



Solon Community Living



OUR COMMUNITY, **Becoming Home**

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

President's Message

As we reflect on 2025, we are thankful and proud of the growth and life-changing progress at Solon Community Living.

We transitioned from building homes to completing our first year as a fully operational community for our 15 residents. What was once a vision has become a vibrant, supportive neighborhood.

What is especially exciting to share is how we have been able to enrich the lives of our residents with a full schedule of over 322 activities!

This year has shown us what is possible when dedication, care, and community come together. Our board members, community director, Logan Andress, resident assistants, Emma van Winkle and Gabby Rapposelli, volunteers, families, and donors have made it possible for our residents to live, work, socialize, and thrive.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support and look forward to 2026, when we will achieve full occupancy, expand enrichment and wellness programming, strengthen partnerships, and continue sharing the stories that make our innovative community so special.

Together, we are making Solon Community Living a place residents can truly call home.



With gratitude,

Ara A. Bagdasarian
President, Co-Founder

Leslie Bagdasarian
Co-Founder

Director's Message

Canadian author, Robin Sharma, penned the phrase, "Change is hard at the start, messy in the middle and gorgeous at the end." Change is supposed to be the enemy of our community. While change is hard for almost everyone, we're to believe that change for people with disabilities is nearly impossible. There's structure, routine, and so much more.

We definitely cannot say that change wasn't hard, or messy. My belief is that we got to "gorgeous" in a faster timeline than could have ever been expected. This year, we asked a lot from our residents. Six new residents moved in and we had a new Summer Resident Assistant, who contributed greatly. We had new events, new people around us, and new places that we visited.

But amid all the newness, we were reminded of Aristotle's words: "*Friendship seems to be the bond that holds communities together.*" Throughout the year, we saw those bonds form and grow in meaningful ways. Neighbors helped neighbors—clearing driveways, delivering packages, checking in on one another, and sharing countless small moments that quietly strengthen a community.



Change is hard. We had our fair share of messy times. But I wouldn't trade any of them for the "gorgeousness" that we're getting to experience now.

Logan Andress
Community Director

2025: Year in Review

2025 marked a milestone year for Solon Community Living as we completed our first year as a fully operational community.

Highlights included:

- Our ribbon-cutting celebration
- Welcoming remaining first-floor residents into Phase 2
- Continued expansion of resident programs and events
- Launched LifeLoop to strengthen communication and engagement
- Introduced a summer intern Resident Assistant
- Created a dedicated sensory room
- Significantly expanded partnerships with community organizations and individuals

We are deeply grateful to our donors, families, volunteers, and partners whose support made this progress possible.



Looking Ahead: 2026 Strategic Priorities & Program Highlights

- ✓ **Achieve Full Occupancy:** Welcome two additional residents and two caregivers, bringing the community to full capacity for a total of 17 residents, three Resident Assistants, and two caregivers.
- ✓ **Expand Enrichment & Wellness Programming:** Broaden opportunities for social connection, recreation, and personal growth through enhanced enrichment and wellness activities.
- ✓ **Strengthen Partnerships with Solon Recreation Center:** Continue coordinating Adaptive and Inclusive Recreation (AIR) programming and inclusive activities at the Solon Recreation Center to promote engagement, fitness, and community integration.
- ✓ **Advance the Provider Council (Carryover from 2025):** Continue development of a collaborative Provider Council to strengthen communication and care quality.
- ✓ **Implement Video ISPs (Carryover from 2025):** Expand the use of video Individual Service Plans (ISPs) to enhance personalization, accessibility, and understanding for residents, families, and care teams.



Our RAs, Gabby and Emma

Resident Assistant Reflections

Where Small Moments Become Lasting Memories

At Solon Community Living, growth happens on both sides. For Gabby and Emma, serving as resident assistants has been perspective-shifting and deeply meaningful.

Gabby

“One of my favorite memories is the Solon Community Picnic last summer. I remember looking out at the SCL patio filled with residents, neighbors, families, and friends—laughing, playing games, sharing food, and creating together.

Seeing our residents fully engaged and connected to the broader community made my heart so full. It was a powerful reminder that what we’re building here isn’t just programming, it’s belonging.

This role has stretched me in the best ways. Balancing school and work, planning meaningful activities, and navigating challenges with empathy has strengthened my confidence and leadership. Most of all, the relationships, with residents and fellow Resident Assistants, are what I will carry with me long after this chapter ends.”

Emma

“It started with a simple comment:Carolynn wanted a tea party.

That small idea turned into an unforgettable evening. I found myself staying up late baking cupcakes and helping decorate the Clubhouse. When Carolynn walked in and saw residents dressed in tea attire, tables beautifully set, and everything prepared just for her, the look on her face made every late night worth it.

Nearly nine months later, residents still talk about that tea party.

Moments like that are what make this role so special. Transitioning from youth education to supporting adults challenged me to grow in new ways, learning about Ohio’s adult service system, collaborating with families, and applying what I studied in the classroom to real life. But the biggest lessons have come from the residents themselves—about listening, flexibility, and showing up with intention.”

Financials

Thank you to the more than 500 generous donors whose support enabled us to successfully reach our Capital Campaign goal.

OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Solon Community Living

Breaking New Ground. Building Community. Enriching Lives.



We are deeply grateful for the many donors whose generosity has made our dreams come true!




Ara, Leslie, Julie & Alex Bagdasarian



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90% of \$100,000 goal was met as of April 2023.

Thank You to Our Community Partners

We extend our sincere appreciation to the following partners for their meaningful contributions. Their generosity, time, and partnership enriched the lives of our residents and strengthened our shared commitment to inclusion, connection, and opportunity.

SOLON FIRE DEPARTMENT
 Provided fire safety education as part of our Summer Safety Series.

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
 As a designated Service Learning site, welcomed weekly student volunteers who supported resident engagement and community participation.

SOLON CIVIC CLUB
 Contributed both financial support and volunteer time, including assistance with Halloween preparations.

SOLON ADAPTIVE AND INCLUSIVE RECREATION (AIR)
 Partnered on inclusive programs and community events, including our community picnic and the AIR Farmer's Market.

LOVING HANDS GROUP
 Delivered enriching activities such as Music & Movement, craft nights, and photo walks.

O'BRIEN CONSTRUCTION
 Volunteered regularly to lead workshops and build meaningful connections with residents.

DIFFERENT DRUM MUSIC THERAPY
 Offered engaging music therapy experiences that supported emotional expression and creativity.

Together, these partnerships help create a vibrant, supportive, and inclusive community for our residents.

Board Members

- Ara Bagdasarian
- Leslie Bagdasarian
- Gary Biales
- Lee Markowitz
- Rich Mazzola
- Jason Nedley

Advisors

- Mary Corall
- Tom Liutkus
- Theresa Markowitz
- Dave Schiele



By the Numbers – 2025

This past year at Solon Community Living was full of connection, activity, and impact:



322

Solon Community Living Activities



117

City of Solon Events



474

Total Calls, Texts, and Messages



89

Community Meals



111

Resident Assistant Direct Service Hours



3,308

Individual Points of Contact from RA Role

Every number tells a story of community, care, and commitment, and we're grateful for each person who made 2025 such a meaningful year.



Solon Community Living

Our Mission

To provide a quality, community-accessible, sustainable housing option for individuals with disabilities so they can safely live, work, socialize, and thrive with the support they need.

Our Vision

To provide long-term peace of mind for families who have loved ones with disabilities.

**6655 Clearwater Court
Solon, OH 44139
(216) 200-6514**



soloncommunityliving.org



director@soloncommunityliving.org

*Solon Community Living is a
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