



DISCOVERING SELF-DIRECTION AT AN EARLY AGE

A month before Samantha and Mike's daughter Avery turned two, Avery was diagnosed with autism.

Samantha works as a Care Manager and is familiar with the OPWDD (Office for People with Developmental Disabilities) system. She also recognizes, "From a Care Management perspective and a parent perspective just how confusing and overwhelming navigating the OPWDD system can be. This can be especially difficult when you or your child has just received a new diagnosis."

Samantha connected with Starbridge when she began researching Self-Directed Services (also known as Fiscal Intermediary or FI), and has nothing but praise for both Megan Storm, Director of Fiscal Intermediary Services, and April Dixon, FI Specialist.

Samantha says, "Both of them have been wonderful! I couldn't ask for a better team."

"Avery loves music and loves to make people laugh. She is currently in school 5 days a week and thriving! She loves gymnastics, horseback riding, and swimming - all made possible with the help of Starbridge. She continues to amaze us every day. We are all so proud of her!"

"As more children are being diagnosed earlier in life than in the past, I would like to see more programs and services available for preschoolers and their families."

"Our dream for Avery is to have relationships that are valuable, do work that she finds enjoyable and makes her feel productive, be surrounded by people that love and support her, and for her to live a happy and meaningful life."

"I have learned so much about Self-Direction and what's available through the budget. This has not only been helpful for me as a parent but I am also able to carry over what I've learned into my role as a Care Manager. I have also referred my clients to Starbridge because I know firsthand what a wonderful agency they are."

"Do not be afraid to ask questions and reach out to your Care Manager, Support Broker, or FI Specialist - they are your circle of support. I would also like to encourage parents and family members to embrace who your child was created to be. Never take anything for granted and celebrate every milestone, no matter how small!"

To learn more about eligibility and next steps, contact Starbridge's FI Department at 585-224-7232 or fisupport@starbridgeinc.org.

THANK YOU TO OUR PATRON SPONSORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Lori Barnard-Northrup
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THANK YOU TO GREATER ROCHESTER HEALTH FOUNDATION FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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Starbridge's work partnering with individuals who have disabilities and their families to achieve success in education, employment, and healthy living is in line with our mission at the Greater Rochester Health Foundation, which, centered in equity, is to pursue and invest in solutions that build a healthier region where all people can thrive.

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Phone: 585-258-1799
thegrhf.org



OUR IMPACT

Starbridge served **11,826** people in 2020—
an increase of **11%** over 2019.



BRANDEN

360+
developed job
skills, completed
internships, or
obtained
competitive
employment



JOESETTE

950+
were supported
through
residential,
family supports,
transportation,
and more



JOSE AND MARIA



BEAU

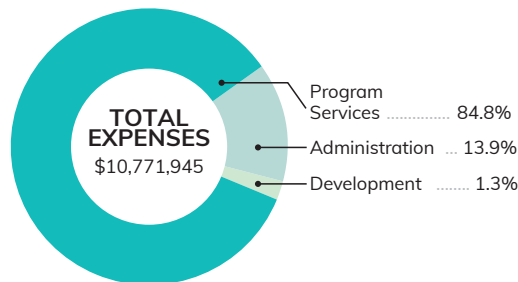
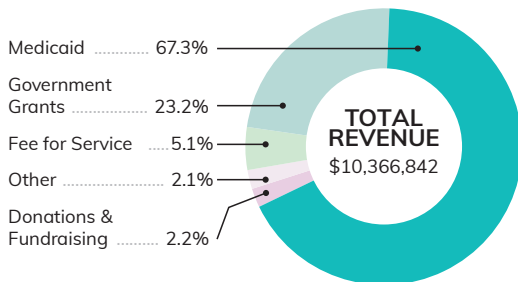
550+
children and
adults used
Self-Direction
to manage their
services



HYACINTH AND CYNTHIA

7,800+
statewide
worked with
us to improve
**educational
outcomes** for
their children

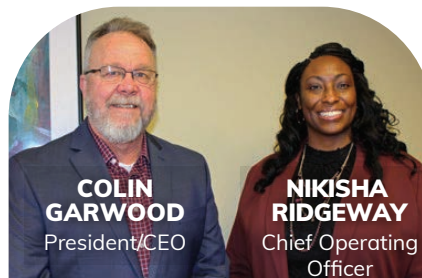
2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



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which helps make our impact possible!



For a list of donors, please see:
www.starbridgeinc.org/2020donors



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CONGRATULATIONS TO STARBRIDGE'S 2021 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Starbridge honors three employers who go above and beyond in providing inclusive workplaces and employment opportunities to individuals who have disabilities.

Congratulations to Sheen & Shine, Inc., the Volunteer & Guest Services Team at Rochester General Hospital, and the Greece Ridge Michaels Store!



Ike Cuyler, President,
Sheen & Shine Inc.
(right)



Cory Disidoro,
Store Manager,
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(left)

WELCOME
TO
ROCHESTER
GENERAL
HOSPITAL



Doug Della Pietra, Manager,
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Rochester General Hospital



Barb Maryniak, Starbridge
Youth Navigator

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR YOUR SUPPORT

**We're
grateful for
all you do.**

We can't express in just a few words how much we appreciate your dedication. Thanks to your efforts you've made a difference in our community and had a positive effect on us all. For that and more we're grateful.

KeyBank thanks Starbridge for making a difference.



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Barclay Damon is proud to support Starbridge and the important services they provide to our community.

200 Five Star Bank Plaza, 100 Chestnut Street
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MediSked is proud to partner with Starbridge as their agency management software solution to improve lives, drive efficiencies, and generate innovations.

Thank you Starbridge and keep up the amazing work!

THANK YOU, MARY RICHARDSON, FOR YOUR SUPPORT



The advocacy and service that Starbridge provides helps thousands of people who have disabilities to realize their fullest potential. Starbridge is THE advocacy resource for every age and every area: education, employment, and family living. As a parent of a child with a disability, I have worked with the talented and knowledgeable staff. Starbridge is amazing – unsurpassed really – and Rochester is so lucky to have this resource. I joined the Board nine years ago so that I could give back to this organization both as a volunteer and financial supporter.



WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

Especially if we don't
know you helped us
already...

We are very grateful for every gift that builds our investment fund. We're especially happy to add names to our circle of creative donors who have made a bequest or other estate plan gift toward our investment fund.

If you've included us in your estate plan, please let us know today. You'll give us the chance to thank you appropriately. We'll proudly list your name on the Starbridge Champions Circle giving society to encourage others to give, or keep it anonymous if you prefer.



**Discover the benefits of giving wisely.
To get started:**

Call: 585-224-7247

Email: legacygiving@starbridgeinc.org

Visit: www.starbridgeinc.org/legacygiving

Join our Champions Circle giving society today!

THANK YOU TO EVERO FOR YOUR SUPPORT

eVero is ecstatic to stand behind Starbridge in their tireless commitment to serving people with disabilities while creating an empowered and inclusive community.

We are proud to partner with Starbridge as they work to break down barriers and provide constant hope, access, and quality support for people with disabilities in New York.

Starbridge takes a uniquely person-centered approach to their support, working with people directly to help them achieve what's important to them. By partnering closely with individuals who have disabilities and their families, Starbridge helps people to achieve their own success in education, employment, and healthy living — powerfully transforming communities in the process.

Thank you to the staff at Starbridge for all that you do in your work every day! For many generations to come, eVero hopes to see Starbridge continue to support people with disabilities in "finding their way to the HOPE and the HOW".



**POWERFUL TECHNOLOGY DRIVING
PERSON-CENTERED CARE**

THANK YOU TO SHEEN & SHINE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

As a member of the New York State Industries for the Disabled, Inc., Sheen & Shine provides jobs to individuals with disabilities and Veterans with disabilities in our community who experience barriers to other employment opportunities. We are proud to sponsor Starbridge for the important work they do in partnering with people to achieve their employment goals.



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THANK YOU TO BURKE GROUP FOR YOUR SUPPORT

"Burke Group is proud to support Starbridge and the work they do to improve the lives of individuals and families within the Rochester Community. We value our relationship and find it extremely rewarding to give back, to help those with disabilities lead meaningful and healthy lives."

Brian J. Schiedel, QKA
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BURKE GROUP





For the Hope and the How

1650 SOUTH AVE, STE 200
ROCHESTER, NY 14620

CHAMPIONS

YOUR SUPPORT ADVANCES OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

ISSUE 11 • DECEMBER 2021

INSIDE THIS EDITION:

- Discovering Self-Direction at an Early Age
- 2021 Impact Report
- Congratulations to Starbridge's 2021 Community Champions
- Discover the Benefits of Giving Wisely
- ... and more!

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Season's Greetings

As the year 2021 winds down, know that you have made a difference for children and adults with disabilities. We wish you and your loved ones a 2022 filled with peace, joy, and good health.

Colin Barwood Krystyna Staub Jeffery
Nikisha Ridgeway Larry O'Hare