

Marbridge LIFE

Spring 2019

**Volunteers Honored During
Appreciation Event**

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IDD Leaders Together**

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Marbridge Foundation

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From the Chair

When my son, Jordan, was in his mid-twenties, I knew we needed to find a place where he could be happy and safe for the rest of his life, but we hoped for more. The hope was that he would actually thrive. Not just exist, but thrive. He still had room to grow if properly challenged and supported.

So we started to look at various alternatives, focusing on those we thought provided a community that would guide him to be self-determined and provided the encouragement, opportunities and respect that would create a vibrant, happy life. He needed a community that had the capability of following him in his journey to the end of his life.

We chose Marbridge.

Jordan has gained great life skills and developed independence. He is employed and loves his job. Plus has a fantastic group of friends. Although he still likes to come see us in Dallas, he calls Marbridge home.

For those of us who have friends or relatives with disabilities, one of the greatest gifts we can receive is to see our loved ones become more self-sufficient and happy. We have been impressed with the results.

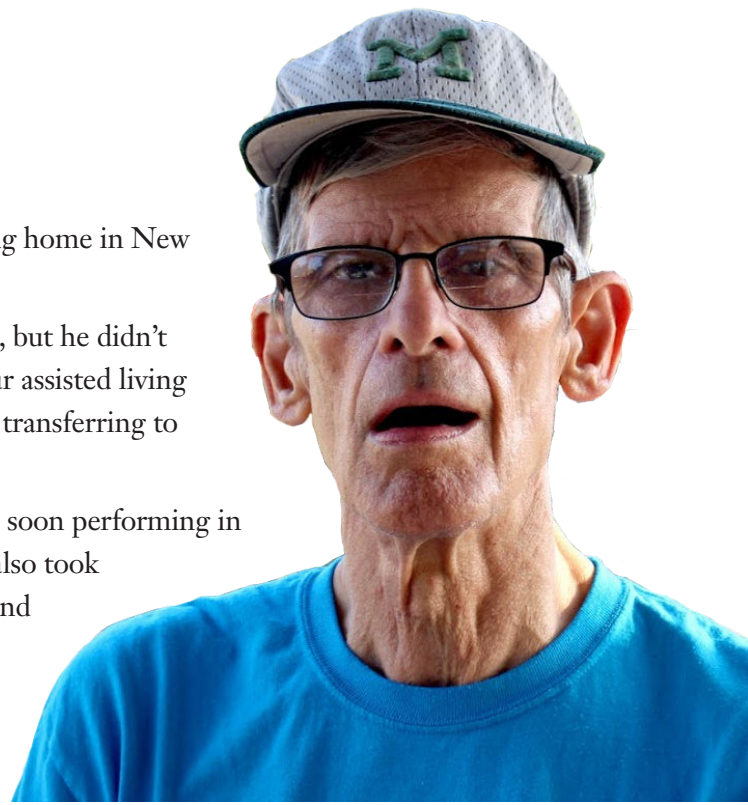
This issue is full of information and accounts about how achievement and independence are possible at Marbridge regardless of age or ability, and how you can continue supporting the amazing work that it takes to make it possible for each resident to achieve great feats.

Sincerely,

J. Mitchell Bell

Resident Success

Meet Matt



Matt joined Marbridge in 2005 after being evacuated from a nursing home in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina.

Matt was surrounded by a loving family that included him in everything, but he didn't have many friends or hobbies of his own. He moved into The Ranch, our assisted living community (with several other gentlemen closer to his age), rather than transferring to another nursing home.

Over the past 14 years, Matt joined the choir and drama groups and was soon performing in the Annual Christmas Program. The self-proclaimed "Cajun Cowboy" also took a great interest in the equestrian program where he learned to care for and ride the horses, and later joined the competitive equestrian team.

Now in his 70s, Matt continues competing on the Marbridge Special Olympics equestrian and golf teams.



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#AmplifyMarbridge

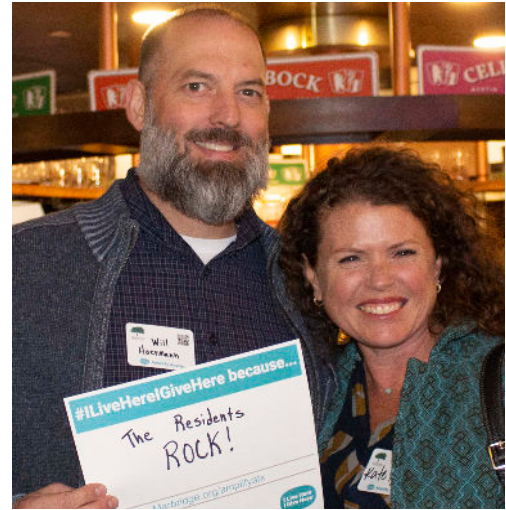
You raised \$65,892 to help adults with intellectual disabilities

We can't begin to thank everyone enough for helping to #AmplifyMarbridge during the 2019 Amplify Austin Day in March. Over the 24-hour period of giving, you helped raise **\$65,892!**

Because of you, Marbridge can provide a safe, loving environment for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities where they learn how to live happy and productive lives. The individuals that call Marbridge home enjoy a whole new life by making friends, learning new life skills, growing mentally, physically, and spiritually, and gaining a sense of belonging and community.

Marbridge will continue providing excellent care and services to these deserving men and women, thanks to your generous gift.

For the second year, our Emerging Leaders of Marbridge (ELM) group hosted a hugely successful Amplify Austin kick-off event. This year's party was hosted at Celis Brewery and food was partially donated by Tacos Santa Maria.

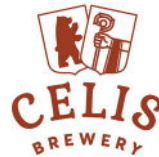


Above: Will Hoermann, Director of The Village
Below: Members of ELM



For more information on joining ELM, visit Marbridge.org, contact Haley Koop at 512.282.1144 or hkoop@marbridge.org.

Our Amplify Austin Kick-Off Party was sponsored by:



Dancing the Night Away

On March 29, Marbridge and St. Stephen's Episcopal School teamed up to throw residents a prom they won't soon forget. This year, Alexa and Ray won 'Best Dressed,' Laura and Cory won 'Best Dancers,' and Kevin won 'Most Marbridge Spirit.'

"The prom was great. I got lots of spirit from my friends," said Kevin, 'Most Marbridge Spirit' award winner.

When asked if he was excited for next year's prom, Kevin gave a smile and a big "oh yeah!"

Check out more prom photos at Marbridge.org/prom

Left: Kevin, Most Marbridge Spirit
Center: Ray and Alexa, Best Dressed
Right: Cory and Laura, Best Dancers



Camper's Dream Comes True

Thanks to My Home My Life

Many adults with cognitive or intellectual disabilities strive to become as independent as possible. Scott Bennett's son, Sam, is no exception. Sam is a young adult diagnosed with moderate Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Scott founded My Home My Life to help people like Sam and their families prepare to live as independently as possible in the housing community of their choice. This year that includes a week at Camp Marbridge.

Marbridge received an application from Jenna, a young woman with IDD, and her family to attend Camp Marbridge, but they had concerns about affording tuition for the week-long camp. After reviewing the application and speaking with the family, Marbridge felt that Jenna would benefit greatly from being at summer camp and recommended she be considered for a camp scholarship through My Home My Life.

"I just want to say bless your heart and thank you My Home My Life," said Jenna, age 27. "I cried when my mom told me I would be able to go to Camp Marbridge this summer."

Scott and his organization stepped forward and provided their first "CampShip" (or camp scholarship) to Jenna.

Marbridge anticipates a lasting partnership with the growing nonprofit and hopes other companies in the Greater Austin Area and beyond will follow their example and step forward to keep this momentum going.

Read the full press release at Marbridge.org/my-home-my-life



Above: Pictures from 2018 Camp Marbridge.
Stay tuned for photos from Jenna's camp experience

Check in Fall 2019 for 2020 Summer Camp Dates. Visit Marbridge.org/summercamp for more info.
To learn more about My Home My Life, visit MyHomeMyLife.org.



Trailblazers

How dedication to achievement changed the history of care

Sweet, joyful, inspiring, endearing, care-free, curious, and pure love; these are just a few of the adjectives used to describe Sarah, a resident at The Villa who is changing lives at Marbridge.

Sarah's story is one of continued triumph and achievement; it's a story of dedication and love; most importantly though, it's a story of breaking down walls and being a trailblazer.

"We made several decisions when we learned Sarah was profoundly disabled," said Robin, Sarah's mother. "One of these decisions was that the family would not revolve around Sarah and her disability, but that Sarah would be a loved and valued member of the family as we all are."

It was that decision and the desire to make her family feel valued that led Robin and crew on a search that eventually led to Marbridge.

"We have two other children, Gracie and Tommy. We did not want them to have to be primary caregivers for Sarah once we became unable to due to age, infirmity, or death," Robin continued. "We knew this would mean finding a residential facility for her. I did not want this to wait until we were unable to make the decisions."

When Robin and her family visited with Marbridge in February 2017, they expressed a desire for Sarah to be able to have physical activity, to get out of her chair and spend time on a mat crawling.

At the time, no program or training was available for someone like Sarah to gain that type of mobility with her level of special needs. The Villa team took this challenge head on and creatively went to work.

"I reached out to other long-term care facilities across the nation that specialize in the Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities population to see if they had similar programs, but no facility I spoke with offered such individualized approaches," said Wendy Worden, Director of Nursing. "After reviewing and considering state regulations on infection control, dignity, and quality of life, we decided that nothing could hold us back from implementing the program. Just because it was never done didn't mean we couldn't be the first."

It was that determination to get what was best for Sarah from both her family and Marbridge that led to an entirely new program being introduced.

"It took the restructuring of the Restorative Nursing Program to finally implement 'mat time,'" Wendy continued. "It took about two months and the collaboration of the therapy department, Minimum Data Set nurse, maintenance team, and the financial assistance of the Tapeat's Foundation to finally complete the process."



Above: Marbridge resident, Sarah and her supportive family



Top: Sarah during a mat session

Bottom: Sarah and Dalton Ruiz, Restorative Aide at Marbridge

Once the program was created and “mat time” was introduced, Sarah was able to move in and start her next step to achieving a whole new life at Marbridge with confidence.

With Sarah beginning her physical activity, families of other residents with similar disabilities started to hear about “mat time” and how well the program was going.

“Sarah is a very special addition to Marbridge,” says Nicole Klein, Rehab Director. “Because of her, we have been able to incorporate more residents into the program.”

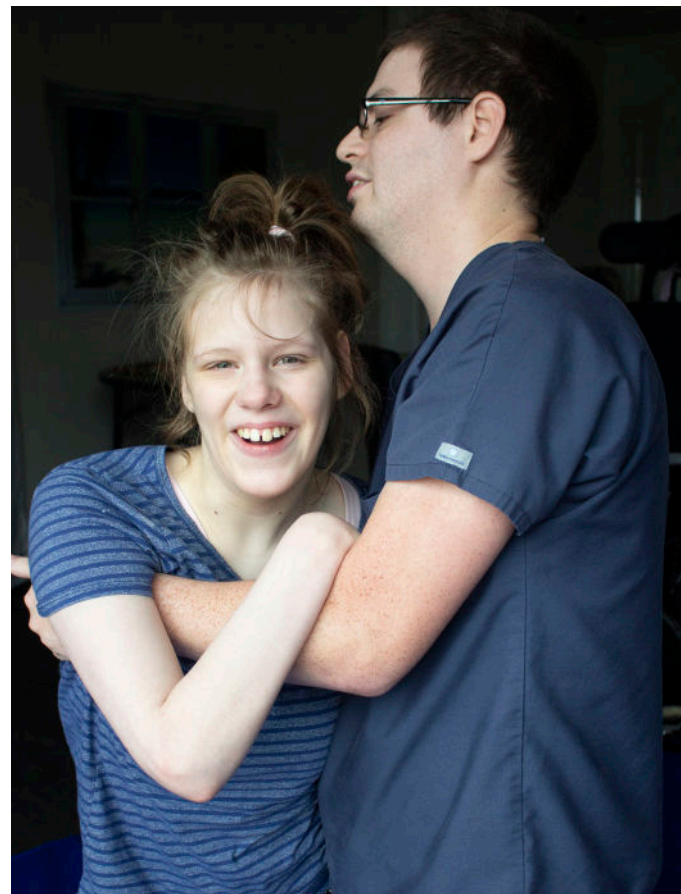
Today there are over a dozen residents that take advantage of “mat time.” The program continues to grow and other facilities similar to Marbridge have taken notice and reached out to ask for advice in helping their residents.

“I can remember the first time that we placed Sarah onto the mats,” Wendy reminisced. “Those of us who were involved during this process were all present and each of us, including Sarah, were smiling and many of us with tears in our eyes. That moment changed the history of care and helped each of us remember that we can always improve our residents’ lives.”

“Sarah is an example of what Marbridge is when we are at our best,” says Duncan Murray, Director of The Villa.

Thanks to one family’s request and a determination to fulfill it from The Villa staff, Marbridge can continue leading the way in advancements and provide a whole new life for all of our residents.

“Sarah is a very determined girl,” her mother said. “I believe she brings out the best in everyone she meets.”



Applications for The Villa community are being accepted. Contact our Admissions department for more information:

512.735.2704 // admissions@marbridge.org

Volunteers Honored During Annual Appreciation Event

“You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give,” reads a quote made famous by Winston Churchill, and a perfect summarization of our selfless volunteers at Marbridge.

Day in and day out, our volunteers at Marbridge run the gambit of kindness and offer up their time, skills, and heart to ensure our residents thrive. From one-on-one mentoring, group activities, and spending weekends away with sporting, our volunteers are truly unsung heroes, to staff and residents alike.

“The volunteers are a tremendous support system for Marbridge,” says Haley Koop, Volunteer Coordinator. “They enable greater opportunities to learn, experience, and achieve through their dedication, love, and commitment to those they serve.”

Each April, Marbridge hosts an evening to show our appreciation and recognize the amazing work our volunteers provide. Select volunteers are nominated and voted on by staff and recognized with awards for going above and beyond for those they help.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, and a big thank you to all of our sponsors, including Merryvale who graciously hosted this year’s event.

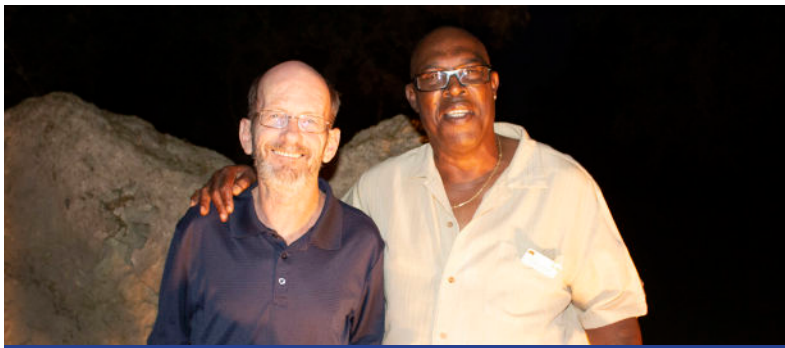
Special thanks to our sponsors:



Terri Manthia
Volunteer of the Year



Comfort Dog Ministry - Bethany Lutheran Church
Volunteer Group of the Year



Donald Elzie (above) & Sandy Smith (below)
Commitment Award



Monica and Jimmy Stewart (above) & Gary Shutze (below)
Bridges Award



Jim Dwyer (above) & Pat Roback (below)
Exceptional Mentor/Compassion Team Award



Frost Bank (above) & Gourmet Gals (below)
Distinguished Sponsors



If you're interested in volunteering, individually or with a group, contact Haley Koop, Volunteer Coordinator at hkoop@marbridge.org or visit Marbridge.org/volunteer.

Marbridge Brings National IDD Leaders Together

At the end of April, Marbridge hosted the 7th Annual CoAct Leadership Symposium, a national executive symposium to discuss best care practices, industry challenges, and build relationships to better care for individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Those in attendance were treated to an informative and motivating panel of speakers, including:

- Roger Crawford, best-selling author and inspiration speaker
- Elaine Hall, Founder and Artistic Director of the Miracle Project
- Linda Beeman, Founder and President of Aurora Grants and Consulting
- Peter Leidy, consultant and motivational speaker
- Melissa Harris, Senior Policy Advisor for Disabled and Elderly Health Programs, CMS
- Geana Connelly and Ashley Kim, Together For Choice

“This year’s Symposium was highlighted by a fantastic mix of speakers that ran the gauntlet of information and motivation,” said Scott McAvoy, Executive Vice President. “I’m looking forward to our next Symposium and continuing to collaborate with some of the leaders in our industry.”

Our next CoAct Leadership Symposium will be held in the spring of 2021. Sponsorships are offered at a discounted rate through September 1. Email Becca McPherson, Vice President of Development, at bmcpherson@marbridge.org if you would like to be a sponsor. Sign up before September 1, 2019 to receive discounted rates.



Above L to R: Marbridge CEO James Stacey, Elaine Hall, Roger Crawford, VP of Development Becca McPherson, Executive Vice President Scott McAvoy
Below: Marbridge Senior Management Team with Linda Beeman



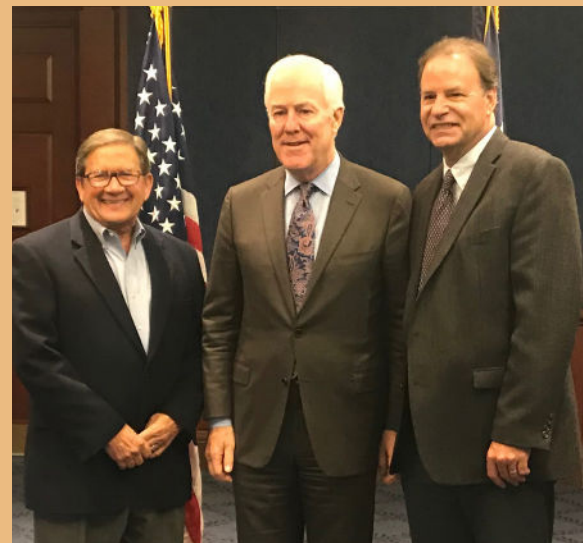
Marbridge Advocates In Washington, D.C.

In late March, James Stacey, CEO, and Scott McAvoy, Executive Vice President, visited Washington, D.C. to speak to several Texas delegates about the “Settings Rule.”

A special edition of LifeLines, Marbridge’s monthly e-newsletter, will be sent in June to cover their trip and how you can get involved.

Sign up for our LifeLines e-newsletter today to ensure you get this special edition with an extensive recap of their trip.

Visit Marbridge.org/lifelines to sign up.



Residents Cut the Ribbon to Officially Open The Lodges

Marbridge Foundation held a ribbon cutting ceremony for The Lodges at The Ranch on February 22nd. The Lodges add 35,000 square feet of living space to the existing Ranch assisted living community.

Residents of The Ranch, their loved ones, Marbridge staff, and members of the community were in attendance with several residents helping cut the ribbon. The opening of The Lodges, which includes The Tuite Enrichment Center, made more than a few residents incredibly happy.

“I’ve heard nothing but good things from several of the residents that have transitioned into The Lodges,” said Becca McPherson, Vice President of Development. “The more home-like environment and larger bedrooms offer comforts similar to family homes making the transition to Marbridge a more seamless process.”

The opening of The Lodges was made possible after Marbridge raised \$7.4 million in construction funding, starting in 2015. In 2018 an additional \$150,000 was raised to “Stock the Lodges,” a campaign still underway today to help provide outdoor furniture, window coverings, landscaping, medical equipment, and more.

“We had an incredible response from our Marbridge community to ‘Stock the Lodges,’” Becca continued. “Within weeks, we had almost everything on our list from furniture to raised patio gardens to TVs, but there are a few items we still need.”



Bottom left: Ellen, a resident of The Lodges, helps with the ribbon cutting.
Middle right: Guests attending from Pharmacy Alternatives
Bottom right: Guests enjoying lunch at The Lodges.

Those interested in helping Stock the Lodges can visit Marbridge.org/stock-the-lodges.

You can purchase items on the list of needs or give a monetary donation.

Applications for The Ranch community are being accepted. Contact our Admissions department for more information: 512.735.2704 // admissions@marbridge.org



Onward and Upward:

Marbridge Equestrian Team continues season success in anticipation of the Creed Ford III Therapeutic Riding Ranch

Marbridge Foundation announced a \$3m Capital Campaign to build the Creed Ford III Therapeutic Riding Ranch. The new riding center will be built in honor of the late Creed Ford III, a proud supporter of Marbridge and the equestrian program.

Though \$800,000 has already been raised, the new riding center is still in its early fundraising stage. The equestrian team continues to grow in number of residents participating and accolades received.

“I’m amazed at how far our riders have come and how their overall horsemanship skills continue to jump leaps and bounds,” said Shonda Corn, Equine Coordinator and team coach. “Each success, win, or them just giving it their all brings so much joy and makes my heart smile.”

Spring has proven to be an incredibly successful season already for the Marbridge Longhorns Equestrian Team. In March the team competed in the 10th Annual Gold Stirrup Horse

Show, where they took Top Club, and at the Special Olympics Regional Competition where they placed 6th or higher in each category.

The successes will only continue to grow with the addition of the Creed Ford III Therapeutic Riding Ranch. It will allow for more residents to join the equestrian therapy program and for those already in the program to practice in all weather conditions.

“Having a new riding center will give us the opportunity to offer more classes and serve more Marbridge residents,” Shonda continued. “It will provide our riders and horses better footing, a more comfortable ride, and give us the ability to train and teach year round.”

The new riding center will carry on the spirit of longtime Marbridge friend, Creed Ford III.

“I can’t tell you how many times Creed said, ‘we are going to make this happen,’ when talking about building the new facility,” said Jana Kay, Director of Training and Education.

“He knew how much the horses had touched the lives of the residents and wanted more residents and people in the community to have the same opportunity.”

Courtney shows off her silver medal from the 10th Annual Gold Stirrup Horse Show



**View the new video
and donate online at
Marbridge.org/equine**



Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position Fiscal Year 2018*

Assets	FY 2017	FY 2018
Current Assets	\$ 5,234,905	\$ 3,244,461
Long-Term Investments	\$ 5,415,792	\$ 7,686,666
Property & Equipment	\$ 11,519,209	\$ 14,692,213
Other Assets	\$ 2,048,331	\$ 1,231,227
Total Assets	\$ 24,218,237	\$ 26,854,567

Liabilities	FY 2017	FY 2018
Current Liabilities	\$ 1,359,709	\$ 1,983,373
Deferred Income - Lifetime Care	\$ 44,725	\$ 43,567
Long-Term Debt	\$ 249,745	\$ 213,905
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,654,179	\$ 2,240,845

Net Assets	FY 2017	FY 2018
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 18,100,778	\$ 20,243,651
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 2,471,113	\$ 2,377,904
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$ 1,992,167	\$ 1,992,167
Total Net Assets	\$ 22,564,058	\$ 24,613,722

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 24,218,237	\$ 26,854,567
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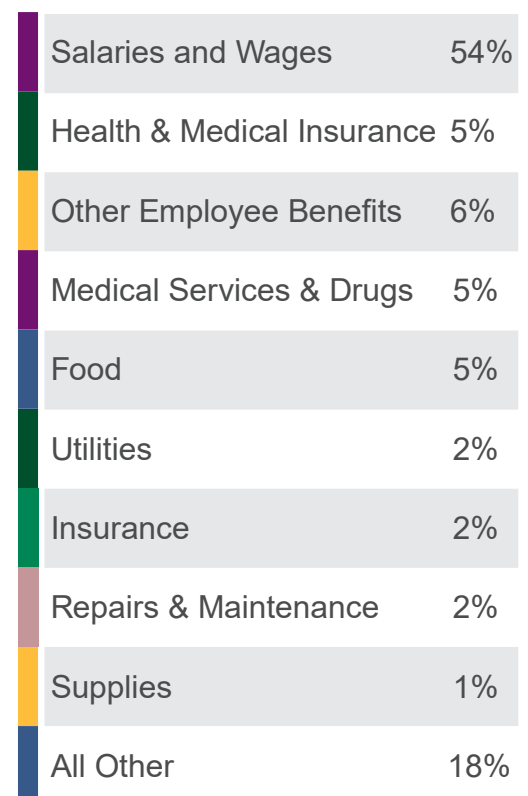
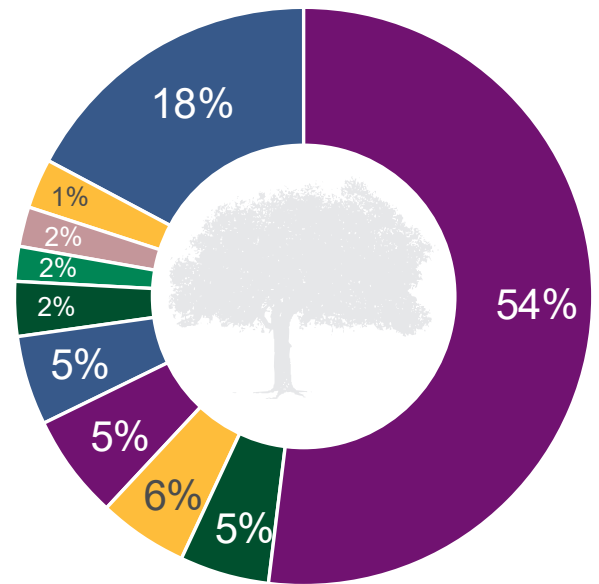
Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Sources of Revenue	FY 2017	FY 2018
Tuition & Fees	\$ 12,521,511	\$ 12,638,671
Contributions	\$ 3,067,025	\$ 4,000,640
Other	\$ 3,844,217	\$ 589,374
Total Income	\$ 19,432,753	\$ 17,228,685

Expenses	FY 2017	FY 2018
Program Services	\$ 12,002,940	\$ 12,252,994
Management & General	\$ 2,562,130	\$ 2,463,853
Fund Raising	\$ 399,777	\$ 462,174
Total Expenses	\$ 14,964,847	\$ 15,179,021

Change in Net Assets	\$ 4,467,906	\$ 2,049,664
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Major Operational Expenses Fiscal Year 2018*

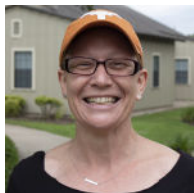


*Fiscal year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Premier Employees

The Marbridge Premier Employee Program has recognized over 185 employees whose excellent work ethic and positive personal character traits make them shining examples of Marbridge staff. Premier Employee awards are presented twice per year. Employees are nominated by their supervisors and receive a certificate of commendation and time-off pass redeemable for eight hours off with pay.

“We are extremely proud of our Premier Employees and commend them once again for the invaluable contributions they make to the lives of our residents,” said Scott McAvoy, Executive Vice President.



Kelly Campbell
Dietary Supervisor, The Village

Energetic // Involved // Committed

Kelly joined the Marbridge staff as the Dietary Supervisor and does her job with an infectious energy that help the residents start their days off with positivity and optimism. Her dedication shows as she takes the time to speak with residents individually and helps them decide on meals that provide a healthier option.

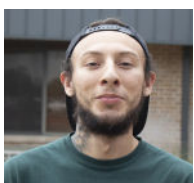
Since Kelly has become the Dietary Supervisor, The Village has reduced salt and sugar usage significantly and has been focused on providing healthier foods for the community.



Sophia Gaitan
Housekeeper, The Villa

Dependable // Thorough // Cooperative

Sophia started her career at Marbridge as a Housekeeper in The Villa. During her time at The Villa, Sophia constantly strove to do her best work and rarely missed a day. She was also extremely helpful with training new employees and consistently promotes a healthy and safe work environment for staff and residents. Sophia recently moved into a Resident Trainer position at The Village.



AJ Gomez
CNA, The Villa

Committed // Hard-Working // Energetic

AJ is a hard-working CNA at The Villa who never leaves a job half done. He's committed to doing his best and it is reflected by his work and the way the residents respond to him. Though sometimes quiet, AJ has a great sense of humor and likes to interact with the residents, making them smile and laugh. He's known as someone who can always be counted on by the entire staff, especially his nurses.



Jose Guerra-Vega
CMA, The Villa

Dedicated // Dependable // Helpful

Jose is a team player for The Villa in every way. He is one of the most dedicated Medical Aides and has been known to offer help if the team needs a last-minute fill in for a CMA. Jose is dedicated to providing the best delivery of medications to our residents and is patient and understanding of those who need more time or special ways to motivate them to take their medication. He's a true asset to The Villa team and is always there when you need him.



Elaine Martinez
Resident Trainer, The Ranch

Patient // Nurturing // Compassionate

Patient, nurturing, compassionate, reliable, and cheerful are just some of the words that come to mind when talking about Elaine, a Resident Trainer with The Ranch. Elaine walks in each day with a smile on her face and is happy to see both her co-workers and our residents. She's very supportive of her co-workers and sets a great example of what is expected as a Resident Trainer with her dedication, productivity, reliability, and joyful personality.



Maribel Reyna

Housekeeping Supervisor, The Ranch

Dedicated // Hard-Working // Friendly

In her short time at Marbridge, Maribel has earned a reputation as an employee who takes pride in her work and does so with a smile on her face. As the Housekeeping Supervisor, Maribel takes the initiative to introduce new ways to help make things better for both her co-workers and our residents. She's truly a hard-working member of the Marbridge team and epitomizes the definition of productive.



Heidi Juan Rojas

Housekeeper, The Ranch

Dependable // Hard-Working // Friendly

It's extremely important to have reliable, hard-working people at Marbridge, no matter their position, and Heidi is one of those people. Not only does she do everything possible to ensure The Ranch is clean, but she does it in a friendly and loving manner. Her smile lights up a room and brightens the day for both her co-workers and residents. No job is too big for Heidi and she has truly made a positive impact in her time at Marbridge.



Kylie Rush

Communications and Marketing Coordinator, Headquarters

Intuitive // Creative // Compassionate

Kylie joined the Marbridge team less than a year ago as the Marketing and Communications Coordinator. She embraced the position with a passion and understanding that few could have immediately come in with. Kylie has helped step up all of our marketing and communication materials, partners well with other departments, and provides innovative resources to everyone. Those skills and traits led her to her new position as the Director of Development.



Sheryl Shannon

Administrative Assistant, The Village

Resourceful // Hard-Working // Calm

Sheryl is known as extremely resourceful in her position as the Administrative Assistant at The Village. It's that resourcefulness that has helped in scheduling resident outings, appointments, and their ever-changing work schedules. She never hesitates to fill in where needed and support the team in any area. As the initial point of contact for our Village residents, Sheryl consistently shows a cool and calm demeanor, helping all feel welcome and comfortable.



Tiffany Smith

Resident Trainer, The Ranch

Calm // Empathetic // Patient

In being in the business of people, you have to possess the soft skills to connect, especially in our community, and that's exactly what Tiffany has as a Resident Trainer at The Ranch. Tiffany meets our residents' needs in a calm and gentle manner, and she has a tendency to gravitate towards those who often present bigger challenges. She follows the Marbridge core values to ensure that all are safe, happy, and well taken care of by being such a patient person.



Dora Vasquez

CMA, The Villa

Conscientious // Flexible // Problem Solver

Dora has an eye for detail, a trait crucial as a CMA at The Villa. She's a role model for excellence as a Medical Aide and is extremely flexible when the team needs her most. Dora has learned the habits, likes, and dislikes of our residents and caters to whatever it takes to get them to take their medication. She never shies away from an issue and presents ideas and solutions that work for everyone.



Kristie Zavala

CNA, The Villa

Thoughtful // Respectful // Compassionate

For someone small in stature, Kristie is known to have the biggest heart of all as a CNA at The Villa. She's respectful of our residents and in the way she cares for them. Kristie knows how to make each resident's day better and brings joy by not rushing through and leaving before the job is done. She's truly dedicated to seeing that every aspect of resident's needs are met and that their interactions are comforting and fulfilling.



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Marbridge Foundation

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Marbridge.org

Marbridge is a non-profit residential community that offers transitional and lifetime care to adults with a wide range of cognitive abilities and — through compassion and faith — provides them opportunities to learn, experience, and achieve a whole new life.



IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions

Did you know charitable gifts may be directly distributed to Marbridge from a traditional Individual Retirement Account (IRA) without incurring federal income taxes? Make your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) or other distribution today to help our residents achieve *a whole new life*.

For more information about IRA Charitable Distributions and other planned giving options, please contact Becca McPherson at 512.735.2716 or bmcperson@marbridge.org.

Always consult your financial advisor.

Upcoming Dates

Summer Semester Begins	May 28
Founder's Day	May 31
Fundraising Dinner	June 6
4th of July Break	July 4-7
Summer Break	August 19 - September 2
Fall Semester Begins	September 3