

Living  Learning  
Enrichment Center

# 2022 *Gratitude* REPORT

Celebrating Our Community's Generosity and Impact



# A Message of *Gratitude*



**Rachelle Vartanian**  
Founder and President  
Living and Learning  
Enrichment Center



**Pam Travis**  
Executive Director  
Living and Learning  
Enrichment Center

Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am reaching out to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you who have supported Living and Learning Enrichment Center. Your commitment and generosity are the driving forces behind the meaningful change we are creating together.

Our mission arose from a pressing need to address a glaring gap in services and support for individuals seeking a life of dignity, meaning, and purpose. Living and Learning is more than just a nonprofit; we are a community and a source of hope, dedicated to creating an inclusive environment where everyone's unique needs are met, and their individuality is celebrated.

I have seen firsthand the significant impact that acceptance and a sense of belonging have had on our members, including my son. Observing their progress and witnessing the formation of friendships and support networks have been truly inspiring and motivate us to push forward in our efforts.

Our goal is clear: to build a world where everyone can live independently and be accepted for who they are. Achieving this vision requires the relentless effort and dedication of our exceptional team, and the support of each individual who believes in our cause. For this, I offer my deepest thanks.

.....  
**Let's continue to work together, bringing about real and lasting change and stepping confidently towards a future filled with hope and opportunity.**  
.....

I am profoundly grateful for your support, your time, and your belief in our mission.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rachelle Vartanian".

Rachelle Vartanian  
Founder and President  
Living and Learning Enrichment Center





Dear Friends, Supporters, and Members,

It is with immense gratitude and joy that I get to share with you the strides and successes we've achieved together in 2022. Your unwavering support has enabled us to create more opportunities and bring transformative experiences to our members.

In 2022, we had the privilege of serving individuals ranging from ages 11 to senior citizens, coming from 9 different counties and 72 cities. This wide-reaching impact has been made possible by the dedication and kindness of more than 400 volunteers who selflessly donated their time, energy, and talents.

Our organization has grown to be 103 team members strong, each contributing their unique skills and passion to our collective mission. Their commitment and hard work have been instrumental in helping 70 of our members secure long-term employment positions, with 5 members celebrating more than 4 years at their jobs.

We've experienced remarkable growth in our vocational training program, establishing over 70 job sites across 14 cities, a staggering 150% increase. This expansion has allowed us to provide more diverse and enriching opportunities for our members, enabling them to explore and develop their talents and skills.

I am also thrilled to share that 12 individuals graduated from the Exceptional Academy this year, with 9 actively contributing to their chosen fields. It is heartwarming to witness the success and professional growth of our members, knowing the journey they've undertaken to reach this point.

Every milestone reached, every obstacle overcome, resonates as a testament to the incredible collective effort of our team, volunteers, and supporters like you. Our mission to bring about meaningful change and foster a supportive, inclusive environment continues to be our driving force, and every day, we see the positive impacts of our work.

As we move forward, our commitment remains steadfast. We are devoted to enriching the lives of our members, encouraging their growth, and expanding our reach to ensure more individuals can benefit from our programs.

.....  
Thank you for your continued support, your belief in our mission, and your contribution to creating a more inclusive and caring world. Together, we are making a difference, one person at a time.  
.....

With heartfelt appreciation,



Pam Travis  
Executive Director  
Living and Learning Enrichment Center





Our mission is to enhance the lives of our participants with disabilities. Through therapeutic, social, work-based, and community engagement, we seek to support, enrich, inspire, and embolden our participants and their families so they can achieve their goals.



# Empowering Lives

## A Year in Review

Welcome to a snapshot of the transformative journey and milestones achieved at Living and Learning Enrichment Center in 2022. Through collective effort, compassion, and unwavering commitment, we've reached new heights in fostering inclusion and enriching the lives of individuals from diverse backgrounds and needs. Explore the impactful statistics below that illustrate our dedication to creating a world where everyone finds acceptance, support, and opportunity to thrive.

### Service Demographic

AGE RANGE

 **11** to Senior Citizens

REGIONS SERVED

 **9** Counties **72** Cities

### Volunteer and Team Contribution

VOLUNTEERS

 Over **400** contributing time, energy, and talents

TEAM MEMBERS

 **103** strong

### Employment and Vocational Training

LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT PLACEMENTS

 **70** Members

JOB SITES

 Over **70** across **14** cities

PROGRAM GROWTH

**150%** Increase in vocational training program sites

### Member Milestones

JOB SUSTAINABILITY

 **5** Members at their jobs for **4+** years

EXCEPTIONAL ACADEMY GRADUATES

 **12** with **9** actively working in their fields



# Beneficiary Spotlight: *Chris*

## Chris's Journey of Growth and Empowerment



At MOD Market, we witness the transformative journey of our trainees every day, fostering progress and celebrating each success, no matter how small. We strive to meet our trainees where they are, pushing them to reach new heights and experience the fulfillment that comes with overcoming challenges.

Chris's story is one of my favorites, emblematic of resilience and growth. When Chris came to us, he was frustrated with the lack of meaningful opportunities provided to him due to his disability. He wanted respect, meaningful assignments, and adult treatment—he knew he could succeed, and so did we.

Throughout his training, Chris embraced challenges and developed a newfound respect for the process and social growth. He evolved, introducing himself to peers, inquiring socially, and exploring various interaction platforms provided by Living and Learning. Chris learned the value of focus, clarity, and organization at work, leveraging checklists to structure his tasks and feel a sense of accomplishment.

Chris's journey at MOD Market wasn't just about learning; it was about translating these skills to achieve his goals. He visualized his learnings from MOD Market in his desired role as a grocery bagger and aimed higher – aspiring to be a cashier and even a department manager someday.

Chris's dream extends beyond professional aspirations; he desires to get married and support a family, recognizing the crucial role of employment in achieving this dream. I feel privileged to know Chris and to play a role in his journey. He continues to volunteer with us, keeping his skills sharp and maintaining the bond we've built. I foresee a longstanding connection with Chris and am excited to witness all his future accomplishments.

Our time with Chris exemplifies the transformative impact of supportive, meaningful engagement, and reinforces our commitment to empowering every individual who walks through our doors. Chris's progress is a testament to the power of belief, effort, and the right opportunities. We are more motivated than ever to foster growth, impact lives, and celebrate every victory along the way.





Living & Learning presents...

# MOOD market

every Purchase  
— SUPPORTS —  
for employment training  
programs for teens  
and adults with  
autism and/or  
developmental disabilities

Menu  
♡ Brownies \$2.<sup>00</sup>  
♡ Ch... 25  
♡ ... 50

be kind



# Beneficiary Spotlight: Jon

## Jon's Journey through the Exceptional Academy

From his early days working tirelessly as a dishwasher in a local restaurant, Jon's journey has been nothing short of transformative. Challenges associated with cognitive disabilities led to an unfulfilled academic journey—a narrative too common among adults like Jon. Recognizing his potential, we encouraged him to join the Exceptional Academy, setting the stage for a remarkable transformation.

In our class, Jon's brilliance shone through, marking him as an exceptional student right from the start. However, it wasn't without its challenges. Jon needed guidance navigating certain behavioral matters, including discussing sensitive topics like politics and gender matters inappropriately during class sessions. With dedication and a willingness to learn, Jon showed remarkable improvement, embracing the Academy's atmosphere of respect and inclusivity.

Jon's journey through the Academy was marked by continuous growth and development, culminating in him finishing as one of the top students in his class. His transformation was evident during our graduation ceremony, where he took the initiative to introduce himself to a visiting HR VP from Comerica. His proactive approach left a lasting impression, with the HR VP later expressing a keen interest in bringing Jon onto the Comerica team.

It was Jon's internship at partner Comerica Bank that set the stage for his next big break. Demonstrating his newfound skills and confidence, Jon secured a full-time position as a Network Engineer on their Network Security Operations team.



The impact of the Exceptional Academy on Jon and his family has been profound. Jon's own words capture the essence of this transformation: "Exceptional Academy has turned me from a professional redneck to a professional straight-up. I make an awesome living in a career only possible with connections made through David Franco and the Exceptional Academy. Thank you for making such a difference!"

His mother, Maria Mularoni, echoes these sentiments, sharing her gratitude and highlighting the pivotal role of the Academy in Jon's life: "The Exceptional Academy has changed Jon's life for the better by providing him the training and skills to build a career in cybersecurity. It has given him confidence and connections that have helped him start building a career at Comerica. Thank you for your support of Jon!"

Jon's story is a testament to the transformative power of the Exceptional Academy, demonstrating that with the right support, guidance, and opportunities, individuals with cognitive disabilities can overcome barriers and unlock their full potential.





# Financial Overview

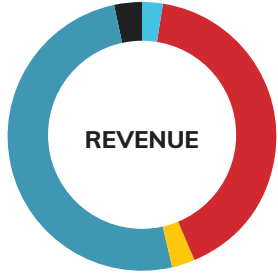
ASSETS	
Cash – non-interest-bearing	842,966
Pledges and grants receivable, net	83,990
Account receivable, net	269,172
Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis	4,200,493
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>5,396,621</b>

LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	218,548
Loans and other payables	750,000
Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties	2,294,082
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,262,630</b>

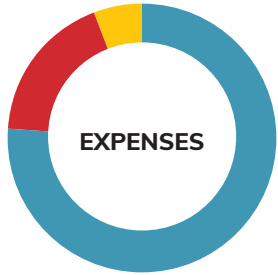
NET ASSETS OR FUND BALANCES	
Net assets without donor restrictions	1,344,307
Net assets with donor restrictions	789,684
<b>Total net assets or fund balances</b>	<b>2,133,991</b>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances</b>	<b>5,396,621</b>

REVENUE	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	
Fundraising Events	109,708
Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	1,740,223
Non-cash contributions	110,025
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,849,931</b>
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>	
Program Income	2,127,989
Events	135,097
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,263,086</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>4,113,017</b>

EXPENSES	
Program expenses	2,499,986
Management and general expenses	585,647
Fundraising expenses	190,069
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>3,275,702</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>875,850</b>



- Fundraising Events
- Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts
- Non-cash contributions
- Program Income
- Events



- Program expenses
- Management and general expenses
- Fundraising expenses

Living and Learning Enrichment Center's vision is to become the nation's model in supporting the highest quality of life for people with disabilities and their families.





# Thank You to Our Donors

## Cumulative Giving as of 12/31/2022

**Loving Mentor**  
(\$250,000 – \$499,999)  
Manat Foundation

**Heartfelt Friend**  
(\$100,000 – \$249,999)  
C. Robert & Sara Maxfield  
Diane & David Wallen  
Charitable Fund

**Empowering Guardian**  
(\$50,000 – \$99,999)  
United Way For  
Southeastern Michigan  
Masco Corporation  
State of Michigan

**Supportive Partner**  
(\$24,000 – \$49,999)  
The Children's Foundation  
Marcia Brady Tucker Foundation  
Moscone Family Foundation

**Compassionate Ally**  
(\$10,000 – \$24,999)  
Therese Marie Cooper  
Anonymous  
First Presbyterian Church  
Local Impact Alliance For  
Eagles For Children, Inc  
David Provost  
Ford Motor Company  
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Patio Plus Outdoor Furniture  
Paula & Marks Angel Fund  
Plante Moran  
Pulte Family Charitable  
Foundation  
Pulte Homes of Michigan  
Rehmann Robson LLC  
Sergei Fedorov Foundation  
Shaw Family Foundation  
Roger Steed  
Wendell and Doris  
Rogers Foundation

**Community Advocate**  
(\$100 – \$9,999)  
Gary Abundis  
Lisa Abundis  
Dan Adamcheck  
Anis Ahmed  
Judith Alessandri  
Gina Allie  
Margaret Allison  
Suzette Almas  
Alpha Delta Kappa  
Beta Theta Chapter  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
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APEX Physical Therapy  
Jose Aponte  
Aramark  
Anthony Arini  
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Kimberley Arnal  
Eric Arnold  
Victoria Arroyo  
Maria Arslanian  
Demitrios Athanasiou  
Doris Atkinson  
Autism Homes Support Services  
John Avdoulos  
Edwin Bachman  
Gary Bailey  
The Bains Dircks Foundation  
Derek & Christina Bair  
John Baker  
Laurence Baker  
Nora Baker  
Deanna Bakker  
Robert Ball  
Steve & Mary Jo Bandy  
Bank of Ann Arbor  
Emerick Barich  
Kim Bartol  
Baseline Community Impact  
David Bashur  
Jamie Bates  
BB&E, Inc  
Sandra Beagan  
Sharon Beard

Matthew Beaudry  
Bruce Beck  
Kenneth Beesley  
Leah Behta  
Geraldine Bellaire  
Jacob Berkowitz  
Elsie Berry  
Keith Berry  
Claire Biafore  
Bidigare Contractors, Inc  
Bill Brown Ford, Inc  
Karen Bishop  
Mary Beth Bisinger  
Blackwell Ford  
Barbara Blain  
Derek Blair  
Katie Blaskay  
The Block Foundation  
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Devan Boggs  
Greg Boggs  
Amber Boothby  
Jeffrey Borneman  
James Bosscher  
Cheryl Bowker  
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Harold James Boyes  
Charles Bradley  
Jason Brassfield  
Linda Breen  
Lindsay Bresnahan  
Kristen Bros  
Julie Brown  
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Margene Buckhave  
Cheryl Buckley  
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Erika Burke  
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James Burke  
Lawrence Burnley

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Canton Firefighters #2289  
Linda Canzano  
Francis Carfagno  
Charnita Carr  
Anna Carroll  
Dawn Carson  
Rebecca Carver  
Darcie Cashwell  
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Natalie Charach  
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Michele Coffey  
Dr. & Mrs. Joel Cohen  
Kelli Colvin  
Lauren Colwell  
Mary Comar  
Comerica Bank  
Community Financial  
Credit Union – Plymouth  
Madeline Cooper  
Melissa Cooper  
Ryan Cooper  
Stephen Cooper  
Lori Costew  
Michelle Costley  
Stephanie Crane  
Maryanne Cranford  
Jack Crawford  
Chris & Marie Cregar  
Richard Crosby  
Crossroads Presbyterian Church  
Chris Cupolo  
John & Janice Czarnecki  
Mike & Sharon Czekala  
Ron & Nancy Czerwinski  
Courtney Dahl  
Bruce & Carolyn Dall  
Chris & Joan Dancy

Danish Brotherhood in  
America Lodge 227  
Julia & Joseph Dapkus  
Christine & Peter Darin III  
Kimberley Davis  
Regina Day  
Dearborn Heights Professional  
Fire Fighters Union Charities  
Frances DeBasco  
Pamela Debono  
Christopher Deming  
Paul & Jennifer DeRidder  
Julie DeRoeck  
William Derr  
Chuck & Nancy Dettloff  
Matthew & Patricia Dickson  
Brian Dilbone  
Mary Dipaolo  
Richard Dixon  
DKL Benefit Group, LLC  
Holly Doerr  
Lindsey Dogonski  
Timothy Donal  
Cathy Donaldson  
Joel Donlon  
Dorothy Conrad Charitable  
Remainder Trust  
Marcia Dorsey  
Scott & Manal Douglas  
Will Dowling  
DTE Energy  
DTE Foundation  
DTE Vantage  
Carrie Dubard-Atkins  
Robert Dubois  
Dul Foundation Fund  
Kevin Dunivin & Carolyn Moore  
Simon Dyson  
David & Gina Ebner  
Jessica Echols  
Edo Ramen  
Scott & Suzanne Edwards  
Heath & Lisa Eisman  
Shannon Else  
Sarah Elsesser  
Phyllis Ely  
Louis Emerson  
Frank Engel  
Jill Engel  
Robbert Erne  
Estate of Cora McCormack  
Aaron Etnyre  
Robert & Kristin Evans  
William Evo

Phillipe Fadel  
Amy Fangboner  
Kathleen Fargo  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ferrantino  
The Ferrantino Foundation  
Jo-Anna Featherman  
Joe Fedeli  
Feldman Auto Group  
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Mary Feola  
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Frances Firek  
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Donald Fitz  
Michael & Debra Flynn  
Flynn & Company  
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Tom & Paula Ford  
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Vincent Genise  
Robert & Victoria Genord  
Gino Genova  
Blake George  
George J Hartman Architects, PC  
George's Senate of Northville Inc  
Matthew & Sheri Germane  
Helen Gierman  
Robert & Catherine Gimby  
Cecelia Ginger  
Katherine Ginman  
Robert T. Gladwell IV  
Glantz Family Trust  
Bruce & Jill Gleba  
John & Diane Goddeeris  
David Goesch  
Jose Gonzales  
Good Time Party Store  
William & Judith Goodaker  
Carol Goodish  
Bernie & Alene Goodstein  
Brian Gorman



Wes & Patty Graff  
Albert Graham  
Carol Graham  
Richard & Lisa Graham  
Greg Grant  
Elizabeth Graves  
Michael Gray  
Lance Greane  
Greater Canton Youth Baseball  
and Softball Assoc.  
Nelson Greaves  
Matthew & Pamela Green  
Matthew & Inger Griffin  
Therese Grossi  
Scott & Andrea Gruber  
Frank Guarino  
Elizabeth Guidobono  
Judy Gural  
David Haas  
Michael Hadden  
Terry & Tammy Haggerty  
Dale & Ruth Hahn  
Sharon Haig  
Nawal Hamade  
Erica Hampton  
Christine Hand  
Fred & Rebecca Hankin  
Barbara Hannus  
John Harju  
Evelyn Harpster  
Gary L Harris  
Charles & Margaret Harris  
Lisa Harthun  
Scott Hartmeyer  
Elisabeth Heath  
Holly Heath  
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Ben Hefner  
Chuck Heil  
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Natalie Hige  
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Thaddeus & Frances Kondek  
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George Kruszewski  
Dale & Linda Krynak  
Gary Kwiecinski  
Jake Laird  
Lake Pointe Yacht Club  
The Lakes Bar & Grille  
Dave & Kelly Latawiec  
Dennis Lauderback

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Awareness Fellowship  
Anne LeDuc  
Carolyn Lee  
Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken  
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Samantha Lewis  
Paul & Lynn Lieberman  
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Dale Ling  
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Live for Today Travel, LLC  
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Biddinger Group, Merrill  
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Lou LaRiche Chevrolet  
Loyalty Insurance Services  
Luhtanen-Howes  
Charitable Foundation  
Michele Lundberg  
Lymann Foundation  
Colleen Lynch  
Lisbeth Lyons  
Steve Lyons  
Leslie Maahs  
Lawrence Mack  
Abby Mahaffy  
Daniel Mahlmeister  
Main Street League  
Mans Lumber  
Mansfield Catering LLC  
Laura Manzo  
David Marold  
Frances Marquette  
Marsh and McLennan Agency  
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Jacki Mayowski  
Loraine Mazur  
Orin & Tina Mazzoni  
Linda McAleer  
Gerald McCaig  
Danielle McCoart  
Robert McCoart  
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Duff & Joanne Michowski  
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Colleen Miller  
Paul Miller  
Randy Miller  
Shawn Miller  
Katrina Milliken  
Matthew Minckiewicz  
Brewster Miner  
Mehul Mistry  
Frank Misuraca Jr.  
Diane & Aalok Mitra  
Gretchen & Tim Mizerowski  
Blaine Monroe  
Kerry Morgan  
Rayleen Morgan  
Ellen Morita  
Anna Morris  
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Kerry Morrison  
David Morse  
Sharon Moser  
Amy Mucci  
Maria Mularoni  
Donna Mulcahy  
James Mulcahy  
John & Ellie Mulder  
BethAnne Munoz  
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Andrea Murdock  
Paul Murphy  
Dennis & Denise Murray  
Patricia Naberhaus  
Larry Naser  
Brian & Kristy Nedrow  
Mark & Gail Nelson

Catheryn Neracher  
New Body Therapeutics  
Molly Newcomb  
Scooter & Beth Newton  
Ryan Nguyen  
Josie Norcia  
Northville Lions Club  
Northville Rotary Foundation  
Northville Township Fire  
Fighters Charity Fund  
Northville Woman's Club  
Heather O'Brien  
Dennis Oberly  
Karen Obsniuk  
United Way Of Milwaukee  
& Waukesha County  
Official Driving School  
Leonard & Julie O'Guinn  
One Eyed Betty's  
Shannon Oniell  
Orin Jewelers  
Larry Ott  
Our Lady of Victory Church  
Knights of Columbus Our Lady  
of Victory Council #14427  
Jennica Owens  
Ken & Tonie Owens  
Anthony Pacilio  
Richard Page  
Wolodymyr Palamarchuk  
Peter Pamepinto  
Elise Papazian  
Michelle A Pardue  
Shawn Parker  
Scott & Sarah Partridge  
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Brian K. Patrick  
Ethan Pepple  
Perennial Northville, LLC  
Carol Peretto  
Kristine Perpar  
Katherine Petersen  
Robert & Maria Petersen  
Rena Petrashko  
Matthew & Brenda Pettit  
RoseAnne Petzold  
Pfizer  
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Rob Phillips  
Picnic Basket Marketplace  
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Sandor & Heather Pizar  
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Joseph Plish

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Methodist Church  
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Amy Rademacher  
Rajput-Dasgupta Family  
Charitable Foundation  
Carlos Ramirez  
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Tom Reaume  
Heaven Reinert  
Remerica Hometown  
Remerica Hometown One  
Labinot Resyli  
RF Events Inc  
Dennis & Wendy Richardville  
Lisa Richter  
Mark Riegall  
Kent & Lisabeth Riopelle  
Richard & Jennifer Riordan  
Chris & Colette Rizik  
Ron & April Robichaud  
John & Sally Robinson  
Joelle Robison  
David Roeser  
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Rohrbach  
Scott Roland  
Patrick Romzek  
Deanna & Michael Roseberry  
Philip & Katherine Ross  
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Kurt Sagan  
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Carl & Joe Sillanpaa  
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Richard & Aimee Simtob  
Cameron Smith  
Eric & Diane Smith  
Gail Smith  
Julia Smith  
The Smith Family  
Kevin Smyth  
Paul & Mary Sokol  
Robert Solak  
Pamela Solak-Travis  
Ruthan Spehar  
Tom & Kathy Spillane  
David & Julie Spivey  
Zachary Sprys-Tellner  
Knights of Columbus St Edith  
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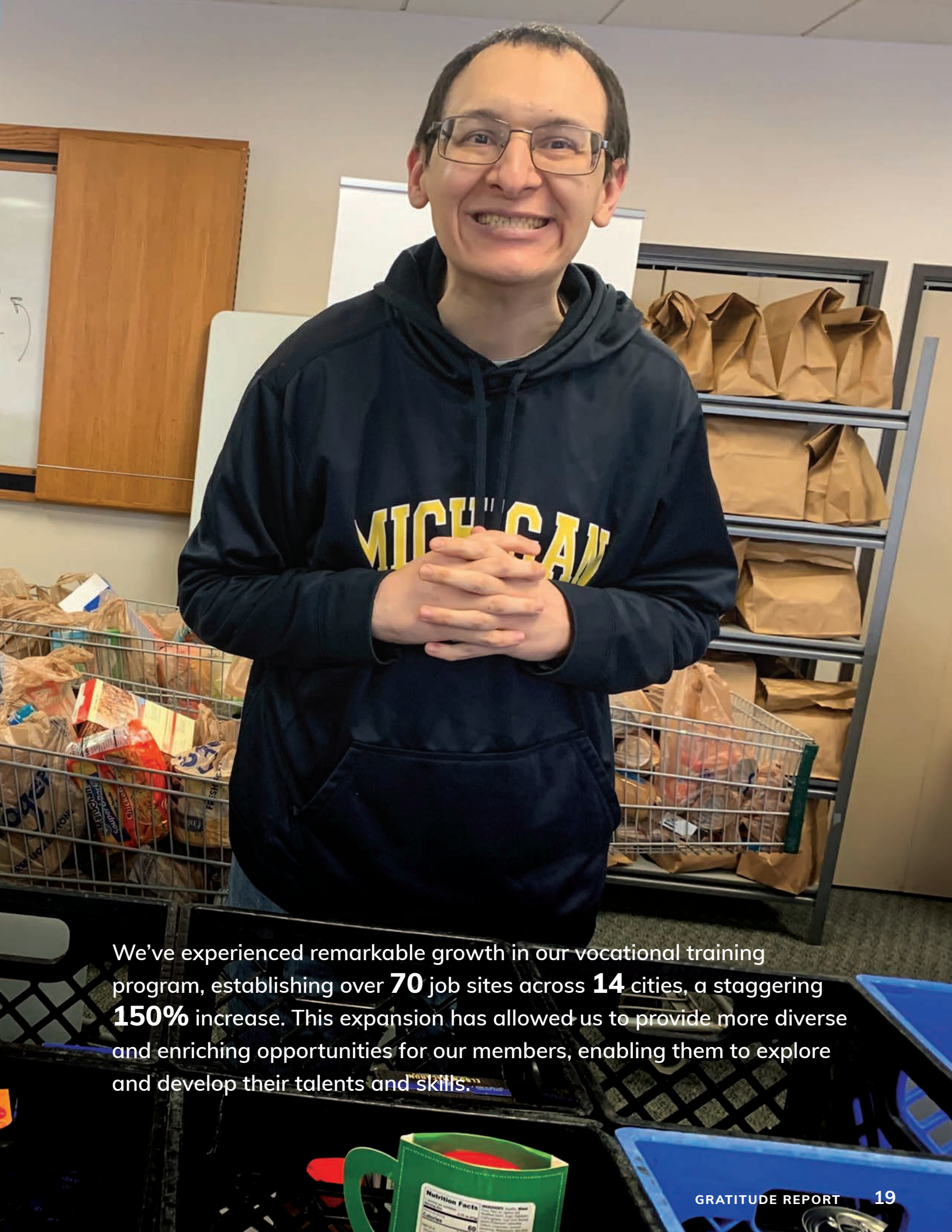
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