Before coming to CCRI, Ryan’s confidence seemed to have plummeted. His anxiety was beginning to rob him of his strengths. His independence was decreasing.

When asked about this time, Ryan shared that his “medications weren’t working right.” When he moved into CCRI’s Supported Living Services program ten years ago, his first priority was to find the correct medications. “I was hyper and couldn’t relax—it was terrible.” The 24-hour care he received provided around-the-clock reassurance and helped to calm him.

With the correct medications, reassurance from caregivers, and a structured schedule, he began to regain his confidence and independence. Most importantly, Ryan began to recognize his strengths. He got a job, learned to navigate the city bus system, rediscovered the joy of cooking, the importance of budgeting and eventually outgrew his 24-hour-staffing need.

The new, confident, Ryan decided his next step would include CCRI’s Independent by Design Program (IBD).

This is the only program of its kind using this cutting-edge technology in the F–M area. Currently, only three other counties in the Twin Cities are using it. IBD uses a combination of traditional direct caregiving hours and remote technology monitoring. The remote monitoring consists of sensors that can be put in place to help support people with areas of concern. For example, if a person struggles to remember...
ber to take their medications, a contact sensor can be put on their medication drawer and set to send an alert if he/she forgets to take them. This alert is silent in the person’s apartment but triggers an automated phone call to the assigned caregiver. There is a caregiver in the IBD office 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and they are available to assist people in the program when necessary. They respond to technology alerts, maintain the technology, and help with any other issues that may come up.

Ryan uses monitors on his stove, door and medication cabinet. He has a caregiver nine hours a week—a huge difference from 24 hours a day. Ryan wasn’t shy to point out that he “likes where I am today. I can relax more, sleep in and it’s a lot quieter in the mornings.” Ryan currently sets up his medications with his caregiver on a weekly basis. His organizational skills are strong and he alerts his caregivers about outings and appointment changes, and shares updates on his check register. Ryan works at Hornbachers as a bagger 20–25 hours a week—a job he is proud of. If you don’t see him at the grocery store, you can often find him working out at the gym or cooking delicious recipes—he’s very proud of his pumpkin sloppy joes.

Ryan is enjoying his new-found independence and the program has allowed him the opportunity to live safely in his own home independently—something we all strive for.

Since beginning in IBD Ryan has become more outgoing and will stretch himself by trying new things—he just seems to beam.
—Eric Hilber

Ryan and his parents enjoy their time together at the CCRI Client Appreciation Supper.
Looking for Designers for 2017

Share Your Talent So We Can Discover Ours

TableScapes is an annual event based around creativity. The table designs are as unique as the people we support. It’s a night of food, fellowship, and celebration as we highlight the accomplishments of the people we support. The evening consists of a happy hour, short program, and dinner.

It’s As Easy As 1, 2, 3...

1: Pick a theme.
2: Design your table.
3: Invite your friends.

“I like to look around my home for an inspiration piece and I build on the theme after that. I love finding alternative purposes or unexpected elements for my tables. I also enjoy having many layers to my design so that it involves people looking and taking it in from many different angles to really see all the details.”
—Rachel Stotts

“Thank You to Our Sponsors

Bremer Bank
Bell Bank

“I have worked for CCRI for almost seven years. This event reminded me of why I do what I do and how much the people we support mean to me. I had a blast designing my table but I had even more fun sharing dinner with one of our clients. I will design a table every year!”
—Jenna Pepsin

Thank You to everyone who designed a TableScape in 2016.

Contact Anna Larson at 218-331-2036 or ALarson@CreativeCare.org to share your gift of design at TableScapes in October 2017.

In August more than 60 people with disabilities and their caregivers traveled to the beautiful Joy Ranch in South Dakota for CCRi’s Camp H.E.R.O. This accessible camp offers just the right amount of crafts, dancing, paddle boat rides, swimming and horse back riding to keep everyone entertained on their three-day adventure.

To ensure a safe and pleasurable experience, we bring our own caregivers and medical staff. The cost of personalized staffing, nursing and transportation is expensive, but the smiles, stories and memories are priceless. Thanks for helping us to keep the campfire burning.
North Dakotans, Receive a Tax Credit When You Make a Lasting Gift to CCRI.

With the North Dakota Charitable Income Tax Credit of 40%, there has never been a better time to give a sustainable, lasting gift. The State of North Dakota offers special advantages to taxpayers who support the CCRI Endowment Fund.

A person may receive a tax credit for contributions of $5,000 or more (lump sum aggregate in one year) to the CCRI Endowment Fund. The tax credit is 50 percent of the charitable deduction allowed by the IRS up to a maximum of $10,000 per year per taxpayer, or $20,000 per year for a couple filing jointly. Any unused credit may be carried over for up to three years.

**General Tax Benefits**

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<th>Gift Amount to CCRI</th>
<th>$5,000</th>
<th>$25,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Tax Deduction</td>
<td>-$1,980</td>
<td>-$9,900</td>
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<tr>
<td>ND State Income Tax Credit</td>
<td>-$2,000</td>
<td>-$10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Your Net “Cost” of the Gift to CCRI</td>
<td>$1,020</td>
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The above examples are for a taxpayer in the 39.6% tax bracket. This information is not intended to provide legal or tax advice. Please consult your professional advisors for more information specific to your circumstances.

Giving Hearts Day

February 9, 2017
Spread Some Joy
This Holiday Season

How do you prepare for the Holiday season? Do you begin your shopping right after Thanksgiving, start to play Christmas carols on December 1 or begin your holiday baking when the first snow flies? How does this magical season make you feel? Like most of you, the people we support also love to experience the joys that the holiday season brings.

At CCRI, we work hard to spread holiday cheer for a group of people who believe in miracles. Some have witnessed health miracles while others have reached their goals of independence by simply believing in the impossible.

Many people we serve receive a personal needs allowance of just $97 through federal programs which breaks down to $3.23 a day. All clothing and entertainment costs must come out of this allowance as well as medical co-pays. Often there is not enough money to do more than exist—making holiday magic difficult to obtain.

We are excited to offer you the opportunity to spread joy to more than 400 people supported by CCRI so they can also believe in miracles. Currently we have to close the $10,500 gap in our Service Enhancement Fund by the end of the year—to support the extras that make life more enjoyable.

Working together, we can help people live life to the fullest and provide opportunities for them to experience the full potential of what our community has to offer. Let’s help each other discover joy during this season of giving!
Hey Thrivent Members, Did You Know...

...you may have Thrivent Choice Dollars you could designate to a local 501(c)(3)?
Please consider designating them to CCRI. Together, we can enhance and enrich the lives of people with disabilities right here in our community.

Thrivent Choice Dollars:

Online:
2. Scroll down and click on the “Get started now” link in the right column under “Direct Choice Dollars”.
3. Log in and enter your user ID and password. (Click on “register” if you haven’t yet registered on Thrivent.com)
4. Look for your Choice Dollars to direct on the right of the screen.
5. Search the catalog of organizations to find the organization you want to support.
6. Click on “Direct Now” to direct your designated Choice Dollars.

By Phone:
1. Call 800-847-4836 and, when prompted, say “Thrivent Choice.”
2. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or Press 2 to hear the Thrivent Choice program terms and conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth).
3. A representative will assist you to direct your Choice Dollars.

Thrivent Action Team:

If you are a Thrivent member please contact us about Thrivent Action Team opportunities.

Thrivent Action Teams are member-led projects—fundraisers or one-time service activities. Each Thrivent member has $500 per year that can be used toward this program.

It’s easy to take action on a cause that you care about! Call Jody at 218-331-2024 to discuss available options.