



**LIFE NAVIGATORS**

*Your Disability Partner* EST. 1949



## Life Navigators 2024 Impact Report



**Safe, Happy and Healthy**

## Highlights of Our Year Made Possible By You

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### You Helped Us Celebrate 75 Years of Being Your Disability Partner

Founded in 1949, we honored our history in 2024, our 75th Year of Being Your Disability Partner. During our celebration, your gifts and donations allowed us to expand multiple programs, creating more opportunities to support kids, adults and families with disabilities and continue our mission.



### You Allowed Us to Bring More Peace of Mind to Families with a Record Trust Year

With your support in 2024, we helped more families plan for the financial future of their loved ones with a disability. We assisted individuals and families set up 117 new trusts, a record number for one year. Your support has created peace of mind that a loved one with a disability will have a lifetime of protection and enjoy the highest possible quality of life.



### You Raised \$500,000 at Our 41st Annual Challenger Event

Our 75th Anniversary lead us to a record year at our Challenger Event. In 2024, you helped us raise \$500,000 to support individuals with disabilities! We thank our Honorees, Larry & Holly Haskin and Roger & Cindy Schaus, for continuing the legacy set by their parents 75 years ago.



**Life Navigators is Your Disability Partner**  
**Ensuring individuals with disabilities are**  
**safe, happy and healthy in our community**





## Our Programs and Services Served Over 4,200 Kids, Adults and Families



### Information, Education & Assistance

Offering an array of services that impact kids and adults with disabilities and their families  
1,454 Served



### Self-Advocacy & Independence

Creating opportunities to participate in social activities and trainings in our community  
1,065 Served



### Corporate Guardianship

Ensuring the health and safety for those without family to provide support  
232 Served



### Trust Program

Planning for the financial needs of individuals and families for bright futures  
631 Served



### Children's Long-Term Support

Coordinating access to in-home and community-based services to children and their families.  
340 Served



### Family Support

Providing resources and programs to support older adults, aging caregivers and families  
478 Served

## Thank you for supporting kids and adults with disabilities!

# Our Financial Report

## 2024 Financial Summary

### Support and Revenue

Contributions and Grants	\$ 609,530
Legacies and Bequests	\$ 17,329
Government Service Contracts	\$ 65,000
Program Fees & Fee for Service	\$ 1,523,809
Events and Projects	\$ 427,261

### Other Revenue

Pooled Trust Distribution	\$ 605,398
Investment & Miscellaneous Income	\$ 322,505

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Total Revenue	\$ 3,570,832
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### Mission Statement

The mission of Life Navigators is to improve the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families.

### Program Expenses

Information, Education and Advocacy	\$ 372,545
Guardianship	\$ 513,867
Trust Program	\$ 413,734
Family Support	\$ 202,171
Children's Long Term Support	\$ 845,995
Administration	\$ 82,272
Development	\$ 171,640

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Total Expenses	\$ 2,602,224
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### Net Assets

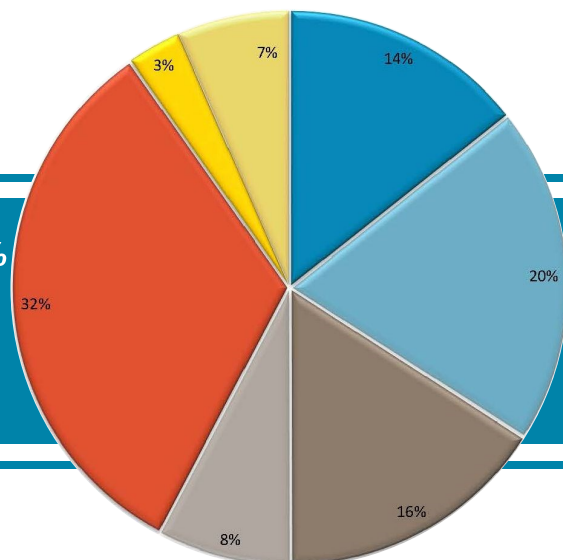
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Total End of Year Net Assets	\$ 4,801,875
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### Service Expenditures

<i>Info, Education &amp; Advocacy</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>Children's LT Support</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>Guardianship</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>Administration</i>	<i>3%</i>
<i>Trust Program</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>Development</i>	<i>7%</i>
<i>Family Support</i>	<i>8%</i>		





## Board of Directors

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Thank you to our board members who give so generously of their time, talent and resources to positively impact Life Navigators' mission.

### Executive Committee

Greg Block, President

Ray Wilson, Vice President  
*Chair Resource Development Committee*

Lisa Voisin, Secretary & Treasurer  
*Chair Finance Committee*

Elizabeth Ruthmansdorfer, Past President

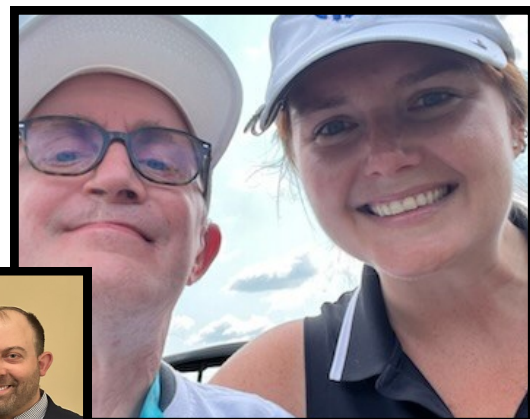
Adam Keller, Director-At-Large

Avery Mayne, Director-At-Large  
*Chair Trust Committee*

### Directors

Tim Anderson  
Cindy Bentley  
Maggie Butterfield  
Darryll Fortune  
Sheila Frisinger  
Stephanie Larson  
Kurt Maltby  
Cindy Schaus  
Dan Witkofski

**Per our agency by-laws,  
51% of our board members have a  
family member with a disability.**



## Staff Members

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Thank you to our staff members who work each day to support individuals with disabilities to be active and connected in our community.

### Leadership Team

Vicki Wachniak	Executive Director
Mary Till	Associate Director
Amanda Dykstra	Marketing & Development Director
Bethany Harriage	Guardianship Program Manager
Claire Keyes	Outreach & Advocacy Program Manager
Laura Rosinsky-Zeisse	CLTS Program Manager
Dawn Skotzke	Business Manager
Emily Wheeler	Trust Program Manager

### Program Coordinators

Beth Adelman	Jo Lewis	Liza Schultz
Stacy Braun	Bethany Lewitzke	Brianna Stigen
Elin Carlson	Karen Lopez	Andrew Stoiber
Tamar Hampton	Lizbeth Mendoza	Alex Thomae
Emma Janes	Wendy Micnovicz	Maria Vokes
Monica Leflore	Josie Mihm-Cruz	Lauren Wehr
	Marchia Range	

### Administrative & Development Staff

Will Jelacic	Marketing & Development Coordinator
Marissa Velez	Administrative Assistant





## 2024 Donors

**We have the best donors and friends!**

**Thank you for positively impacting kids and adults with disabilities.**

**January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**

### **\$10,000+**

Bader (Helen) Foundation  
Bradley (Lynde & Harry) Foundation  
City Of Wauwatosa  
Curt & Sue Culver  
Kevin & Sheila Frisinger  
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Larry & Holly Haskin  
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Otto Bremer Trust  
John & Maryanne Plant  
Roger & Cindy Schaus  
The Second Chance Foundation  
Stackner Family Foundation  
Ray & Kelly Wilson  
WisPact Foundation

### **\$5,000-\$9,999**

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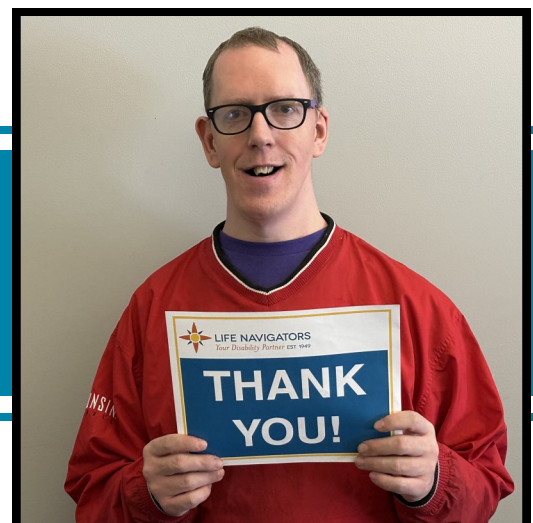
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Joni Anderson-Yuergens

### **\$1,000-\$4,999**

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***Michael is so grateful for the  
support he receives from  
Life Navigators services***



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Jane Holzhauer



*Creating a lasting impact on  
Kevin, Kim and many others*



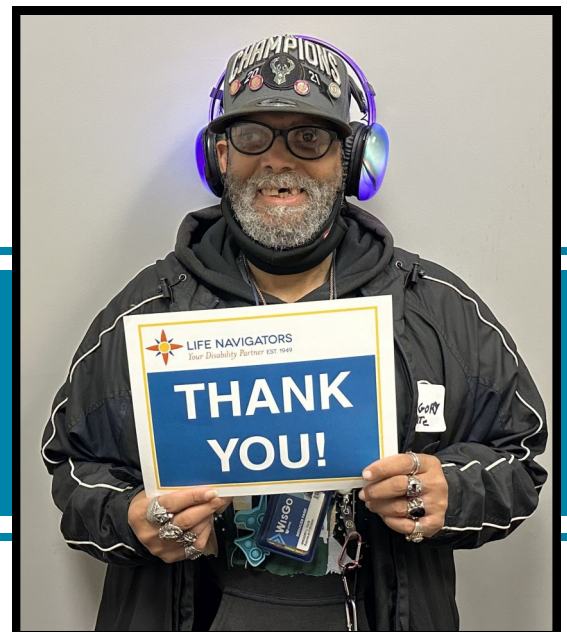
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Neal & Susan Wucherer  
Cheryl Yerkes  
Ava Yurgens  
Jill Zander  
Richard & Theresa Zimmerman

*Thank you for supporting  
Greg and many others*



## 2024 Donors

Life Navigators proudly supports the United Way Campaign. We do not receive funding from United Way; however, we are eligible to receive contributions through Donor Choice. We appreciate our donors who designated us as their 2024 United Way agency of choice.

### United Way Donors

Greg & Jessica Block  
Thomas & Lisa Bolger  
Brian Brewer  
Tim & Cheryl Brown  
Curt & Sue Culver  
Frank Daily & Julianna Ebert  
Jake & Amanda Dykstra  
Darryll & Melanie Fortune  
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William Jelacic  
Ted & Mary Kellner  
Charlie & Stephanie Larson  
Bushra Latif  
George Marek & Jeffrey Evans  
Mallory McGinty  
Konstantin & Theresa Mikhailov  
Warren & Ann Pierson  
Laura Rosinsky-Zeisse  
Jesus & Jennifer Sanchez  
Dawn Skotzke  
Peter & Erin Stanek  
Owen & Kimberly Sullivan  
Joe & Mary Till  
John & Vicki Wachniak  
Cheryl Yerkes

### In-Kind

LDI Cares  
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Autism United of Wisconsin  
Joe Bukowski & Emily Harriman  
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Milwaukee Admirals Hockey Club  
Milwaukee Area Labor Council  
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Thomas & Elizabeth Ruthmansdorfer  
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Saz's Hospitality Group  
Roger & Cindy Schaus  
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Roger & Rita Stahmann  
Jack & Peg Tagliavia  
Target  
Raena Vrtochnick  
Kitty Walloch  
Katie Werk  
Jill Zander  
Roger & Donna Zientek





## Our 2025 Goals

### The Year Ahead—Meeting the Need

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#### You Can Support Children, Youth, and Families to be Active in Our Community

With your help, we can expand our Children's Long-Term Support Program to help more families, including developing additional community-based opportunities specifically for children with disabilities that support safe, happy, and healthy lives. This year, we are introducing children-focused events, allowing children and families to engage in new experiences while creating lasting relationships.



#### You Can Ensure Peace of Mind and a Financial Plan for the Future

Together, we can expand programming to ensure that all individuals with disabilities have a financial plan in place to secure their future. Our state-wide Trust Program will ensure families have peace of mind for their loved ones' future. The Life Navigators Beneficiary Legal Fund can assist individuals and families in setting up a Trust.

#### You Can Support Access to Programming and Community Events

Your gift today will help us address the community-wide need for transportation options so more consumers can attend our educational trainings and community outings. These social opportunities are essential to reduce isolation and develop their skills while creating a network of support for individuals with disabilities.



## Expanding Our Programs

**You can ensure kids and adults with disabilities are active and connected**

## Continuing Our Work — Let's Stay Connected

### Connect with Us on How You Can Help Us Achieve Our 2025 Goals

Interested in learning more about our 2025 goals and how you can impact kids and adults with disabilities? Contact our Executive Director, Vicki Wachniak, at 414-774-6255 or [vicki@lifenavigators.org](mailto:vicki@lifenavigators.org).



### Visit [LifeNavigators.org](https://LifeNavigators.org)

Our mobile friendly website provides information on each of our programs, upcoming events, accepts online contributions and hosts our free Online Resource Guide for disability services.



### Contact Us and Stay Connected

Life Navigators  
7203 W Center St  
Wauwatosa, WI 53210  
[information@lifenavigators.org](mailto:information@lifenavigators.org)  
414-774-6255



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