services, it was important to us that we retain some of the historical treasures that have been a part of the St. Coletta story," said Steve Steele, Director of Mission Effectiveness. "The new chapel, which is literally located in the center of the new building, becomes both the spiritual and physical center of our community as it reflects our Mission and core commitment to providing quality programs and services that support people with developmental and other challenges."

Reflecting the organization's Franciscan heritage, the chapel makes use of stained glass windows from the original campus chapel. The new chapel will also provide a multi-functional space for meetings, gatherings, liturgy and other activities.

"The community of Jefferson has been such a strong partner to St. Coletta and the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi beginning in 1864. We will be open to making the new facility space available for groups and/or events in the spirit of community service," said St. Coletta CEO, Anthony LoDuca, "We are excited about and look forward to expanding and enhancing community partnership opportunities as result a of this relocation."

Another aspect of the project is the historical mural that intertwines the St. Coletta story in combination with that of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi and the overall history of services for people with developmental disabilities in our country.

"While it is important that the building reflect our rich history, we are also very focused on today's opportunities and meeting the needs of people with developmental and other challenges," said LoDuca.



Sister Mary Claude Telderer, former St. Coletta staff (1987-1991) reviews the legacy the sisters began over one hundred years ago.



On Wednesday, May 25th clients, staff, family and friends attended the Milwaukee Brewers Game at Miller Park. Although umbrellas were needed to get to and from the bus, the rain hardly dampened spirits. *Pictured from left to right catching the baseball action: Sister Joanne Schatzlein, OSF and Emily Wellerritter (Case Coordinator).*



The Illinois Friends hosted their Annual Golf Outing with all proceeds benefitting St. Coletta. *Right photo pictured from left to right: Marianne Miner, Jeannine Marchini, Rhonda Kalkwarf and Maryann Vanaria*

This year's event was held at the Turnberry Country Club in Village of Lakewood, IL. *Left photo pictured from left to right: Steve Hennessey, Kevin Joyce (Illinois Friends Golf Outing Co-Chair), Tim Joyce and Joe Joyce*



A chapel blessing was held on Thursday, June 30th. *Pictured from left to right: Karen Gallagher (Director of Development), Grace Merten, and Anthony Lo Duca (President and CEO)*



Because of our many friends and donors to attend events like the Milwaukee Brewers Game give clients and families a chance to form lasting memories. *Pictured from left to right spending a special day with family; Lawrence Fronk, Ardyce Fronk, Dolores Zanto, and Ross Zanto*

The Mission Continues Two New Homes for Waukesha

After two years plus of planning capped by a 4 month advocacy battle with the City of Waukesha, we are happy to announce two new fully accessible homes will be added to the Waukesha Residential Program. They represent the future for St. Coletta in many respects but perhaps most important to be fully in step with a desire to have homes where clients can reside for their lives without the worry of accessibility problems later in life. The homes, which are now under construction, are located in west Waukesha south of Interstate 94, and about 4 miles west of downtown Waukesha. Each is comprised of 3500 square feet with eight bedrooms, fully accessible bathrooms and kitchens. One home will have four bathrooms, the other three bathrooms. One home will also house the Waukesha administrative offices in the basement. The homes have come to St. Coletta as a result of the generosity of two Waukesha families, whose family members will reside in the homes. The addition of these two homes will mean the return of 3 currently rented homes (Cavalier, Chippewa, and Greenway) back to the Waukesha Housing Authority. All current tenants and staff in those homes will be moved to positions in these new homes. They are tentatively scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.



Ted Behncke, Vice President of Operations, helps Wendy break ground at one of our new Waukesha homes.

Annual Bucks Event A Success



In an effort to support our ongoing Mission, the Milwaukee Bucks and Senator Herb Kohl hosted St. Coletta's families, friends, clients and staff on Monday, April 11th. *Pictured from left to right: Gerald Donahue and a member of the Milwaukee Bucks Spirit Squad*



Giving it their all, the St. Coletta Nova Choir sings the National Anthem for the Milwaukee Bucks Game. This year marks the Nova Choir's 37th performance at the Bradley Center. *Pictured from left to right preparing to sing the Anthem are: Heather Cox (Residential Coordinator), Deborah Franzen and Chad Adams (Housekeeping Supervisor)*

The Illinois Friends for St. Coletta Annual Dinner Dance, held on Saturday, March 19th, was a magical evening attended by parents, siblings, relatives and friends.

Pictured from left to right sharing a moment: Karyn Odway and Gary Odway



The Illinois Friends for St. Coletta assist in raising the much needed funds in support of the programs and services that St. Coletta provides. The Dinner Dance is just one of the many events held by the Illinois Friends each year.

Pictured above enjoying the Dinner Dance: Daryl Schaefer and Russell Schaefer.

The Dick Judson Orchestra created a beautiful backdrop for this year's event. Nearly 275 people were in attendance.

Pictured from left to right enjoying the music: Vickie Gorlick (Illinois Friends Event Co-Chair), Richard Fink and Jennifer Gorlick



Save the Date

Please join the Illinois Friends of St. Coletta in celebrating "All You Need is Love" annual Dinner Dance February 18, 2012 at Schaumburg Marriott Hotel.

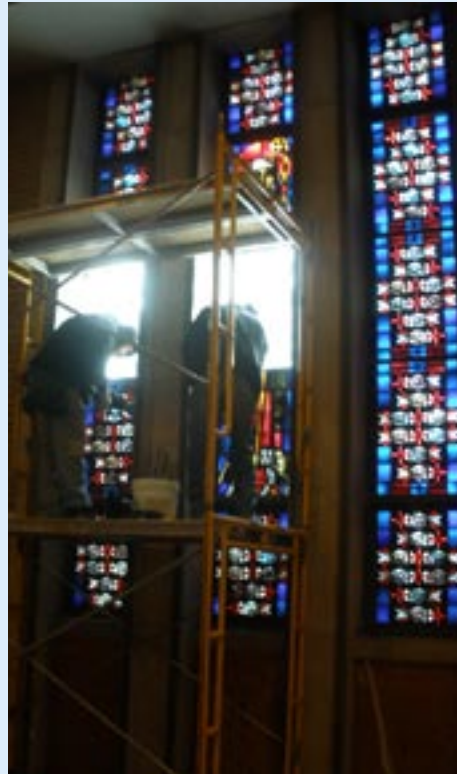
Coletta Finds New Home

Historic Stained Glass Relocated to Administrative Headquarters

The renovation of our new corporate headquarters took a big step forward while looking to the past as artists from Potente Studios, Kenosha, removed stained glass windows depicting Saint Coletta and other artifacts from the 1953 chapel on the main campus. The stained glass windows were installed as the centerpiece of the renovated chapel in the new building/multi-purpose space.

“Utilizing our organizational commitment to excellence, we are very focused on today’s opportunities and meeting the needs of people we serve.” said LoDuca.

Stained glass depicting St. Coletta is removed to be refitted in the multipurpose area in the new administration building.



New Members Appointed to Board of Directors

Kristin Baird and Gregory Ksicinski were recently appointed to the St. Coletta of Wisconsin Board of Directors.

Kristin Baird is president of the Baird Group, a Wisconsin-based, healthcare consulting firm specializing in customer service training and strategy. Baird’s background includes public health and critical care nursing, healthcare marketing, business development and administration.

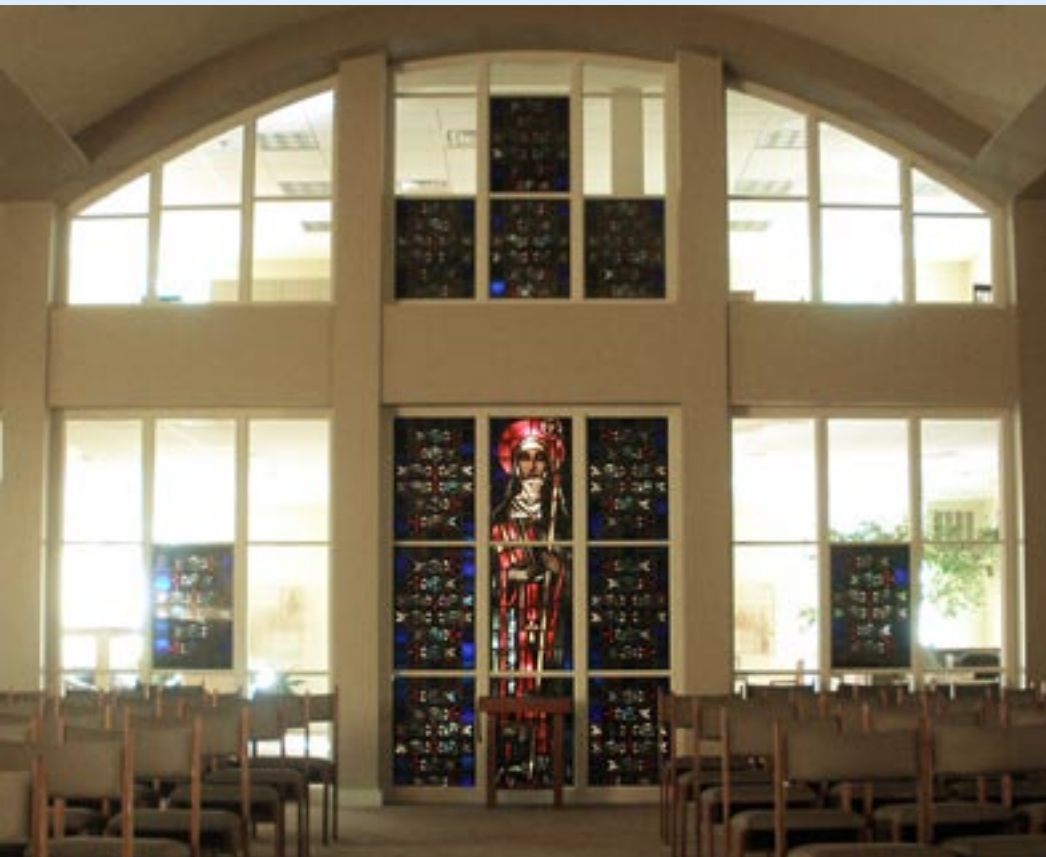
Baird received an appointment from the Secretary of Health in 2009 to serve on the National Advisory Council for the National Health Service Corps.

“I’m honored to serve on the Board of Directors for St. Coletta. Their mission of service is one that is congruent with my own values. I’m excited and impressed at St. Coletta’s ability to continue building on the strong foundation that was started over a century ago. Their mission, spirit and unwavering connection to core values laid that strong foundation and will take the organization into the future.” Baird explains.

Gregory Ksicinski, CPA, ABV, MST and principal of SVA Certified Public Accountants, S.C. was also appointed to St. Coletta of Wisconsin’s Board of Directors. With a strong financial background of 35 years in accounting, Ksicinski fills a vital role and complements existing St. Coletta Board members.

“Being appointed to the Board of Directors for St. Coletta is truly an honor,” stated Ksicinski. “My goal is to help move the organization forward to continue to provide and expand quality services to developmentally disabled individuals. Having visited the facilities and interacted with some of the residents, it is clear to me that the organization provides important services to the communities it serves. I am proud to be part of St. Coletta of Wisconsin,” stated Ksicinski.

Ksicinski’s financial background in accounting and emphasis on proactive planning to achieve goals will be a strength he carries to his new role as a St. Coletta Board member. He hopes to offer a diverse perspective by bringing creative ideas and an innovative strategic process to the organization.



Golden Options and Excel

New Building Brings Opportunity for Expanded Service

With the transition to its new corporate headquarters complete, St. Coletta of Wisconsin employees are easing into their new space. At the same time, program participants of Excel and Golden Options Adults day programs are exploring the possibilities this new and expanded space presents.

“A big component of this move was looking at ways that we could enhance the two programs we planned to house in the building,” said Tony LoDuca, President and CEO.

Golden Options for Adults, a day program that provides structured activities for social stimulation and also a variety of health-related services, will benefit from expanded program space that will make it possible to individualize activities according to the needs and desires of participants. In addition, more space will be available for a la carte services such as assistance with personal hygiene. The program supports senior citizens and others in need of structured daytime support.

“It’s exciting to finally be in our new program area,” said Carissa Weber, Golden Options Team Lead. “The participants have been anticipating the move for months and everyone is delighted to be here. It’s fun for both staff and participants to show off our beautiful space, and share



Golden Options participants enjoy an afternoon performance by Justin Enright, a volunteer, in the newly renovated chapel.

all the wonderful improvements to our program with family and friends.”

The other program that will be located in the building is Excel. The Excel program currently operates on the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater campus as well as in Jefferson. The program is activity-based and provides person-centered programs and structured support for young adults and seniors.

The new space will enable Excel to expand the types of activities offered to participants, including more training opportunities such as cooking.

These programs are an excellent complement to the current model of community-based provision of residential services since they both focus on helping participants maintain their highest level of independence, acquire new skills and enjoy social interaction.

“We are thrilled to be offering these enhancements to our programs,” said Director of Vocational and Day Programs, Mario Dealca. “People with disabilities are experiencing lifespans consistent with the general population and these programs help assure that they can age with the appropriate supports in place.”



In October, St. Coletta was host to the 40th annual corporate ministries conference. Accepting the trophy and the honor of hosting next year’s meeting are Tony LoDuca, Kristin O’Farrall, Andy Parsley, Christine Manlove, PhD, Christian Metzger, Heather Newman.

Message from the Director of Development

As we enter the holiday season, we take time to remember & honor those near and dear to our hearts. St. Coletta of Wisconsin would like to thank you for your ongoing support, and we are overjoyed to have met our 2011 fundraising goals with the generosity from your planned gifts, annual giving, special events donations, seasonal appeals and advocacy initiatives.

We are also grateful for our associates at the Illinois Friends of St. Coletta for their ongoing commitment to raising funds, chairing events, organizing community gatherings and their strong conviction to advocating for people with disabilities in the state of Illinois. In 2011, Illinois Friends raised over \$100,000 collectively to support the Illinois program and St. Coletta of Wisconsin.

We look forward to a great New Year of community gatherings and a prosperous year of giving.

Happy Holidays and have a Blessed New Year!

Karen Gallagher
Director of Development

Please consider the many ways to give to St. Coletta of Wisconsin:

- Give Online- Donate at www.stcolettawi.org
- Annual appeals- Look for one of our four annual appeals letters.
- Special Events- We have several opportunities for sponsorships.
- Appreciated Assets- Stock Gifts, Retirement • Funds and Property are assets that can be bestowed to St. Coletta of Wisconsin
- Estate Planning- Providing for St. Coletta of Wisconsin in your will is an opportunity to create a meaningful legacy that will provide quality services for our future generations.
- Volunteer- Giving one's time is very valuable and always appreciative. We are always in need of volunteers.

Please contact Karen Gallagher for more information at kgallagher@stcolettawi.org or call 920-674-8213

HOMELIGHTS



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