

Oesterlen Services For Youth, Inc.

Springfield, Ohio

2017 Calendar Year Report

www.oesterlen.org



As you are able, Oesterlen would like for you to extend a very large and heartfelt THANKS to the following Oesterlen Board members from the Northeast Ohio Synod territory: Ms. Deb Blank, Broadview Heights; Pr. Dan Cammarn, Wooster; and Mr. Don Moll, Brunswick. Please note that Oesterlen has one Northeast Ohio Synod Board member vacancy and would be interested in entertaining your interest, if you wish to serve a great agency!

For Oesterlen CY 2017 through the first half of CY 2018 has been a period of many changes.

Oesterlen experienced 3 unexpected / unplanned *and* expensive “calamities”. There has also been much preparation for Ohio’s state Department of Medicaid changes to how private agency providers serve their clients, which will take effect on July 1, 2018.

The start of the unexpected and costly calamities was in November 2017 when the original clay sewer line at Oesterlen totally failed. This required immediate repair at the cost of \$107,000.

The second calamity occurred in February 2018, when a water spot was noticed on the floor. This water spot was the first indicator of a much needed replacement of 2,000 feet of heating and cooling pipes in the Steven’s Learning Center. These pipes were approximately 40 years old and a decision was made to replace all the piping after attempts to complete patch repairs failed; *and* before a catastrophic event occurred. This cost was \$250,000.

The third event occurred in February 2018 when the original gas line onto the property flooded with water, shutting off all gas to the property. These gas lines were replaced at a cost of \$157,000.

As noted earlier, the changes to Ohio’s Medicaid system of care has also brought numerous system change to Oesterlen. In essence the changes or what is referred to as “Medicaid Redesign” is a major change to the manner in which “business is conducted / services provided”.

The Board of Director’s and staff have all been great troopers in addressing and reacting to all of the above. Service delivery and Oesterlen’s Mission have not missed a beat. Understandably, going forward Oesterlen will be seeking to “recover” financially from the \$500,000 plus in unexpected expenses and adjusting to the changes in Medicaid’s funding streams. This is all very challenging but Oesterlen remains strong and steadfast in continuing its historical position as a great service provider.

On to better news! Oesterlen is planning a major Capital Campaign to raise monies for a Life Skills Center and Barn; and, within the next several years, a new complex that would provide for Outpatient Mental Health offices, a Day Care and Training Center / All Purpose Facility. Oesterlen has met with each of the 3 Ohio Bishops and garnered their support! Oesterlen looks forward to presenting our Campaign and telling our story to everyone in the near future!

Yours in service to the Lord, **Donald L. Warner**, LISW-S, ACSW, Executive Director, Toll Free (800) 404-5437 / 937.399.6101 X 111 or Direct (937) 398-0211 or dwarner@oesterlen.org.