

GOMPERS CENTER

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GOMPERS CENTER

Annual Report

Fiscal Year September 1, 2005
Through August 31, 2006



OUR MISSION:

Gompers Center's mission is to empower and advocate for adults and children with disabilities in an environment of compassion, dignity and respect. Gompers Center promotes and maximizes individual potential through a full range of exceptional education, social integration, vocational, therapeutic and dental programs and services.

Highlights and Celebrations of the Past Year



From left to right: Dawn Alcorn, Vocational Instructor, Tracy Rachele, Vocational Director, Christina Sanchez, Vocational Client, and Glad Kloogh, Sammy G's Manager

Sammy G's Celebrates A Milestone

Sammy G's Cafe, Gompers' breakthrough vocational training program, celebrates its one year anniversary. Sammy G's was born from a need to provide healthy alternatives of snacks, breakfasts and lunches for Gompers' clients and staff. Not only has Sammy G's proven to be an exceptional training ground for Gompers' vocational clients, but it has also received 100% on all three inspection reports from the Maricopa County Health Inspector.

What did this teach us as program managers? That Gompers' clients strive to excel in every imaginable way and, not surprisingly, they do not settle for less.

Why Sammy G's? Because Gompers' clients affectionately call our namesake, Samuel Gompers, Sammy G and they felt it was befitting.

34th Annual Golf For Gompers Tournament

It was a beautiful day on August 17th, 2006, and The Phoenician once again served as the site of the Annual Golf for Gompers Tournament which raises funds for Gompers Center's programs. For the second year in a row, APS served as a Corporate Sponsor and helped us celebrate the great success of another terrific golf tournament. We thank APS and the Arizona Society of Professional Engineers for continuing to serve as strong supporters of Gompers and the clients we are so proud to represent.



From left to right: Cindy Slick, Director of Community Relations for APS, James Broome, Angela Creedon, Jeff Creedon

On the cover: One of the many benefits Gompers Center proudly offers is comprehensive therapy for our clients. In the cover photo, Liz Schneider, CRTS, works on balance and coordination with Gompers' student Nicholas Del Castillo in Gompers' Therapy Room. Our philosophy is that therapy not only supports the body and mind it also supports the soul, and the benefits are extraordinary.



Above Photos: Highlighting some other memorable faces and moments at Gompers Center.

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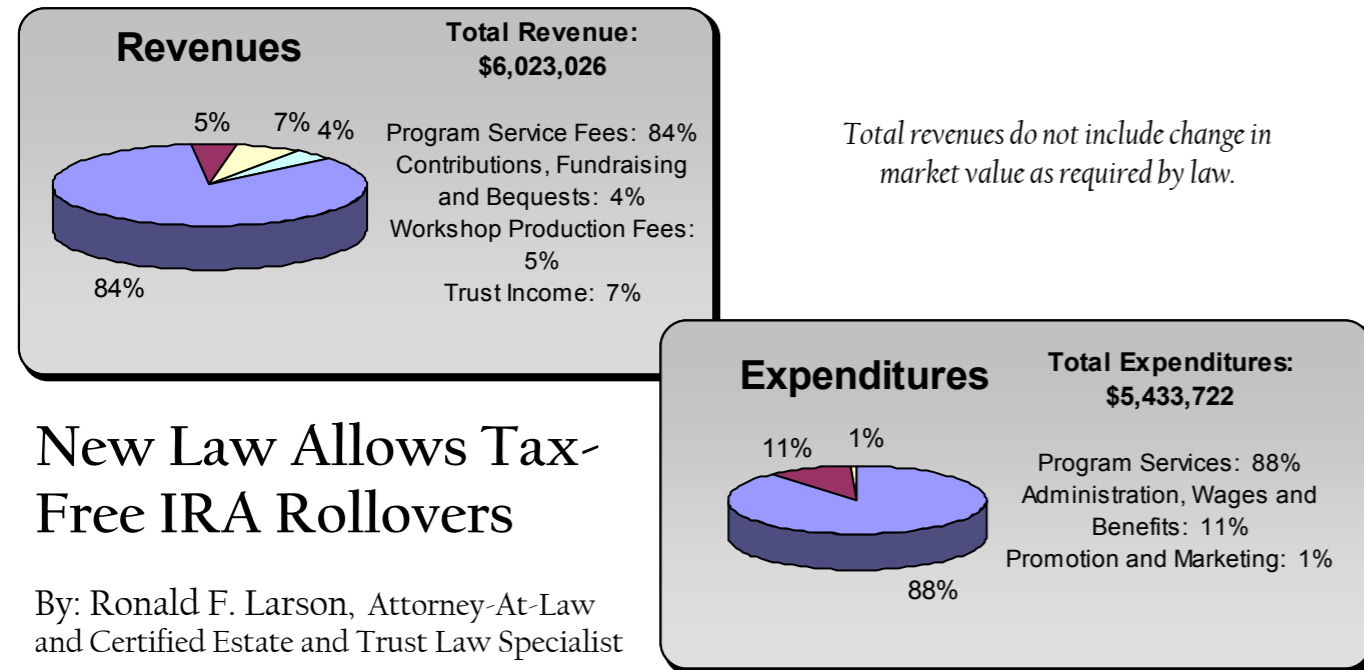
Valued Contributors

It is with deep appreciation that we extend our gratitude and acknowledge the following individuals, organizations and corporations who insure that the work of Gompers Center will continue for years to come.

- \$125,000+**
Lois Palmer Trust
- \$90,000+**
Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
- \$25,000+**
Northern Trust Bank
- \$10,000 - \$19,999**
AZ Community Foundation
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Penny Johnson
United Way
- \$7,000 - \$7,999**
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Kieckhefer Foundation
- \$6,000 - \$6,999**
AZ Dept. of Health Services
- \$5,000 - \$5,999**
AZ Council/Knights of Columbus
Ron Trafzer
- \$4,000 - \$4,999**
IBM
- \$3,000 - \$3,999**
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- \$2,000 - \$2,999**
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Please accept our sincere apologies for any error or omission with respect to our valued donors.
Please call Thea Smith at 602.336.0061 with any corrections.

2005 - 2006 Financial Disclosure



New Law Allows Tax-Free IRA Rollovers

By: Ronald F. Larson, Attorney-At-Law and Certified Estate and Trust Law Specialist

On August 17, 2006, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 became law. One provision of this new legislation allows both traditional and Roth IRA owners, who are age 70 1/2 and older, to transfer directly to Gompers Center for Adults and Children with Disabilities (or other public charities), up to \$100,000.00. Previously, if an IRA owner wanted to make a contribution to charity from an IRA, it was first necessary to withdraw the amount from the IRA and then make a charitable contribution. The effect of this two-step process was that the IRA owner had to report income, but received an offsetting deduction; however, in certain circumstances the offsetting deduction was not enough to completely offset the income.

Now, no charitable deduction is allowed, because it is not needed since the IRA owner does not have to include the IRA withdrawal as part of his gross income for the year of the contribution. It also appears that any direct rollovers to Gompers Center would satisfy the required minimum distribution provision of IRA accounts.

If you are looking for an easy way to make contributions to Gompers, please consider making a direct distribution from your IRA. If you are one of those taxpayers who does not itemize your deductions or has an income level that causes deduction limitations, the IRA rollover is especially suitable for you.

Unfortunately, this new law "sunset" on December 31, 2007, which means that IRA direct rollovers to charity, can only be made in 2006 and 2007.

A word of caution: State and local tax laws may have a significant impact on your situation, and you should consult your personal legal or financial advisor or tax preparer before completing a significant gift.

Thank you for your continuing support of Gompers Center.

*Ronald F. Larson, Attorney-At-Law
And Gompers Center Board Member*

The year that was...the year ahead

By: Mark A. Jacoby, Executive Director

1947. Harry S. Truman is President. Minimum wage is 40¢ per hour. A new Ford or Chevrolet sedan sells for less than \$2,000. Milk sells for 20¢ a quart. Jackie Robinson becomes the first African American to play Major League Baseball. Howdy Doody begins his run on television. NASCAR races officially for the first time. "The Best Years of Our Lives" wins the Academy Award. Gompers Center opens its doors!

As Gompers Center embarks on its 60th year of service, 2007 is ushered in with uncertainty, but also the possibility for a momentous year. Before looking ahead, though, we must look back on what a tremendous year 2006 was for Gompers Center. Highlights include:

- The Dental Clinic now has an active caseload of nearly 500 people. In addition, the staff worked tirelessly with advocacy groups and Legislators to provide basic dental services to all individuals with disabilities.
- Our School Program worked closely with area districts and is increasing the presence of Assistive Technology in the classrooms in order to provide even greater opportunities for our students.
- Our DTA Program continues to give back to the community by working at a variety of volunteer sites including Beatitudes Center D.O.A.R., St. Mary's Food Bank, and they even received a special commendation from the Governor's office for their work with the Arizona Braille and Talking Book Library.
- Our Vocational Program expanded opportunities by procuring more community job sites such as Ben Avery Shooting Range and Safeway. During the past year nearly 25% of our vocational clients transferred into some sort of community work experience.
- Our Therapy Department introduced new technologies and state-of-the-art equipment in order to meet the needs of our clients and students.
- Our community partners generously gave our programs nearly \$450,000 worth of grants and donations.
- Our Special Olympics teams continued experiencing competition at the highest levels while learning the true meaning of sportsmanship.

As prosperous as 2006 was, and as hopeful as we are for 2007, challenges lay ahead. Already we have had to stand up to the threat that was Proposition 202. The potentially devastating effects of the Arizona Minimum Wage Initiative could have shattered the dreams of the 102 clients we serve in our Vocational Department. Gompers Center's mission has always been to empower our clients to gain the skills which will assist them in reaching their maximum potential, including that of gaining competitive employment. By partnering with other agencies across the state, as well as rallying the amazing support of our parents, guardians, group homes and vendors, we were able to educate people and in doing so raised the level of discourse on what we have known all along - that the potential of individuals with disabilities is limitless!

Collaborating with our community partners is what 2007 will be all about. As we celebrate our 60th Anniversary we will be looking to thank those who have been integral in our growth and prosperity, but we will also actively be seeking out additional partners who share our vision of empowerment and dreams without limits. We will do this because the clients and students we serve deserve nothing less than the best each of us has to offer. Just imagine what we will be able to do together!

For 60 years Gompers Center has provided the best services for adults and children with disabilities in the metro Phoenix area. If you have not visited in a while, why not stop in and see first hand the excitement that is building for 2007? Join us in making this year Gompers Center's best year yet by helping us to provide the programs and services our clients and students so richly deserve. It is for them that Gompers Center exists and it is for them that we must strive to be at our best each and every day.

From Gompers' Chairman of the Board: Frank Martin

As Chairman of Gompers Center's Board of Directors for the past two years, and nine years of Board service in all, I offer my thoughts on where Gompers has been and my perspective on where we are going.

In the last nine years Gompers has grown from less than \$1 million in revenue to over \$5 million in revenue, and from less than 100 clients to over 270 clients. Even with that growth, Gompers is looking to the future and it is the responsibility of our Board of Directors to lead the charge.

The Board must remain proactive and seek out ways to better ourselves and the organization. We must continue to promote the value of Gompers Center and the needs our clients have that are fulfilled here. We must approach all we do in the spirit of service to make the greatest impact on, not only the organization, but the community at large.

I have enjoyed working with everyone on the Board of Directors and executive staff over the last two years. It has been challenging, but also very rewarding. I want to thank everyone for all that they have done and I am looking forward to new challenges at Gompers in the coming years.