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BY *Creating*
A STRONG SENSE OF
Community
WE WILL *create*
A STRONGER SENSE OF
Belonging.

our mission



The Village of Merici provides residential opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities which promotes a strong sense of community.

The desire to have individuals and families come together as a community to support one another in leading a purpose-filled life is our focus.

The Village of Merici is a 501(c)3 organization.

Opening in September of 2014, the Village of Merici, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public charity, was the first residential option of its kind in Indiana. The Village of Merici (VOM) offers a uniquely interdependent community for residents and support staff. Merici has created an environment that affords community members an opportunity to grow more self-sufficient individually in tandem with new neighbors and with surrounding community partners. The building has twenty individual living units, many small common spaces for tenant interaction and a large common area for events, meetings and other social activities. We also provide an onsite unit for Village of Merici support staff.

-Colleen Renie OTR ATP Executive Director

our people



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innovation



More than 12 years ago a group of parents and families met in Indianapolis to discuss what would happen to their family members when there were no longer able to care for them.

They challenged themselves to think outside of the traditional residential housing options and supports that were available.



inspiration



This group found the work of St. Angela Merici who advised her community of sisters:

"If according to times and needs you should be obliged to make fresh rules and change current things, do it with prudence and good advice."

With understanding of the needs of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their desire to live in a community of people with common interests, they were inspired to develop residential options that are essential to the quality of life through living in a supportive community.



individuality



We focus on the desire to have a community of individuals and families who support one another in leading a purpose-filled life.

Our vision is that each person here makes each day meaningful.

To accomplish these goals, we encourage each resident to participate in individual skills trainings and activities.

We foster learning behaviors and provide multiple opportunities: YMCA, art classes, volunteering, cooking classes, and meditation, among others.



independence



Gaining skills for self-advocacy, employment, and affordable housing are among the most important factors in a person's sense of independence and self-fulfillment.

Community Integration provides opportunities outside of the home or residence to individuals to gain personal, social and vocational competence. These are critical to a sense of living successfully in community.

Our community members are active partners in determining the activities residents want to participate in and the skills they will work to develop.

Our staff work together with the individual and the family to identify compatible, comfortable and challenging community life experiences and interactions.

Together we develop goals and a plan to achieve them which will then result in increased independence and greater quality of life.

invitation



We welcome the families, friends, and neighbors of our residents and clients who live in the larger community.

We also recruit and welcome community helpers and volunteers to participate in daily activities as well as occasional or special events and opportunities.



We encourage residents to participate in local and area activities and entertainment.

Many community members have joined our Merici Book Clubs and are “regulars” with Game Night and Movie Night groups.

A very important part of our invitation to you, and to all who may be interested in or supportive of our mission and goals is to ask for financial support. This may be as a regular monthly or annual contribution. Even a one-time gift is welcome – large or small. Your funds will be used to develop program services and support development of residential opportunities for others.

integration

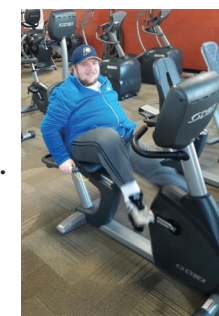


By creating a strong sense of community, we can create a stronger sense of belonging.

Our clients access the Indianapolis Community as participating citizens by voting, paying taxes, working, shopping, dining and being independent. They use public transportation or Uber and Lyft to access the Indianapolis area.



Our clients spend time with friends and family and have expanded their participation in healthy living styles including exercising at local fitness clubs. The Merici Walking Club integrates neighbors in a weekly fitness activity. Through coaching they are an integral part of the Lawrence and Indianapolis community.



Village of Merici is an approved service provider through the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities (BDDS) Waiver Services and is accredited by CARF International for supported living and community integration.

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The Village of Merici

A Neighborhood for Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Indianapolis

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