

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT



**SLI supports the efforts of individuals with diverse abilities to achieve independence and actively participate in the community.**



# President's Message



SLI had a full and exciting 2018! In addition to continuous improvement in programs and services, there were numerous additions related to training, technology, security, safety and capacity to name a few.

SLI was fortunate to receive a grant from the FHLBank Topeka in 2017. This afforded us the ability to make upgrades to three duplexes including new lift chairs for the stairs, flooring, countertops, fencing, landscaping, deck and foundation work and many other upgrades. All of the remodeling and upgrades are expected to be finished in 2019.

Capacity was increased in a variety of ways including the addition of the Relias online training program, four transit vans obtained through a KDOT grant and increasing direct care professional turnover by nearly six percent. Our website was rebuilt to promote awareness and education of SLI, increase community involvement and more user friendly. The database was upgraded to capture all donor information, integrate with our special event, reduce duplications and increase accuracy and efficiency. Biometric readers, a simplified process for staff to clock in and out, were tested for staff timekeeping. This helps SLI manage, with greater accuracy, employee schedules, overtime and other payroll functions.

SLI purchased a neglected building south of our office that was determined not to be inhabitable. Since parking has been a challenge, the building was demolished to create additional parking. This will increase safety around SLI offices with better sight lines and additional parking. The green space will give the Community Integration Program additional space for gardening and recreation.

In accordance with the strategic plan and due to a three percent increase in Home and Community Based Services funding, starting pay for direct care professionals was increased. Employee satisfaction increased, KPERS 457 was added as an additional retirement benefit, SLI secured lower premiums for employee health insurance, added a hiring bonus and increased retention bonuses.

The Community Integration Program increased enrollment from 49 to 59 people. Participation in this program includes volunteerism, educational classes, arts and therapeutic programs, recreation, socialization and job training.

The University of Kansas partnered with SLI to deliver the "Stoplight Healthy Living Program" that offered classes focused on safe and healthy lifestyles. SLI had 25 clients participate in this program and it will be offered again in 2019 as part of the Community Integration Program.

E.S.C.A.P.E. (Empowerment, Socialization, Caring, Attitude, Positivity, Entertainment) was created by SLI staff to support women in our services.

Finally, SLI was awarded a three-year accreditation from CARF International, the highest award that can be earned. SLI has participated in the accreditation process since 1997.

We extend our sincere gratitude to our supportive corporations and community, without whom we could not achieve our mission to support those with diverse abilities to actively participate in their community and increase independence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Jackson  
President/CEO

# SLI Programs & Services

## Community Living Program



## Community Integration Program



## Job Training Program



## Independent Living Program



## Targeted Case Management



- **Community Integration Program (day services)** focuses on life-enhancing activities, active learning and community involvement. The program keeps 59 individuals engaged in activities, volunteering over 800 hours a month in the community, learning daily living skills and responsibility and job skills.
- **Community Living** serves 97 men and women who live in 21 SLI homes with 24-hour staffing 24/7/365 days a year. Clients served range from mild to profound physically and/or mentally disabled. They are provided a safe home, trained staff, transportation, medical supplies, nutritional food and other supports as needed.
- **Independent Living** serves 33 men and women who have gained daily living skills and independence to live on their own with minimal assistance. Most of these clients have a part-time or full-time job.
- **Job training** is provided for clients that have the ability to work. The program teaches appropriate behavior, work ethic, dress code, resume building and interview skills. As an incentive, clients are paid minimum wage when they participate in SLI's janitorial, landscape and car detail crews.
- **Target Case Management** provides case management for 186 children and adults. Case managers assist the client and their families to develop and implement the person centered support plan and to identify and maintain eligible state and federal funding. Case managers meet with their clients at least once a month.

# Client Statistics

## Community Living Program



**97**

Number of Clients



**51.46**

Average Age



**18.47**

Average Length of Service

## Independent Living Program



**33**

Number of Clients



**47.07**

Average Age



**16.22**

Average Length of Service

## Community Integration Program



**59**

Number of Clients



**47.33**

Average Age



**7.03**

Average Length of Service

## Targeted Case Management



**186**

Number of Clients



**37.54**

Average Age



**13.02**

Average Length of Service

# Value Every Single Life

*As you read this story, please keep in mind that this captures only a small glimpse of Melissa's life. We hope you will gain the ability to see a vivid picture of what it may have been like for her, what her current life is and what life will be like for others if we do nothing.*



Melissa Smith was born in 1963 to Bob and Audrey Smith in Houston, Texas. It was early in infancy that her parents began to question their pediatrician that something was wrong with Melissa. At the age of eight months Melissa was hospitalized and a new pediatrician diagnosed her with congenital familial dysautonomia. Melissa's doctor gave her father a medical reference book to read. The book had several columns of the documented information on the disorder that Melissa was diagnosed with. Even though Bob and Audrey had little information, they were relieved to finally find out what was happening with Melissa.

Congenital familial dysautonomia is a rare inherited disorder characterized by insensitivity to pain and an inability to sweat. Melissa needs to be cautious of exposure to extreme weather since she has no body temperature control.

"Melissa has no fear of anything, because she can't feel anything," said Audrey.

It was then recommended that Bob and Audrey institutionalize Melissa. This was the typical recommendation and practice at the time. Parents were not encouraged to keep their disabled children at home to raise. They were told that she had mental retardation, would go blind and deaf and be in a vegetative state. However, Melissa's parents decided not to institutionalize her, but raised her and taught her in their family home.

In 1964, her parents were transferred to Philadelphia and a research doctor heard about Melissa and asked to do a study on her to find out more about her diagnosis. It was then that the correct diagnosis of congenital familial sensory neuropathy with anhidrosis was given.

Melissa learned to read, write and became quite educated. When Melissa was 18, she graduated from Topeka West High School and Bob and Audrey decided it was time to let Melissa grow and develop further independence away from their home. They heard about SLI (Sheltered Living, Inc.) and from then on Melissa has lived in a home with assistance and support from SLI.

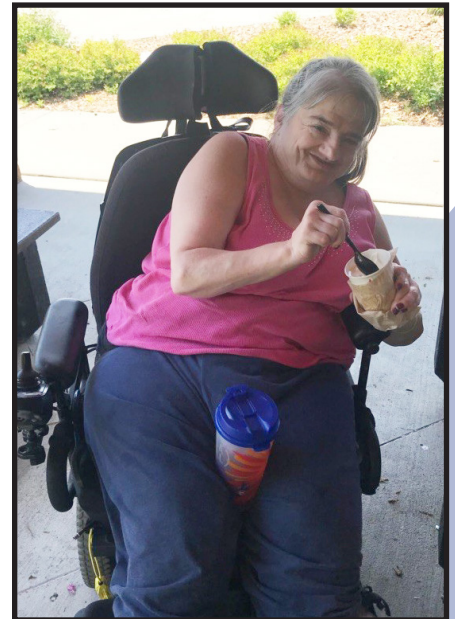
Bob recalls that as parents it would have been more difficult for them to push Melissa to become more independent but with the support of SLI she was able to do that in a safe and secure environment.

With the help from SLI, Melissa was able to get a job on the production line at a book bindery company in Topeka. In order to get to work, Melissa had to ride a bus every day. This allowed Melissa the ability to be independent, which was a dream come true for her.

Melissa loved working and earning her own money. She was able to go on a cruise and pay for it with the money she earned working at the book bindery.

The services at SLI have allowed Bob and Audrey to be very involved in Melissa's life and to have the freedom of a normal parent/adult child relationship and the security of knowing their daughter is safe, happy and secure.

Lisa Jackson, president/CEO of SLI, said "Melissa has touched many people at SLI; her friends, staff and roommates. She is a very tender hearted, strong willed and determined woman. Bob and Audrey made a decision years ago, despite what the doctors recommended, based on their values and love for their daughter. We are so thankful they did."



# Community Impact

## *Sponsors SLI Camp*

**Blanche Bryden Foundation and Cox Communication** supported the SLI Camp making it possible for the organization to host a camp for our clients. Summer Camp is a very special event for SLI clients because their limited income does not allow for vacations and many have never taken a vacation. Our clients ask for so little...it is hard when a client wants to take a vacation and we have to explain he/she cannot afford it. At camp, the clients can participate in activities which many have never experienced such as archery, rock wall climbing, canoeing, paddle boats, riding a zip-line, leather making, pottery, fishing, swimming and a variety of others. The clients are in a dream world and very excited and grateful to have a “vacation” that includes so many new experiences.

## *SLI Transportation Fleet Partnership*

**Kansas Department of Transportation** has partnered with SLI for many years in supporting our transportation fleet. The grant received made it possible to add four new transit vehicles to our fleet of 43 with 16 that are wheelchair accessible. SLI providing transportation for our clients gives them independence and the opportunity for community involvement. In 2018, we provided over 138,000 vehicle mileage for clients to the grocery store, work, day activities, shopping, church, medical appointments and community activities.

## *Safeguarding & Advocacy for SLI Clients*

**Blue Cross Blue Shield Kansas Foundation** supported our Safe Guard and Medical Advocacy Program that provides advocacy for SLI clients who can't represent or speak for themselves. When a client is admitted to the hospital or emergency room, it is essential that SLI staff be with the client during this visit. If the client is nonverbal, the SLI direct care staff will explain to the medical team the problem and the history leading up to the hospitalization. A direct care staff member can keep them calm and explain to them what is happening. The support of Blue Cross Blue Shield is important for the welfare of the children and adults with intellectual disabilities we serve and our community.

## You Can Make a Difference

We need your support to help children and adults with diverse abilities to achieve independence, actively participate in the community and so SLI can continue to provide client programs and services for our clients. Your donations also help with unfunded needs such as dental care, medical supplies, medical advocacy, contracted nurse for diabetic insulin shots and wellness checks and transportation for our clients.

**For more information view the donate section on our website at [www.slitopeka.org](http://www.slitopeka.org).** Listed below are ways to make a difference in the lives of SLI clients who depend on our programs and services.

### **Ways to Support SLI**

- Company Matching Gifts
- Corporate Giving
- Festival of Trees Sponsorship
- In Honor Gifts
- Individual Giving
- Memorials Gifts
- Planned Giving – Bequests/Wills
- Personal Property Gifts
- Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds
- Time & Talent

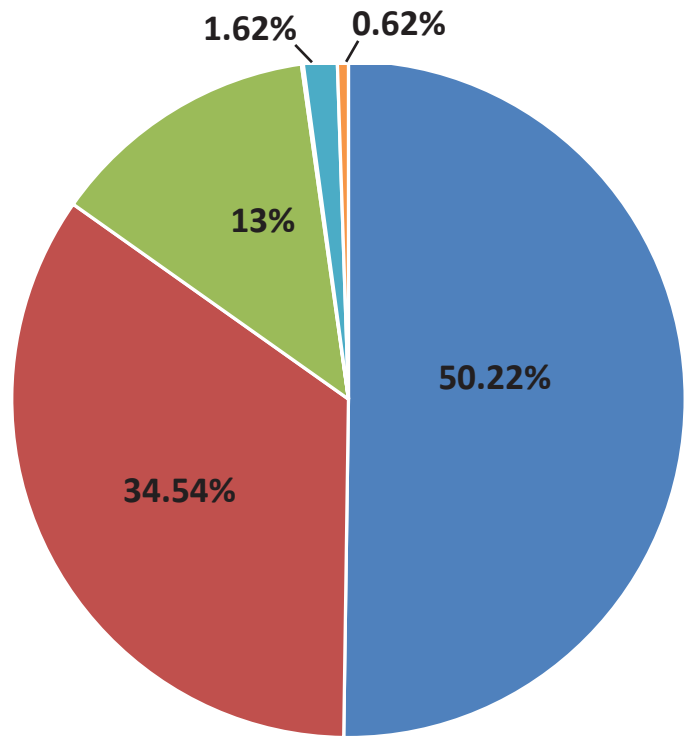


*Handmade quilts donated for SLI clients*

# Financial Highlight

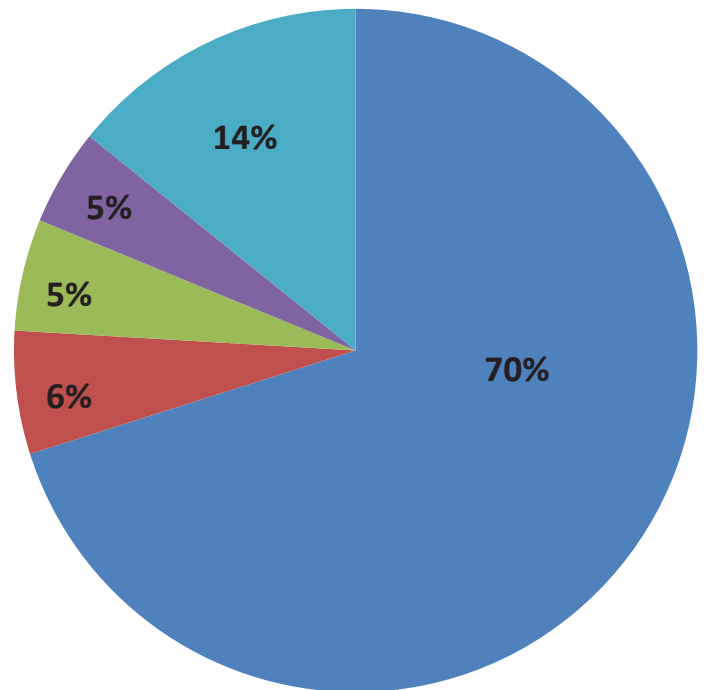
## Revenue:

● Federal	\$3,853,288
● State	\$2,650,039
● Local	\$997,136
● Fundraising	\$123,940
● Grants & other revenue	\$47,655



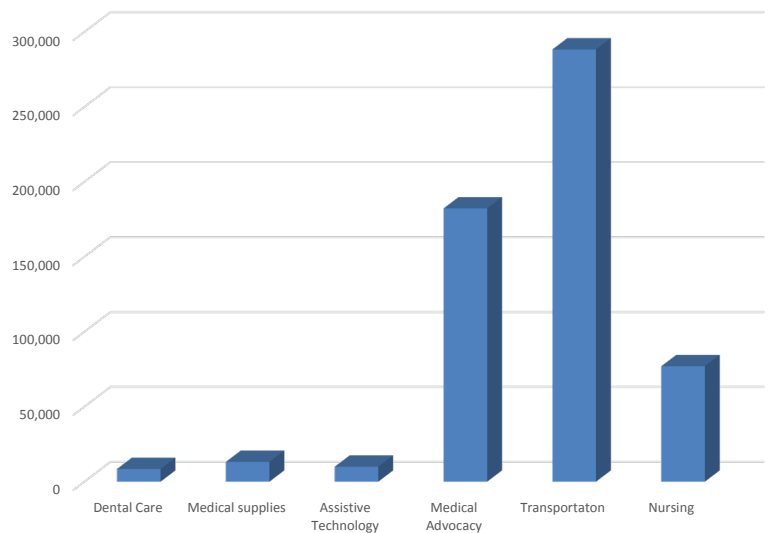
## Expenses:

● Community and Independent Living Programs	\$4,886,688
● Administration	\$990,798
● Community Integration Program	\$406,233
● Targeted Case Management	\$368,816
● Transportation	\$318,175



## Unfunded Services/Expenses:

Transportation	\$288,346
Medical Advocacy	\$182,271
Nursing	\$77,024
Medical Supplies	\$13,216
Assistive Technology	\$10,000
Dental Care	\$8,497



# Leadership

## Board Of Directors

Michael Lesser, Chair  
*Peoples Insurance Group*

Traci Brown, Vice Chair  
*TEB Consulting, LLC*

Phil Whalen, Treasurer  
*Capitol Federal® Savings Bank*

Abby Lear, Past Chair  
*Blue Cross Blue Shield of KS*

Lisa Jackson, President/CEO  
*SLI*

Leanna Adams  
*Department of Children & Families*

Jim Allan  
*Allan-Coleman Marketing Solutions*

John Cassidy  
*Topeka Transit Authority*

Russ Cobb  
*Westar Energy*

Jeanette Johnson  
*Berkshire Hathaway First, REALTORS*

David Heit  
*Tevis Architects*

Ron Shelton  
*Blue Cross Blue Shield of KS*

Beth Simpson  
*Heartland Homecare Services, Inc.*

## Foundation Board of Directors

John Cassidy  
*Topeka Transit Authority*

Russ Cobb  
*Westar Energy*

Harry Craig  
*Retired, Martin Tractor Company*

James Garrison  
*Garrison Insurance & Financial Services, Inc.*

Michael Lesser  
*Peoples Insurance Group*

Lisa Jackson, President/CEO  
*SLI*

Betsy Rohleder  
*Retired, Wells Fargo*

Bob Smith  
*Retired, Fleming Groceries*

## Executive Staff

Lisa Jackson  
*President/CEO*

Kathy Brayton  
*Chief Financial Officer*

Jo Ann Tate  
*Vice President of Development*

Doug Vincent  
*Vice President of Employee Services & Facilities*

Traci Vincent  
*Chief Operations Officer*



# Volunteers

Many volunteers contributed this year through projects or client activities. Here are some ways the community supported SLI!



Softball Cookout with Washburn University baseball team



Festival of Trees committee created a float for Miracle on Kansas Avenue Parade



Client Holiday Party provided by Rolling Meadows Neighborhood Association and the Civitan Club of Topeka



Westar Energy building new storage space for Festival of Trees



Volunteers at Nancy Perry Day of Caring



Silver Lake High School helping with yard work



Topeka Community Foundation staff volunteering at SLI

## Volunteer with your Time & Talent

Your time and talent can make a difference. We have opportunities with our SLI programs and signature event, Festival of Trees. You chose what works best for you.

Please visit our website, [www.slitopeka.org](http://www.slitopeka.org), for more details on how you can volunteer or call Jo Ann Tate at 785-233-2566. We welcome individuals, company employee groups, school groups and civic organizations.

# Honor Roll of Donors



Michael Abasolo, Sr.  
 Leanne Adams  
 Jim Allan  
 Rosa Anguiano  
 Ray & Maggie Beers  
 Shirley Boudreau  
 Russell & Beth Ann Branden  
 Larry & Kathy Brayton  
 Traci Brown  
 William & Charlene Bunten  
 Adam Burks  
 Chad & Bre Burks  
 Dennis & Ruth Burks  
 William & Sharon Buscher  
 Tim & Margaret Carkhuff  
 Michael & Vickie Carver  
 John Cassidy  
 Mike & Carol Cast  
 Gary & Becky Centlivre  
 Kathleen Clark  
 Russ & Paula Cobb  
 Theresa Conboy  
 David & Karen Corbett  
 Harry & Kay Craig  
 Rita Craig  
 Roderick & Waunita Crawford  
 Jim & Ethel Edwards  
 Tony Emerson  
 Lindsey Emmerich  
 Duane Fager  
 Joni Fitzpatrick  
 Jim & Lisa Garrison



Elida Gibbons  
 Angela Gleason  
 Erin Glenn  
 William & Shirley Gloy  
 Tim Gorton  
 Douglas & Mary Hall  
 Marilyn Halsey  
 Bret & Monica Hart  
 David & Kathleen Heit  
 Barbara Hesse  
 Jeff Hiestand  
 Donna Holstein  
 Ione Humphrey  
 Harold & Christine Huntsman  
 Lamont & Lisa Jackson  
 Raymond James  
 Mary Ann Jennings  
 Steve & Jeanette Johnson  
 Andrew & Jana Karim  
 Tandy Kimbrough  
 Vernie Kincade  
 Gary & Shelia Knoll  
 Jimi Kramer  
 Bruce Krueger  
 Leslie & Roberta Krull



Kyle & Abby Lear  
 Mike & Erin Lesser  
 Patti Jo Lindley  
 Larry Marney  
 Mary Martel  
 Janice Martens  
 Robert May  
 Russell Harvey & Patricia McGivern  
 Sharon Miller  
 Anita Mitts  
 Harvey & Rita Mohr  
 Christina Montgomery  
 Bill Nace  
 Dana Nelsen  
 Jere & Carol Noe  
 Jan Norris  
 Brett Oetting  
 Fredrick Palenske  
 Steve Picotte



Robert & Suzanne Powell  
 Dr. Bartlett Ramsey  
 Chrissy Reetz  
 Brian Rindt  
 Cathy Rinehart  
 Jen Robbins  
 Bill & Nancy Rogenmoser  
 Ron & Betsy Rohleder  
 Darrell Roseberry  
 Paul Schreider  
 William Schroeder  
 Ron & Ann Shelton  
 Patricia Shomaker  
 Beth Simpson  
 Kayla Sizemore  
 Jim & Laura Smith  
 Robert & Audrey Smith  
 Barbara Spielman  
 Anita Stindt  
 Robert & Jeanne Taggart  
 Rick & Jo Ann Tate  
 Paydro & Elena Tavares  
 Warren Taylor  
 Dean & Karen Testa  
 David & Geraldine Thurston  
 Stacy Trahoon  
 Doug & Traci Vincent  
 Tam Vincent  
 Alphonso Vinson  
 Phil Whalen  
 Dennis & Debra Wyckoff  
 Ron & Mary Ann Youngers



# Honor Roll of Corporate Donors

Allan- Coleman Marketing Solutions  
Amazon Smile  
Ameripride  
Appearance Plus Salon, LLC  
BA Styles LLC  
Bartlett & West  
Ben Schriener Construction  
Blanche Bryden Foundation  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas  
Foundation  
Capital City Bank  
Capital City Flooring  
Civitan Club of Topeka, Inc.  
CoreFirst Bank & Trust  
Cox Communications  
Dillons Rewards  
Ed Bozarth Chevrolet

FHLBank Topeka  
Fidelity Charitable Trust  
Garrison Insurance & Financial  
Services, Inc.  
Heartland Homecare Services, Inc.  
Knights of Columbus, Council 13012  
Knights of Columbus, Council 2608  
Knights of Columbus, Council 27395  
Mize, Houser & Company  
Network for Good  
Networks Plus  
OneHope Foundation  
Penwell Gabel Funeral Home  
Peoples Insurance Group  
Phillip & Betty Sisk Fund  
Polo Custom Products  
Prairie Band Casino

Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation  
Security Benefit  
ServPro  
St. David's Episcopal Church  
Strathman Sales  
Sunflower Foundation  
TEB Consulting LLC.  
Topeka Community Foundation  
Topeka Landscape  
United Methodist Women  
United Steelworkers, Local 307  
University United Methodist  
Church  
Washburn Auto Service Center  
Westar Energy

## In Memory Of

**Brent Remington**  
Andrew & Jana Karim

**Marc Couch**  
Lisa Jackson  
Robert May

**Kelly Hall**  
Douglas & Mary Hall

**Melvin Jackson**  
Lisa Jackson  
Rick & Jo Ann Tate

## In Honor Of

**David Beers**  
Ray & Maggie Beers

**Harry Craig**  
Russell & Beth Ann Branden  
Dr. Bartlett Ramsey  
St. David's Episcopal Church

## Pathway for Hope

John Cassidy  
Stacy Trahoon  
Fidelity Charitable Trust





*Serving people with intellectual disabilities since 1971*

3401 SW Harrison St • Topeka, KS 66611  
(785) 233-2566

[www.slitopeka.com](http://www.slitopeka.com)

Follow us at [www.facebook.com/slitopeka](https://www.facebook.com/slitopeka)



*Printing provided courtesy of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas.*