As a longtime provider of services for infants, children and adults with complex disabilities and medical needs, St. Joseph Home (SJH), based in Sharonville, Ohio, opened its first Adult Day Program in Blue Ash in 2013. It was initially launched for residents only, however, in 2013 it grew again and began serving individuals from the broader community and currently serves 40 individuals. In mid-2019, the program will grow yet again to more fully meet the community's unmet need, a consistent mission across the organization's diverse 145-year history.

The new site located off of Chester Road in Sharonville will engage more than 25 additional individuals weekly by the middle of 2021. SJH’s 40 percent increase in day programming capacity will test innovative programs and services such as:

- A community-accessible site where the individuals involved have the opportunity to engage with the broader community even a short “rolling” distance away.
- Regular assessment and development of program participants’ functional and communicative abilities to ensure participants can engage even more fully.
- Staff training to ensure that practices related to community belonging, strength-based development, person-centered planning and design thinking are driven by staff and participants together on a daily basis.

The model for the expanded Adult Day Program, “Pathways to Opportunities,” outlines SJH’s personalized approach to meeting the needs of those they work with by helping each adult discover their world and community surroundings. Key aspects include helping individuals connect and establish meaningful interactions and relationships with others in the community beyond those who are paid to care for them; encouraging volunteerism, giving individuals the opportunity to gain skills, possibly obtain employment, promote goodness and improve the quality of life for all involved, as well as to give back to their community. Additionally, helping some individuals to seek employment provides a sense of accomplishment, personal satisfaction and self-actualization, giving a greater purpose to their life and allowing them to make contributions to the world around them.

Molly Robertshaw, director of Community Advancement, adds, “Our goal is to help make the people we serve more visible, and that by doing so, we can start to change society’s perspectives about their potential and possibilities.”
Bayley where a Strategic Planning Retreat brought staff and Board members together on Sept. 28, 2018, to discuss the findings of a recent market study, prepared and presented by Brecht Associates, Inc. Staying informed of changes in the healthcare industry and senior lifestyle preferences will help shape Bayley projects, programs and services into the future. Congratulations to staff and volunteers Missy Miley, Libby Langefeld, Mary Jo Custer and Janis Hauck who were among nearly 90 recipients recognized as Outstanding Caregivers at the 14th Annual White Mass held at the Cathedral on Nov. 11, 2018.

DePaul Cristo Rey High School (DPCR) and its Corporate Work Study Program, which has added six new organizations as partners this school year. Another six companies increased the number of their student employees; among them, Mercy Health which grew from six to 12 student workers across several of its health care facilities. All DPCR students work five days a month at one of 100-plus corporate placements earning part of their own education costs and gaining real-life work experience. School leaders are already at work to identify additional placements for the enrollment increase expected next year.

Mount Saint Joseph University as preparations continue for the Centennial Celebration. Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, Sept. 14, 2019, which will be the kickoff. Details to follow. The Mount Board has approved a new Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders and a Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology. If all goes well with proposed plans, the Recreation and Fitness Center should break ground this coming July. Please keep it in your prayers. President Williams’ goals for the Transformation 2025 strategy includes: grow enrollment and provide an affordable education; increase student engagement and create a vibrant campus; and finally, increase university visibility and attract talented and engaged employees.

Seton High School after the INTERalliance Team placed third in a User Interface Competition through INTERalliance of Greater Cincinnati. They built a webpage through coding. The only team to ‘code from scratch!’ “The User Interface Competition was an amazing experience that opened the doors to help me understand how to improve my website’s user experience,” said junior Caitlyn Thai. “Even though we were the only team to code from scratch, I still learned about other teams’ ideas on how to improve user experience and how others are using code to help solve problems in their community. ... I also learned more about building websites which will help me in my future career.” The INTERalliance Team competes in various activities and competitions throughout the city.