



**MY NAME IS RHEEL**  
**A Happy Life**

Gateways began as a group of concerned citizens seeking better life opportunities for their family members with disabilities. At that time, New Hampshire was still actively enrolling and boarding people with disabilities at Laconia State School; the state institution where people with developmental disabilities were kept in isolation from the community. Some spent a lifetime locked away in Laconia before the facility was permanently closed in 1991.

Rheel always has a smile and greeting for everyone he meets! Rheel, now 82 years old, went to live at Laconia State school when he was five. Rheel says he lived most of the time in the Felker building where there were 100 people on his floor. The smile leaves his face when he speaks about the living conditions. He asks, "have you seen - Lost in Laconia?". The documentary is something all new staff at Gateways watch as part of orientation. It describes deplorable living conditions of people living in total isolation and segregation from society.

Rheel left Laconia State School and returned to Nashua in the 1970's. He worked at Doehla's Greeting Cards and as a dishwasher at the Nashua Country Club and Greenridge Turkey Farm. Now retired, Rheel shares an apartment with a roommate and their cat "Rusty". He enjoys trips to the Nashua Airport to watch the planes and is a New England Patriots fan.

Rheel is happy to share his feelings about his Service Coordinator at Gateways, Christie-Dawn Farrah, (pictured above) who has worked with him for the past three years. He recently wrote in to say, "She does all the various things I need done" and "She visits with me and listens to what I have to say".

Memories of institutionalized living are never far from his mind. "I'm so glad they shut down the Laconia State School", he says.

**OUR NAMES ARE JOSEPH AND ANDREW**

**We Medaled In Special Olympics**

We competed in track and field events at the State of NH summer meet. We are on the Autism spectrum and also have a connective tissue disorder which makes regular sports participation too painful and physically unsafe. Opportunities to participate with peers and those who understand that "different" is never synonymous with "less-than" is something our family is so very grateful for, to both Special Olympics and Gateways!



**MY NAME IS JENNIFER**

**I Am Thriving In My Providers Home**

I live with the most amazing family, the Ghale's. They aren't just home providers. They are our best friends and our family members. They go above and beyond for us every single day. Because of the stability they provide, I was able to work on myself. My improvements have been in all life domains. I've learned how to regulate my emotions better, ask for help when I need it, become more independent with tasks I have the ability to do. My ability to walk has increased dramatically! When we first met, I relied on my walker 100% of the time. Now I am without it 99.9% of the time while in the house, and 75% of the time outside the house.



**MY NAME IS ELLA**

**Best Buds**

I was diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) a little after my first birthday. My service dog, Leia, has helped me become more independent and not rely so much on adult help. Leia is able to pick up items I drop or are out of reach. Leia also gets adult help when I need it and brings the adults to me. She helps me get my shoes and leg braces in the morning and puts them away at the end of the day as well as puts my dirty laundry in the hamper. When we go to Boston Children's Hospital for procedures and other appointments I find uncomfortable and painful, Leia is there to support and comfort me.



**MY NAME IS JACOB**

**I Have New Friends**

Our son Jacob has Down syndrome and has been fascinated with baseball since he was a toddler. Thanks to Gateways, we found Challenger League baseball. This league has introduced Jacob and the entire family to new friends that we would have never met otherwise. As a family with a special-needs child, it is easy to feel isolated. Sports like many other activities can feel out of reach. We are extremely grateful for the opportunities that Challenger League baseball has given to Jacob and we strongly encourage anyone interested to try it out.



Imagine the Possibilities

**Annual Report**  
**2021-2022**



*"Hands-down, Gateways is the Best."*

There is a painting a client made for Gateways Community Services that hangs in the hallway of our Canal Street office. It is an abstract piece of art that states the "above quote".

I walk by this piece of art every day as do many other Gateways employees, and it inspires us. As we look to the future, we get excited about the new possibilities.

We plan to support more individuals in need at the Gateways Autism Center, Early Support and Services, Gateway Adult Day Program for elders, Family Support and Gateways for Seniors. We are working on new opportunities for workforce development, career development and leadership in the field for our employees. We are considering new housing opportunities for the individuals we serve who need residential support. We continue to expand some of our best practices in service coordination, clinical support, in-home support and our participant driven services to an expanded group and geography. We know that there is a future opportunity for the good work that we do in New Hampshire.

*Sandy Pelletier*

President and CEO  
Gateways Community Services

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## In FY22

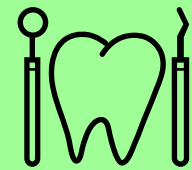


2,598

Nutritious meals and snacks were distributed at the Adult Day Center

501

Children received Early Supports and Services



78

People received critical dental care

141

New Staff Hired



A Look Ahead As We Plan For A Bright Future

*Save the Date*

October 19, 2023

For our annual fundraiser at Sky Meadow Country Club!

Follow us on Gateways social media platforms and watch beautiful client stories unfold all year.



gatewayscs.org



@GatewaysCommunityServices



gateways\_community\_services

## How You Can Help:



Make A Donation



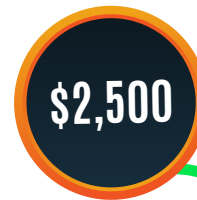
Become a Recurring Donor



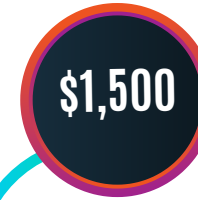
Attend a Legislative Coffee



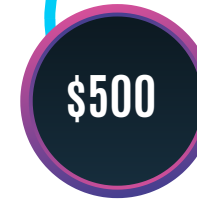
Join Our Fundraising Event Committee



Supports the Dollars for Dental Program, helping low-income adults with developmental disabilities receive quality, compassionate, accessible dental care



Provides a fun, specialized medical camp experience for a week for a child in the Partners In Health Program



Supports the gift of music therapy which can decrease stress and strengthen memory of our Adult Day Program participants

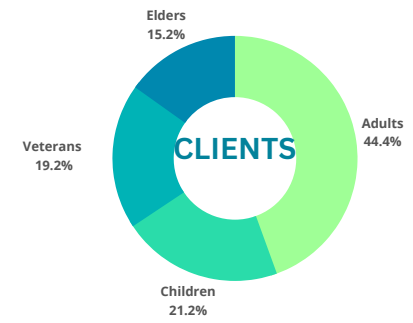


Helps a family with gas, parking and meals when attending medical treatments in Boston

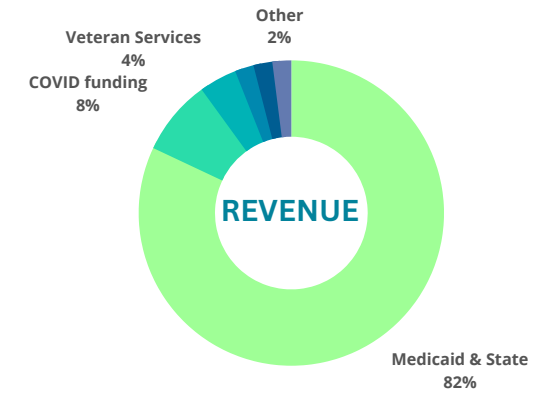


Provides a supply of arts and crafts materials for the children at the Gateways Autism Center

To donate contact Ruth Morrisette  
 Director of Development  
 rmorrisette@gatewayscs.org  
 (603) 459-2744



TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS  
2,888



**Medicaid & State Funding - 82%**

\$53,919,553

**COVID-19 Funding - 8%**

\$5,491,707

**Veteran Services - 4%**

\$2,434,165

**Commercial Insurance - 2%**

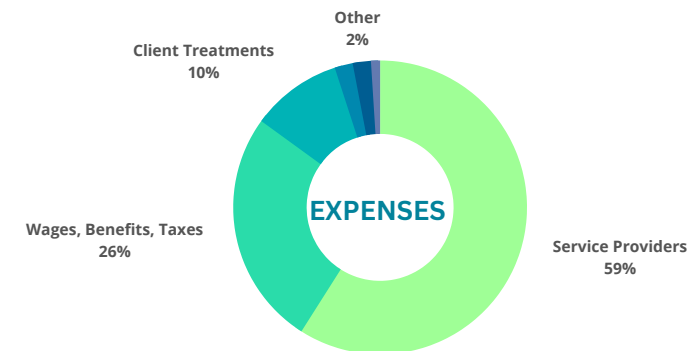
\$1,043,664

**Contributions - 2%**

\$1,078,664

**Other - 2%**

\$1,597,024



**Service Provider Payments - 59%**

\$38,115,176

**Wages, Benefits, Taxes - 26%**

\$16,410,227

**Client Treatment Services - 10%**

\$6,256,143

**Professional Fees - 2%**

\$1,495,634

**Other - 2%**

\$1,205,038

**Occupancy - 1%**

\$623,908