Annual Report
2018

Vera Court
Neighborhood Center, Inc.

Reflecting the evolving needs, strengths, and diversity of our communities
This past year marked a major accomplishment for Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Inc. We completed our first ever capital campaign, Vera Vision 2020. And, thanks to supporters like you, we raised more than 109% of our $2.2M goal with the additional funds going toward a scholarship fund for graduating students.

Vera Vision 2020 is a reflection of the hard work, dedication, and compassion of all the children, families, and staff who have attended and contributed to the success of the center for the past two decades. I would like to especially thank the youth staff at Vera Court and BLW Center for their commitment to providing a safe and welcoming place for children and families with a focus on academic support and celebrating the daily accomplishments of children and families. In the upcoming year we are looking forward to expanding a high school program at Vera Court, growing our senior program at BLW Center, and expanding our Latino Academy GED program to satellite locations across Dane County. None of this would be possible without your support.

We invite you to visit and learn more about the wonderful impact you have made in our community. It is an honor to help turn the vision of this agency into a reality, and I extend my deepest thanks.

Thomas R. Singleton
Leadership

Board of Directors
VERA COURT NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER, INC.

President
Don Bruns
Lawyer and owner, Sherman Plaza Shopping Center

Vice President & Treasurer
Tom McMahan
President, Summit Sports (retired)

Secretary
David Krause
Principal, Blackhawk Middle School (retired)

Members at Large
Tanya Buckingham
Assistant Director, UW-Madison Cartography Lab

Michael Hughes
Clinical Psychologist (retired)

Darius Green
Program Alumni; Firefighter & EMT, St. Mary’s Hospital

Jim Kellerman
Executive Director, Elder Care of Dane County (retired)

Corinda Rainey-Moore
Community Outreach & Engagement Coordinator, WI Council on Children & Families

Marcus Stanford
Diversity Recruiter, Dane County Sheriff’s Office

Erika Torrison
Teacher, Madison Metropolitan School District

Chris Vandal
Dean of the School of Academic Achievement, Madison College

Molly Walsh
Co-Founder, Groundwork Events

Steering Committees

BLW CENTER
Dan Grupe - Assistant Scientist, UW-Madison Center for Healthy Minds
Tanya Buckingham - Assistant Director, UW - Madison Cartography Laboratory
Adam Clausen - Senior Leader, Life Center
Gabrielle Hinahara - Director, Middleton Youth Center
Vickie Holland - Principal, Dimension Development LLC
Michael Hughes - Retired Clinical Psychologist
Jim Kellerman - Retired Executive Director, Elder Care of Dane County
Sandy Kohn - Retired Director of Employee Assistance, City of Madison; Retired School of Social Work Professor, UW-Madison
Shawn Willox - Youth Minister & Religious Education Coordinator, Good Shepherd
Jared Prado - Madison Police Officer (Community Outreach Resource Education) & Attorney
Amanda Captain - Interim Director/ Tutor WES-CS, UW-Madison

LATINO ACADEMY
Salvador Carranza - President, Latino Education Council
Leslie Ptak - Compliance Assistant Specialist, U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA
Beth Gayton - Regional Literacy Consultant, Wisconsin Literacy, Inc.
Elizabeth Roddy - Recruitment and Training Coordinator, Associated Builders & Contractors
Sheila Schultz - Employment Coordinator, Attic Angels Community
Bree Pizano - C-Team Manager, QTI Group
Dena Gullickson - Human Resource Manager, Steven's Construction Corp.
Kevin Foley - Administrative Manager, Madison College - School of Academic Advancement
Amparo Morena - ABE Faculty & HSCC Coordinator, Madison College
Juan Jose Lopez - Bureau Director, Dept. of Workforce Development

Subcommittee Members, BLW CENTER: Linda Bank, Karen Burg, Terry Campbell, Constance Clune, Pauline Jones, Debbie Marlowe, Dolly Maurer, Mary Moore, Ashley Olson, Portia Vaughn, Tim Wilson, Ericka Booey, JoAnn Gosda, Kim Leal, and Vera Jones
We need more Veronicas to close the justice gap

An important lesson about effectively representing people did not come from a law professor or experienced attorney. Instead, it came from Veronica Vega, a champion for her community and the free Vera Court legal clinic.

Several years ago, Ascendium Education Group (Ascendium) established a free legal clinic at Vera Court Neighborhood Center (VCNC). Based on the clinic’s success, they set up a second clinic at a local school. Despite sending home fliers with students and publicizing the clinic in the school newsletter, Ascendium never got a single client.

At first, Rebecca Rapp, general counsel for Ascendium, was puzzled. But she soon realized what they were missing: Veronica.

Veronica has been with the agency for almost four years and is the Latino Family Resource Specialist for VCNC and BLW Center. Potential clients trust and confide in Veronica, and she serves almost 50 individuals a year by connecting them with free legal assistance that they may otherwise never receive.

“As Veronica taught me, the legal community could not close the justice gap on its own even if we could provide an attorney for everyone who needs one. We need champions and sponsors such as Veronica to get any clients at all,” says Rapp.

To read the whole story, visit our website at www.veracourt.org/vera-in-the-news

Meet Monica, the Training Program Coordinator at the Latino Academy of Workforce Development

Monica (pictured right) is the Training Program Coordinator at the Latino Academy of Workforce Development. Her dedication and commitment to serving the Latino community has led to her success as a case manager and now, as our Training Program Coordinator. Monica’s mission is to guide Dane County Latino adults in finding fulfilling career pathways that result in family-supporting wages.

In 2018, Monica helped 19 students obtain their CDL Class B licenses. She has obtained a CDL permit, herself, in order to better understand what our students experience during this program. One CDL graduate stated, “The Latino Academy helps people like me excel to get to a place in our lives where we are able to provide for our families.”

Every day, the Latino Academy is connecting adults with meaningful careers that make a positive impact in the Latino community and Dane County overall.
Our Partners

Vera Vision 2020
Campaign Donors from 2017-2018

$250,000+
The Evjue Foundation Charitable Arm of The Cap Times
Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Inc. Board of Directors

$100,000.00-$249,999.
City of Madison
Lau & Bea Christensen
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation
Oscar Rennebohm Foundation
Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith Family Foundation

$50,000-$99,999.
Diane Ballweg
CUNA Mutual Foundation
Madison Community Foundation

$25,000-$49,999.
David and Paula Kraemer Fund
David and Nancy Walsh Family Foundation
Madison Gas & Electric (MGE) Eric D. and Steven D. Hovde Foundation
National Guardian Life

$15,000-$24,999.
Attic Angel Association
Blackhawk Church
Kris, Don, Teri, & Dave Bruns Culver’s Foundation
Ecumenical Fund for Seniors
Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation
Great Lakes Higher Education Irving and Dorothy Levy Family Foundation, Inc. & Jeff Levy Technology Education Foundation

$5,000-$11,999.
American Family Insurance
Dreams Foundation
American Girl Fund for Children
Madonna & Brad Binkowski
Anne Bolz
Mark & Carol Cullen
John DeWitt
Ray & Mary Evert
Frances R Dewing Foundation
Marianna Fuchs
Phil & Ginger Hinderaker
Lincoln Financial Advisors
David Krause
Frederick Kruger
Kuehn Family Foundation
Magic Pebble Foundation
Mary Ellen and Goff Beach Family Foundation
Tom & Kate McMahan
Stephan Morton
Joseph & Stacy Soderholm
Steinhauer Charitable Foundation
Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation
Marc & Astrid Vaccaro
Richard & Cathi Webrecht-Seear
Cheryl Rosen Weston
J. H. Findorff & Son Inc.
Hans & Elizabeth Johnson
Tim & Cheri Jordan
Art Luette
Marcia MacKenzie & Gerald Borseth
Madison-Kipp Corporation
Merrill Lynch Bank of America Corporation
Ken & Nancy Ragland
Rebecca Ressl
Pat & Renee Richter
Gerry & Armella Ring
E.G. Robert & Barbara Mary Schramka
Thomas R. Solyst
Benjamin Stein
Chuck Stonecipher
TASC
James & Carrie Theys
Wall Family Enterprise
Dolly Warren
Webcrafters
W. W. Grainger
Woodman’s Market
Anonymous
Baer Insurance
Dave Beck-Engel
Don & Kris Bruns
Tanya Buckingham
The Capital Times Kid Fund - Child & Family Committee
Dana & Patricia Chabot
Charles Hathaway Trust
Courtier Foundation
Lou Cross
Sam Crossley & Rachel Neymark
George & Mary Cullen
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Jan Froelich
Bob & Sara Gingras
Sandra & David Gunderson
Erik & Kelsey Hausmann
Elisabeth Hendrickson
Tom & Joyce Hirsch
Hooper Foundation
Up to $999
John Aeschlimann
Gail & Philip Allison
Barbara Arnold
Associated Bank
Susan Ballard
Leonard & Jenn Barry
Emily Braun
Ellis & Sue Bauman
Pamela Benish
Best Buds Landscaping
Dorothy Borchardt
Carrie Braxton
Holly Brietrick
Patricia Brinkman
Brianna Buch
Mary Burke
Marian & Garvin Celesnik
Sheila Collopy & John Young
$1,000-$4,999.
Shirley Davie
CeCe & David Easton
Sue Ela
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Ann Freiwald
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Gary & Jana Funk
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Bill Geist
Eric Hands
Jay Hazen DDS
Doreen Hinrichs
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Michael & Rosie Hughes Bruce Jamison
Barbara Jenkin
Steven & Carole Kalscheur
Kathleen Kelly
Jan Ketzlz
Rodney Knight
Donald Lamb
Jon & Sarah Lancaster
Sally Lehman
Donald & Shelley Lukes
Lesleigh Luttrell
Susan & David Lynett
Paul & Terry Maggio
Shirley Davie
CeCe & David Easton
Sue Ela
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Ann Freiwald
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Gary & Jana Funk
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Bill Geist
Eric Hands
Jay Hazen DDS
Doreen Hinrichs
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Michael & Rosie Hughes Bruce Jamison
Barbara Jenkin
Steven & Carole Kalscheur
Kathleen Kelly
Jan Ketzlz
Rodney Knight
Donald Lamb
Jon & Sarah Lancaster
Sally Lehman
Donald & Shelley Lukes
Lesleigh Luttrell
Susan & David Lynett
Paul & Terry Maggio

$250,000 +
The Evjue Foundation Charitable Arm of The Cap Times
Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Inc. Board of Directors

$100,000.00-$249,999.
City of Madison
Lau & Bea Christensen
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation
Oscar Rennebohm Foundation
Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith Family Foundation

$50,000-$99,999.
Diane Ballweg
CUNA Mutual Foundation
Madison Community Foundation

$25,000-$49,999.
David and Paula Kraemer Fund
David and Nancy Walsh Family Foundation
Madison Gas & Electric (MGE) Eric D. and Steven D. Hovde Foundation
National Guardian Life

$15,000-$24,999.
Attic Angel Association
Blackhawk Church
Kris, Don, Teri, & Dave Bruns Culver’s Foundation
Ecumenical Fund for Seniors
Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation
Great Lakes Higher Education Irving and Dorothy Levy Family Foundation, Inc. & Jeff Levy Technology Education Foundation

$5,000-$11,999.
American Family Insurance
Dreams Foundation
American Girl Fund for Children
Madonna & Brad Binkowski
Anne Bolz
Mark & Carol Cullen
John DeWitt
Ray & Mary Evert
Frances R Dewing Foundation
Marianna Fuchs
Phil & Ginger Hinderaker
Lincoln Financial Advisors
David Krause
Frederick Kruger
Kuehn Family Foundation
Magic Pebble Foundation
Mary Ellen and Goff Beach Family Foundation
Tom & Kate McMahan
Stephan Morton
Joseph & Stacy Soderholm
Steinhauer Charitable Foundation
Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation
Marc & Astrid Vaccaro
Richard & Cathi Webrecht-Seear
Cheryl Rosen Weston
J. H. Findorff & Son Inc.
Hans & Elizabeth Johnson
Tim & Cheri Jordan
Art Luette
Marcia MacKenzie & Gerald Borseth
Madison-Kipp Corporation
Merrill Lynch Bank of America Corporation
Ken & Nancy Ragland
Rebecca Ressl
Pat & Renee Richter
Gerry & Armella Ring
E.G. Robert & Barbara Mary Schramka
Thomas R. Solyst
Benjamin Stein
Chuck Stonecipher
TASC
James & Carrie Theys
Wall Family Enterprise
Dolly Warren
Webcrafters
W. W. Grainger
Woodman’s Market
Anonymous
Baer Insurance
Dave Beck-Engel
Don & Kris Bruns
Tanya Buckingham
The Capital Times Kid Fund - Child & Family Committee
Dana & Patricia Chabot
Charles Hathaway Trust
Courtier Foundation
Lou Cross
Sam Crossley & Rachel Neymark
George & Mary Cullen
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Jan Froelich
Bob & Sara Gingras
Sandra & David Gunderson
Erik & Kelsey Hausmann
Elisabeth Hendrickson
Tom & Joyce Hirsch
Hooper Foundation
Up to $999
John Aeschlimann
Gail & Philip Allison
Barbara Arnold
Associated Bank
Susan Ballard
Leonard & Jenn Barry
Emily Braun
Ellis & Sue Bauman
Pamela Benish
Best Buds Landscaping
Dorothy Borchardt
Carrie Braxton
Holly Brietrick
Patricia Brinkman
Brianna Buch
Mary Burke
Marian & Garvin Celesnik
Sheila Collopy & John Young
$1,000-$4,999.
Shirley Davie
CeCe & David Easton
Sue Ela
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Ann Freiwald
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Gary & Jana Funk
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Bill Geist
Eric Hands
Jay Hazen DDS
Doreen Hinrichs
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Michael & Rosie Hughes Bruce Jamison
Barbara Jenkin
Steven & Carole Kalscheur
Kathleen Kelly
Jan Ketzlz
Rodney Knight
Donald Lamb
Jon & Sarah Lancaster
Sally Lehman
Donald & Shelley Lukes
Lesleigh Luttrell
Susan & David Lynett
Paul & Terry Maggio
Shirley Davie
CeCe & David Easton
Sue Ela
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Ann Freiwald
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Gary & Jana Funk
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Bill Geist
Eric Hands
Jay Hazen DDS
Doreen Hinrichs
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Michael & Rosie Hughes Bruce Jamison
Barbara Jenkin
Steven & Carole Kalscheur
Kathleen Kelly
Jan Ketzlz
Rodney Knight
Donald Lamb
Jon & Sarah Lancaster
Sally Lehman
Donald & Shelley Lukes
Lesleigh Luttrell
Susan & David Lynett
Paul & Terry Maggio
Shirley Davie
CeCe & David Easton
Sue Ela
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Ann Freiwald
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Gary & Jana Funk
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Bill Geist
Eric Hands
Jay Hazen DDS
Doreen Hinrichs
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Michael & Rosie Hughes Bruce Jamison
Barbara Jenkin
Steven & Carole Kalscheur
Kathleen Kelly
Jan Ketzlz
Rodney Knight
Donald Lamb
Jon & Sarah Lancaster
Sally Lehman
Donald & Shelley Lukes
Lesleigh Luttrell
Susan & David Lynett
Paul & Terry Maggio

2018 Annual Giving

$100,000 +
City of Madison
State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
United Way of Dane County

$25,000-$99,999.
Construction Training, Inc. (CEI)
Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation
Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith Family Foundation

$10,000-$24,999.
Ascendium
American Girl Fund for Children
City of Fitchburg
County of Dane

The Evjue Foundation Charitable Arm of The Cap Times
Fund for Women
Madison Community Foundation
Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin
Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation
Alliant Energy Foundation
American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation
Anonymous
Associated Builders and Contractors of Wisconsin
Attic Angel Association
Dave Beck-Engel
Benedictine Life Foundation at Holy Wisdom Monastery
Mary Burke
Sudie & Richard Burnham
The Capital Times Kid Fund
Youth Support Committee
Charter Oak Foundation
Dollard General Literacy Foundation
Door Creek Church
Epic
Ray & Mary Evert
Forward Community Investment
Frances R Dewing Foundation
Mariana Fuchs
Erik Torrison
Allison Volkman
Carol & Bill Walsh
Patricia Watson
John & Anita Weier
Topf & Sally Wells
A Woodward Drive Family
In Honor of
Tom McMahan
The VCNC Families of 2009-2011
In Memory of
William & Jean Ferger
Paul Morledge
In Kind Support
Anonymous
Susan Ballard
Future Wisconsin Housing Fund
Lakeview Library
Madison Reading Project
Tom & Kate McMahan
Sub-Zero Foundation
Wall Family Enterprise
Tom & Joyce Hirscht
John J. Frautschy Family Foundation
Hans & Elizabeth Johnson
Frederick Kruger
Marcia MacKenzie & Gerald Borschet
Madison Area Sports Commission
Madison South Rotary Foundation
Meriter
Merrill Lynch Bank of America Corporation
The Oscar G. & Elsa S. Mayer Family Foundation
Ken & Nancy Ragland
Roundy’s Fund of the Kroger Foundation
Joseph & Stacy Soderholm
Steinhauer Charitable Foundation
Stevens Construction
US Bank

Up to $999
4C Community Coordinated Child Care
John Aeschlimann
Gail & Philip Allison
Anonymous
Claudio Antezania & John Gooch
Anthology, LLC
Barbara Arnold
Ellis & Sue Bauman
Kimberly Bean & Jane Sadusky
Pamela Benish
Steven Bentin
Best Buds Landscaping
Constance Bettin
Madonna & Brad Binkowski
Jeff Bissing
Anne Bogar & Donald Dyke
Arlene Bollig
Dorothy Borchardt
Patricia Brinkman
Meg & Tom Brock
Don & Kris Bruns
John Bryan
Robert Buchanan & Jane Hillermann
Robin Cahill
Joan Calkins
Jeff & Amanda Captain
Catholic Financial Life

Mary & Daniel Caulfield
Marian & Garvin Celesnik
Evonna Cheetham
Constance & William Clune
Robert Cohen
James Connors
Cooperative Educational Service Agency No. 12
Lou Cross
Karen & Alan Crossley
Dave Jones, Inc.
CeCe & David Easton
William & Lynne Eich
Phyllis Ermer
Jennifer Fass
Lynne & Scott Faulkner
Chad Ferguson
Jerry & Kathy Folk
Chris & Sarah Fortune
Ann Freiwald
Sonia Fuentes
Barbara Fuerst Sgro
Brian & Jennifer Gabrielse
Jane Genceff
Rose Ghilardi
Phurba & Pasang Gomden
Google Inc.
Michael Gordon
Jo Ann Gosda
Hedly Grove
Dan & Molly Grupe
Andrew Gusseter
Jason Hajdik
David Hammonds & Arminte J. Moore-Hammonds
Eric Hands
Joann Hayes
Jay Hazen DDS
Annette & Brian Hellmer
Susan & Leslie Hoffman
Victoria Holland
Home Savings Bank
Hottmann Construction Company
Benito Huesca Garcia
Maleeha Haneeef
Michael & Rosie Hughes
Bruce Jamison
Margaret Jensen
Tim & Cheri Jordan
Katie Kazan & Dan Stick
Rita & Earl Keleny
Jim Kellerman
Kathleen Kelly
Alyssa Kenney
Jan Ketzlter
Mary & Paul Killian
Kwik Trip Kares
David Kinney
Natalie & Peter Knudson
Koenig Custom Concrete Corp.
August Larson
Edward Lee
Sally Lehrman
Janet Lonergan
Robyn Luhning
Lesleigh Luttrel
Susan & David Lynett
Caitlin Mackesey
Mega Rentals
Emily Meier
Mary & Donald Metz
David & Judy Miller
Daniel Minahan
Monona Shores Apartments
Monona United Methodist
John Morledge
Arlene Norris
Northside Animal Hospital
Off Broadway Lounge
Michael & Sharon Opacic
Peter Oppeneer & Lawrie Klobza
Mike OShea
Jeane Parus & Charles Leadholm
Michael & Judy Patenaude
Paypal Charitable Giving Fund
Elizabeth Pelton
Lori Peppard
Ana Peralta & Luis Campo
Melinda Pierson
Peter & Mary Plane
Power System Engineering, Inc.
The QTI Group
Rebecca Resl
John Reynolds
Nathan Riesen
Gerry & Armella Ring
Barbara Roeber & Larry Black
Kristin Rucinski
Carol Samuel
Gail Shea
Ross Shrago
Mark Schuster
Lynn Stathas
Michelle & Tony Steffens
Margaret & Kurt Stege
Harold Steudel
Thomas & Kathleen Tarpey
Armando Tello
Carol Tertadian
Carolyn Theys
Margaret & Richard Thomas
UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence, Inc.
Omar & Emily Urquizo
Cynthia Van Pelt
Michael Vena
Deborah & Dario Villa
Martha Vukelich-Austin & George Austin

Wall Family Enterprise
Carol & Bill Walsh
Waunona Garden Club
Topf & Sally Wells
Jake Wilson
Wisconsin Literacy Network
Dan & Laura Wyatt

In Honor Of
Mae Buckingham
Marcia MacKenzie
Bob Smith

In Kind Support
Dorothy Borchardt
City of Madison
Linda Finger
Madison Mallards
Pan & Pan Bakery
Olivia Parry
Roundy’s Fund of the Kroger Foundation
Swad Indian Restaurant
Vicki Taylor

Finances

2018 expenses $1,355,631
- Children & Youth $452,270
- Latino Academy $361,979
- Community Assistance $58,146
- Community Center Use $257,291
- Management $95,096
- Fundraising $97,267
- Other $33,582

2018 revenue $1,354,320
- City of Madison - Facility Use $247,528
- City of Madison - Programming $395,130
- United Way $199,701
- Center Fundraising $608,305

* $96,344 in investment income from agency endowment fund is not displayed in above graph. The endowment fund is separate from the annual operating budget.