



ANNUAL

REPORT

2018-2019

MINNESOTA  
INDEPENDENCE  
COLLEGE &  
COMMUNITY  
**MICCC**

Learn Skills. Experience Life.

MICCC  
community.org

MICCC

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# Friends of MICC,

This year was filled with organizational growth and development, helping to build out support for our growing enrollment and retention trends. Thank you for continuing to support MICC's mission – to transform the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum and those with similar learning differences. We could not implement our mission without you!



MICC has recognized continued growth as we fill an important gap in services within the special-needs community and the local workforce. In May, MICC College graduated 9 seniors. For the past three years, 96% of our College seniors have graduated with employment. The College program realized high student retention for the second year in a row due, in large part, to new financial-assistance opportunities that provide more options for families to consider when enrolling a family member.

MICC strives for excellence in everything we do, and students now have more options for skill development and career pathways within the Careers program, which now includes four certifications: Culinary, Health Services, Hospitality, and Retail. 98% of MICC Community members who are in the workforce are employed and the job retention rate is a 3-year average.

MICC expanded our campus and opened a Career Center, which includes additional space for offices and classrooms. This fall, we welcomed our largest College student body of 55 students – our capacity for the foreseeable future. Moreover, our Community program is in a significant growth trend and is at an all-time high with 75 members. MICC is actively exploring opportunities to continue to enhance the quality and the capacity of our College, Careers and Community programs.

Thank you for being part of MICC's community! From employees and volunteers to donors and students/members, we work side-by-side to carry out our mission. The success of our students and members is due to the dedication and generosity of our inclusive and supportive community. Thank you for believing in MICC's future!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Gudmestad". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light grey circular watermark.

Amy Gudmestad  
Executive Director

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

**How long have you been part of MICC?**

This is my third year in the College program at MICC. I am a senior.

**Why do you think MICC is important for adults with ASD and learning differences?**

The classes here allow students to grow at their own pace and prepare for every occurrence. It gives me a social network that supports my learning.

**What would you tell a student who is new to MICC about College, Careers and/or Community?**

I would tell them that it is a life skills college that increases confidence in everyday tasks. It is a warm, supportive environment to grow.

**What are some of your favorite memories of MICC?**

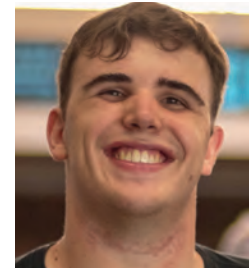
I like attending the social activities with my peers on the weekend. Two that come to mind are the Meta Con Convention (Anime, Comics and video games all included) and going to the corn maze with a group of peers. I liked the Culinary Practicum during my junior year.

**How has your time at MICC prepared you for life?**

My budgeting skills have improved while being here at MICC. I know how to check my bank balance and spend wisely. My confidence in public transit has increased from my first year here. I have more of a balance in my meal planning with fruits and vegetables.

**What are your greatest successes since you've been at MICC?**

I received the Culinary Certificate and I will be starting a new job with Panera Bread.



Tom,  
MICC Class of 2020



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## How long have you been part of MICC?

I've been a part of MICC since 2009, so for 10 years. I graduated MICC College in 2012.

## How has your time at MICC prepared you for life?

My time at MICC has prepared me for life by helping me get a job that I love and have been at for the past two years.

## Why do you think MICC is important for adults with ASD and learning differences?

I think MICC is important for adults who learn differently because it helps you learn valuable life skills you need to be independent.

## What are some of your favorite memories of MICC?

I definitely liked the women's retreats; we would have a blast laughing. I have so many memories that make me smile. I love the gala every year; it's a lot of fun. Family weekends are always something to look forward to, too.

## What are your greatest successes since you've been at MICC?

I think the greatest successes I've had since MICC are living in a house and getting a raise at work.

## What would you tell a student who is new to MICC about College, Careers and Community?

I would tell a student to not be afraid about going to MICC because you'll make a lot of friends who know what it's like to learn differently.



Sally,  
MICC Class of 2012



# FINANCIALS

Financial Statements for the Year Ended June 30, 2019

## Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$515,304
Accounts and contributions receivable, net	\$420,250
Other assets	\$107,131
Property and Equipment, net	\$981,836
Investments	\$1,230,027
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,254,548</b>

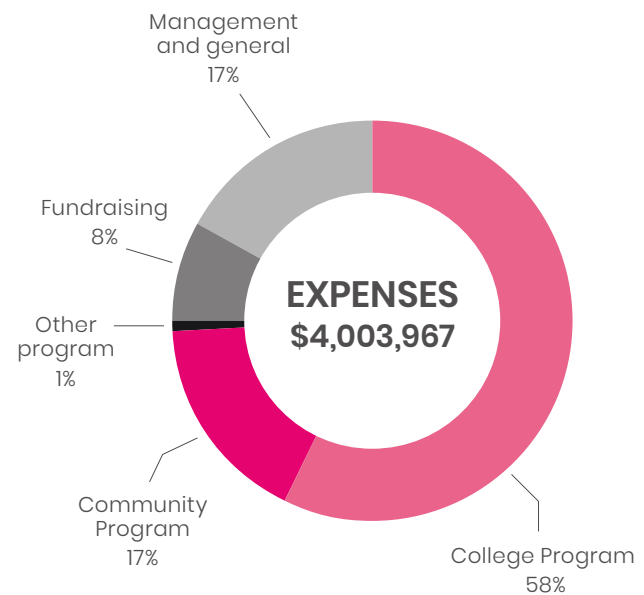
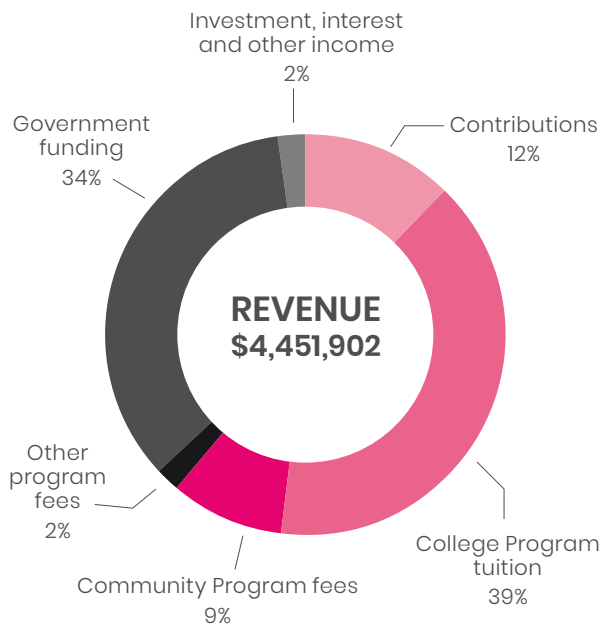
## Liabilities

Current liabilities	\$320,029
Long-term mortgage payable	\$377,242
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$697,271</b>

## Net Assets

Unrestricted	\$1,362,461
Board designated	\$1,175,000
Temporarily restricted	\$19,816
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$2,557,277</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS \$3,254,548**



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## How long have you been at MICC and why did you choose to work here?

I've been with MICC for two years. I began working at MICC because I needed to fulfill an internship requirement for my Master's Degree in Public Policy. My minor was in program evaluation, and I knew I wanted to use my skillset in the nonprofit sector. I came across a Program Evaluation internship opportunity at MICC and found that the organization aligned with my values and interests, and I've been here ever since.

## How has MICC changed while you've been here?

We've grown! Two years ago I started as an intern. I was then hired on as a Program Evaluation Specialist and am now an Evaluation Program Manager.

## What are your responsibilities at MICC?

Broadly speaking, I help contextualize and communicate the value of MICC's work to as many audiences as possible. Like I mentioned above, I work internally with staff to design data collection processes that help them both understand their outcomes as well as make informed decisions around program changes. I also work with external partners such as Wilder Research and the UMN Autism Clinic to analyze and present MICC's work through various lenses such as economic impact and community needs.

## Tell us more about the development of this program/position.

Developing the Evaluation Program Manager position has been a fun challenge. Much of how I've developed this position is by listening to our participants, their families, and staff to develop an understanding of what independence means to them. This has been critical to

creating data collection processes that are both sustainable and yield useful results that can be used by multiple stakeholders. Technically speaking, MICC collects A LOT of data, so it has been important to establish a rhythm of what needs to be analyzed when, and who needs the information.



**Carley Matsumoto,**  
Evaluation  
Program Manager

## What do you like best about your role at MICC?

I really enjoy the process of working with staff throughout the organization to design data collection processes that help them both understand/communicate the value of their work as well as make informed decisions around program changes.

## Could you share one of your favorite moments while at MICC?

For the past two years, we've been conducting quality of life interviews with our participants and it's been a lovely way for me to get to know our participants. I've had the opportunity to sit down with every student and get to know their interests, their perception of independence, what makes them happy and so much more!

## What do you like to do outside of MICC?

Outside of MICC, I enjoy exploring the wide array of culinary experiences that the Twin Cities has to offer and going on walks around the lake with my dog and fiancé. I'm also on the board of an organization that works with local Asian youth to develop their community organizing and civic engagement skills.



# MICC COLLEGE



MICC College is an intensive, tiered education opportunity for young adults with learning differences and autism spectrum disorders. We teach students the skills necessary for long-term, independent living and employment not only in the classroom, but also in their own apartment and out in the community. Our campus features an apartment-living setting located in a vibrant urban community, which allows for continuous teaching and access to competitive employment, safe public transportation, and limitless social opportunities.



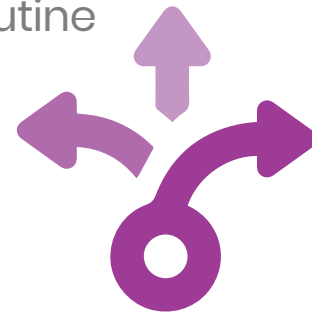
**THIS FALL, WE WELCOMED  
OUR LARGEST COLLEGE  
STUDENT BODY OF**

**55 STUDENTS**  
– our  
capacity  
for the  
foreseeable  
future

**96%**

**OF STUDENTS**

report they make  
most or all of their  
own decisions  
related to their  
daily activities and  
routine



**94%**

**OF STUDENTS**

report they feel good or very  
good about their personal  
relationships with friends



# MICC COMMUNITY



MICC Community participants are individuals with learning differences and autism spectrum disorders who have successfully completed MICC College and are living independently in the Richfield, Minnesota area. MICC Community is a life-long program that provides families with stable communication, structure, and guidance; we serve an integral role in the long-term independence of their loved ones. Participants are offered independent living skills coaching, wellness programming, career support, and an average of 45 social activities per month.

This year we offered an average of **45** **WITH** **77%** **OF MEMBERS** participating monthly  
**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES EACH MONTH**

On average, we offered **42** **HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACTIVITIES PER MONTH** including YMCA transportation

Average of **82%** report they are somewhat or very comfortable accessing the community on their own to attend activities of their choosing  
**OF MEMBERS**



# MICC CAREERS



Since the inception of MICC, a program goal has always been for students and graduates to find meaningful, paid employment that utilizes their skills. Through MICC Careers, we offer students and graduates counseling about how to seek, obtain, and retain employment. For the past three years, 96% of our students graduated with paid employment, a statistic that stands in stark contrast to the incredibly high rate of unemployment among individuals with autism and learning differences. MICC has partnered with Century College to provide career certificate programs as part of our curriculum in the areas of Culinary, Hospitality, Retail, and Health Services.

# 98%

**OF THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

who are in the workforce are employed



For the past 3 years,

# 96%

**OF COLLEGE SENIORS**

have been employed by graduation



**AVERAGE RETENTION RATE OF**

# 3 YRS





## DID YOU KNOW?

Led by MICC and authored by MICC ambassador, Rep. Michael Howard, the Minnesota House of Representatives Office of Higher Education passed a bill requiring the Office of Higher Education to inform students of post-secondary education options (such as MICC) for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## From the Development Team

In my short time at MICC, I have quickly gained appreciation for the tremendous support of our mission from so many families, friends and community partners. We have never been able to do this alone. On behalf of the MICC leadership, staff, students and graduates, it is truly an honor to add our collective thanks to all the donors who have invested so generously during the past year. Thank you for making MICC one of your philanthropic priorities!

Ben Lentz  
Director of Development



# DISTINGUISHED BENEFACTORS

The Hatlen Leadership Circle (HLC) is named in honor of MICC founders, Beverly and Roe Hatlen. Like our founders, our benefactors in the HLC have demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to preserve and enhance our vision: a world where individuals on the autism spectrum and those with learning differences thrive and are valued.



Beverly and Roe Hatlen

### **\$1,000,000+** **Learn Skills. Experience Life.**

Beverly and Roe Hatlen Family

### **\$500,000 - \$999,999** **Achieving Personal Success**

Jerry and Jean Marie Foss  
and Family

Phillip and Jill Lighty

### **\$250,000 - \$499,999** **Strength and Determination**

### **\$100,000 - \$249,999** **Partnerships for Independence**

Blake and Nancy Barnes  
Dale E. and Jolita D. Benson  
Geoff Barnard and Diane Vosick  
Julie Gulstrand  
John Lavander and Nan Owen  
Mark and Mary Ziegler\*

### **\$50,000 - \$99,999** **Transforming Lives**

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Glenn and Dr. Susan Isensee\*  
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and Mike Bono  
Kai and Amy Gudmestad  
Kay Constantine\*  
Kurt and Ann Owen\*  
Mark Milberger  
Steven and Pamela Schupbach\*

### **\$25,000 - \$49,999** **Learning by Doing**

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Suellen and David Thompson  
Glen and Sally Klemp

*\*denotes moving into a new  
lifetime giving level*



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Arc's Value Village Thrift  
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Walker Methodist Care Suites  
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Community members enjoying the annual Gala.

# THANK YOU, DONORS!

## Donors July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

### \$100,000–\$249,999

The Lighty Family

### \$50,000–\$99,999

Andeavor - Marathon Petroleum

### \$25,000–\$49,999

Best Buy

Jerry and Jean Marie Foss and Family

Greg and Gail Kenton

### \$15,000–\$24,999

Beverly and Roe Hatlen Family

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Kurt and Ann Owen

The Owen Family Fund

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MICC College students go on a retreat each year to have new experiences, bond with classmates and explore the outdoors.

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**



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Chef Revival – Jane M. Hempel	Richard Libby and Margaret Saline	Old National Bank
Driftwood Builders, Inc.	Life Spa   MediSpa	Park Tavern
Fox Rothschild LLP	Liquor Boy	Max Thompson
Nicklas Frolander	Gina and Leon Lonstein	Toro Company
Hilgers Werner LLC	Lunderby Photography	Total Wine and More
Jay F. Jeweler	Morrie's Ultra Luxury Auto	Ginny and Michael Walters

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## **How long have you been part of MICC?**

I have been part of MICC for 4 years. I was in the MICC Summer Program and am now a senior in the College Program.

## **How has your time at MICC prepared you for life?**

I'm able to go to work and into the community using public transportation by myself. I'm comfortable walking by myself to local stores and going grocery shopping. I've learned how to work with others even if I don't always like them. I've learned to problem solve and how to adjust to change.

## **What are some of your favorite memories of MICC?**

I like that we go out in the community to do classes, especially the Edina Art Center for art electives, exploring different libraries and sports. I like talking to people, trying to get others interested in arts. I brought my beading projects to the student center to be around other people. I like trying new things like the slackline the staff brought in, walking with my friends, and exploring new places on our own.

## **What would you tell a student who is new to MICC about College, Careers and/or Community?**

It's okay to have quirks and you're not going to be called out for it like you might in public school. I would tell them to open your mind to new things and activities like learning how to cook. Try everything once. Try going away from home first as practice before coming to MICC. It's normal to feel homesick; everyone was once there.

## **What are your greatest successes since you've been at MICC?**

I went to the doctor's office all by myself. I ride the bus on my own. I feel comfortable walking and taking public transportation to other places in the community.

## **Why do you think MICC is important for adults with ASD and learning differences?**

Without MICC, I would be lost. They help you get a job, learn how to live in apartments, and help with things like social skills.



**Signe,  
MICC Class of 2020**

# TRIBUTES

## IN HONOR OF

### **Amy and Kai Gudmestad**

*by Denise Ciola*

### **Ann Meehan**

*by Jeanne Gauvin*

### **Annie Hatfiel**

*by Lucy and Kip Heegaard*

### **Ashley Goedken**

*by Kathryn Good and John and Mark Clark*

### **Barnes Family**

*by Philip and Joan Currie*

### **Bev Hatlen**

*by Mark and Marjorie Thompson and Thomas and Barbara Lee*

### **Cammy Hibbard**

*by Ed and Donna Hardenbrook*

### **Claudia Wied**

*by Diana Blancarte Ball and Lisa Hutto*

### **Erik Hatlen**

*by Mark and Marjorie Thompson and Neal Peterson and Deanna Thompson*

### **Evan Cook**

*by Kelly Brunt*

### **Jared Perez**

*by Heidi and Tony Perez*

### **Jeffrey Monzingo**

*by Bennie Monzingo*

### **Jordan and Josie Hargarten**

*by Dennis and Kay Hawley, Jeffrey Hargarten and Sue Ellen Robertson*

### **Lindsey Ryan**

*by Barbara Mager*

### **Liz and Luke Danielson**

*by Kai and Amy Gudmestad*

### **Rick and Kate Hartfield**

*by David and Suanne Orenstein*

### **Rob Bass**

*by Sharon McCollam*

### **Samuel Drawe**

*by Bernette Finley-Drawe*

## IN MEMORY OF

### **Albert Braga**

*by Verna Braga*

### **Grant Turner**

*by Bill and Mary Jane Turner*

### **Paul Gulstrand**

*by William Joseph Shaughnessy, Thomas John Gibb, David and Kathryn Thomas, Krista Gulstrand, Ron and Kathy B. Colby, Debra Bowles, Robert and Lois Torgerson, Dave and Ann Person, Vonnie Lowman and Michael Hoke, Linda Garrett, John Lavander and Nan Owen, Margo and Scott Higley, Kathy and Jim Henderson, Gary and Pat Hammer, Kai and Amy Gudmestad, Ginny Gaspard,*

*Susan K. Byers, Cythnia Ericson, Marie Meglen, Wil and Julie Heupel, Marie Lua, MICC Family Association, Joseph P. Schiesl, Sherryl Bandt, Phil Arnold, David Husebye and Robyn Kempainen, Michael D. Zalk, Frederick J. and Rachel M. Wight, Theodore Wegner, John and Laurie Turner, Lyle and Gail Torgerson, Karen and Thomas Thompson, D. G. and L. Schulzetenberg, Julie Mall and Darrell Schmidt, Jim Schagh and Nancy Kipp, William Pickering and Joy Tapper, Mary and Richard Ostlund, Jacqueline and Geoffrey Olson, Stephen and Beverly Ogren, Cindy Nollette, Douglas and Martha Miller, Sandra Loken, Diane and*

*Philip Larson, Dorothy M. and E. Milton Kleven Family Foundation, Gary and Debra Keeler, Jordan and Rebecca Kath, Glenn and Dr. Susan Isensee, Jody and Al Hilgers, Beverly and Roe Hatlen Family, Daniel and Karen Goedken, Timothy and Kerry Fox, Maria Engebretson, Rebecca Eggers, Jane David, Judge Katherine Constantine and Mike Bono, Michele and William Caulfield, Thomas and Lynn Carlson, Judith Baas, and Dr. John and Jennifer Lammert*

### **Sam and Edith Edelson**

*by Daniel Japuntich and Dr. Dorothy Edelson*



# BOARD SPOTLIGHT

## Mark Ziegler, Board Chair

### How long have you been involved with MICC? What roles have you held in your tenure at MICC?

Our oldest son Jack was a freshman student of the College program in August 2013. Our freshman orientation weekend was very moving, and I knew right away that I wanted to be involved in this organization to help it grow to help as many students and families as possible. I started by getting involved in the Family Association. As Family Association President, I had a seat on the board. After the Family Association term was complete I was asked to remain on the Board and I am the current board chair.

### Why did you choose MICC? As a board member? As a parent?

Like so many MICC families, our son graduated from high school and we were looking for “what’s next”. We found MICC (then MLC) and it has been a big part of our family ever since.

### How have you seen MICC change over the years?

When we first arrived, we witnessed a relatively small but amazing staff working creatively and collaboratively to continue and improve a high quality and innovative program. The organization wanted to grow and needed to grow, and they have taken many strategic steps like putting a full leadership team in place, developing additional funding sources to help with financial accessibility, purchasing property in the neighborhood to provide stability for the future and many other accomplishments. Most importantly, throughout this period of growth and change MICC will not do anything that will compromise the high quality programing.

### What do you enjoy most about your role at MICC? What makes you most excited about MICC?

I enjoy being involved in the conversation about how we can continue and grow this fine organization. I also enjoy seeing our son Jack and his fellow students and Community program members live a truly sustainable, independent life.

### What are your responsibilities at MICC?

As the current board chair, it is my job to run the board meetings, keep the conversation moving in a positive direction, and make sure that all directors are willing and able to say what they want to say and ask the questions that they want to ask. As board members, we are ambassadors for MICC and we assist with fundraising.

### Could you share one of your favorite MICC memories?

My favorite memory is during our freshman family orientation weekend. We connected with so many great families, and I remember the feeling of relief that we found a good place for our son and we were doing everything that we could to provide an opportunity for our son to live a fulfilled, sustainable, independent, happy life.

### What do you like to do outside of MICC?

I like gatherings of our family and friends at our home or lake cabin. We enjoy hiking, biking, skiing and skating. I also like to build stuff big and small.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Ziegler, Chair  
*MICC Parent, Amerect, Inc.*

Rob Bass, Vice Chair  
*Best Buy*

Jeff Gauvin, Secretary  
*MICC Parent, Wells Fargo – Retired*

Becca Meinz, Treasurer  
*Best Buy*

Rochelle Brandl,  
*North Psychology Clinic*

Lloyd Campbell,  
*MICC Parent, Rotary International*

Dorothy Edelson,  
*North Psychology Clinic*

Nikki Fetter,  
*Navigant*

Beverly Hatlen,  
Life Director  
*Founder, MICC Parent*

Susan Isensee,  
*Family Association Representative MICC Parent, Dean Health Systems*

Katie Kemper,  
*Global Bridges: Healthcare Alliance for Tobacco Dependence Treatment*

Alice Kirkland,  
*Littler Mendelson*

Jill Lighty,  
*MICC Parent*

Scott Saveraid,  
*Family Association Representative, MICC Parent, Ruhl & Ruhl Insurance*

Scott Sterling,  
*Certified Executive Coach and HR Consultant*

Kierstyn Thayer,  
*MICC Sibling, The Opportunity Network*

Cynthia Topel,  
*Sleep Number Corporation*

Gretchen Vrieze,  
*Target*

# NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

John Belew, Ph.D., M.S.,  
R.N., C.D.D.N.

Joan Gerring, M.D.

Karen Goedken,  
P.H.N., M.S.

Beverly Hatlen,  
M.P.H., P.H.N., R.N.

Rebekah Hudock,  
Ph.D., L.P., NCSP

Cindy Nollette, M.A., L.P.  
John O'Brien, LICSW

Ann Ryan, Ph.D.

L. Lynn Stansberry-Brusnahan, Ph.D.

# LEADERSHIP TEAM

Amy Gudmestad,  
Executive Director

Tim J. Peterson,  
Director of Finance

Ben Lentz,  
Director of Development

Sara Collison,  
Director of Human Resources

Anna Hilfers,  
Director of College Programs

Sarah Arentson,  
Director of Careers Programs

Aaron Carper,  
Director of Community Programs

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## Why did you choose to work at MICC and how long have you been here?

I wanted to work in an educational setting that is non-traditional and I came across MICC. I am coming up on 6 years of working for MICC.

## What are the various roles you have held in your tenure at MICC?

I have been an Evening Instructor, Job Coach, Work Readiness Coordinator and now Advisor. Advisor is not new to MICC, but the role has become more specialized. The Advisory Pod consists of individuals with a diversity of academic backgrounds, which allows for more comprehension in providing viable options to our students' independence. My background is in School Counseling, so having a supervisor that is more specialized in Occupational Therapy encourages me to think more analytically when faced with student scenarios.

## What are your responsibilities at MICC?

I partake in the continuous development and implementation of an advisory program that focuses on and promotes students' success. I meet with students or student groups to mentor and support them in their MICC experience. I need to have the ability to respond effectively to the needs of a diverse student group and establish and communicate clear objectives for all advisory learning objectives.

## What do you enjoy most about your role at MICC?

I like the one-to-one connection that I get to have with our students as an advisor. During Advisory sessions, I get to see a different side to our students that not everyone gets to see. I appreciate making connections with families and share jubilation when students make progress.

## How has MICC changed while you've been here?

There have been a lot of changes. The biggest is that MICC has been more intentional with creating more systematic policies and specialized employee roles into Pod formats. Having specialized Pods allows for more detailed lessons and integrated individualized plans for students to utilize. The systematic policies create more efficiency in and around the organization as a whole.



**Luke Ekelund,**  
College Advisor

## Could you share one of your favorite moments while at MICC?

One of my favorite moments was at a MICC homecoming kickball game a couple of years ago. Students, members, parents/guardians and staff combined to play a massive kickball game. It was neat to see everyone come together and cheer each other on during the game. If someone didn't want to play, then that was okay and they conversed with peers or family on the side. It was a nice way to see the MICC community come together.

## What do you like to do outside of MICC?

I like to visit my family and friends around the country. I like to be outdoors doing activities like hiking, camping or exploring a state park. These activities fulfill me from within and give me a healthy rejuvenation for life.

# 2019 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

The Community Champion Awards celebrate those who embody the values and mission of MICC and are presented annually in the following categories: Corporate, Organization, and Individual. We thank these partners for their generosity of spirit and dedication to the success of our students and members.

## Walker Methodist Care Suites

Corporate  
Community Champion



## 2018 Awardees

**Bon Appétit**  
Corporate Community Champion

**United Educators Credit Union**  
Organization Community Champion

**Candace Hall-Murdock**  
Individual Community Champion

## Autism Society of Minnesota (AuSM)

Organization  
Community Champion



## 2017 Awardees

**Best Buy**  
Corporate Community Champion

**Southdale YMCA**  
Organization Community Champion

**Cindy Nollette, M.A., L.P.**  
Individual Community Champion

## Karen Goedken

Individual  
Community Champion



College students and Community members come together for Winter Formal.



# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## How long have you been part of MICC?

I have been part of MICC since 2007 and I graduated MICC College in 2010.

## What are some of your favorite memories of MICC?

All of the fun we had on retreats and trips I have taken with MICC. My favorite was the Washington, DC trip in 2018; I especially enjoyed the museums and food tour.

## How has your time at MICC prepared you for life?

MICC helped me with getting and keeping my (two!) jobs, taught me how to cook and clean, and what it's like to live with roommates. MICC also taught me how to pay bills, budget, balance a checkbook and how to use public transportation to get around.

## What would you tell a student who is new to MICC about College, Careers and Community?

It's a good place to make friends, get and keep a job, and do fun activities. You will make friends for life.



Katie,  
MICC Class of 2010

## Anything else you'd like to share about MICC?

I like the variety of activities offered in the Community Program.

## What are your greatest successes since you've been at MICC?

I've lived on my own with a roommate for almost ten years. I use public transportation by myself and I have gotten and kept jobs.



MICC has its own 5K Club that helps put together the annual IndePENndence 5K in September.

# OPENING DOORS FOR MORE

## Access

Our goal is to meet 50% of a family's identified financial need through MICC Financial Assistance. For many families, this assistance is the only way to alleviate the financial barriers that would otherwise restrict access to our program.

## Growth & Improvement

In Minnesota, 1 in 42 children are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder or learning difference. Your investment in MICC allows us to grow our facilities and programming to accommodate more individuals who need these critical resources.

## Program Innovation

MICC is a true pioneer in the field of community integration and independence for adults with autism spectrum disorders and learning differences. Innovation, experimentation, and exploration are necessary for MICC to be successful in program delivery. To remain relevant, current and innovative, we must continually evolve and enhance our curriculum to meet current economic conditions and employment trends.

## Ways to Invest

### Phone

To donate over the phone, please call our development department at 612.876.9418; we can process donations made with American Express, MasterCard, and Visa cards.

### Mail

Please make checks payable to "Minnesota Independence College and Community" and send to:

Minnesota Independence College and Community  
7501 Logan Avenue S, Suite 2A  
Richfield, MN 55423

### Online

[www.miccommunity.org/donate-today](http://www.miccommunity.org/donate-today)

### Stocks, Bonds or Other Appreciated Property

If you'd like to make a gift of stock, please download our stock gift form at

[www.miccommunity.org/ways-to-donate](http://www.miccommunity.org/ways-to-donate)

Contact our Development Department at 612.876.9405 or consult your tax advisor to learn more about the benefits of donating securities.



### Sponsorship

MICC's annual Gala gathers over 800 community members from across the country to celebrate our mission and all those who help bring it to life. The theme of this year's Gala is "This Is Me Masquerade: Illuminate Yourself", celebrating the uniqueness of our students and graduates and their accomplishments! As we prepare for the Gala on March 14, 2020, at the Depot Hotel, we'd like to be able to count on your support as an event sponsor.

### Planned Giving

Estate gifts allow you to include MICC in your will or estate plan in order to contribute funds or property. By making plans now, you may be able to increase income, avoid taxes, and make a generous gift in the future. You can create a legacy gift by naming Minnesota Independence College & Community on the beneficiary form of a savings, checking, or pension account; remember MICC in a will or living trust; or use a more complex instrument such as a charitable life-income trust. Legacy gifts are powerful and demonstrate your commitment to the work and mission of MICC.

**Contact our Development Department at 612.876.9405.**



MICC partners with Special Olympics Minnesota to provide opportunities for athletic, health and leadership programs.



MICC partners with Best Buy and University of Minnesota's Bee Squad to promote the conservation, health, and diversity of bee pollinators with our very own apiary.

**Minnesota Independence  
College and Community**

7501 Logan Avenue South / Suite 2A  
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Phone: 612.869.4008  
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miccommunity.org

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**SAVE THE DATE!**

MICC'S 17TH ANNUAL GALA  
**Saturday, March 14, 2020**

MICC  
*Masquerade*  
ILLUMINATE  
YOURSELF

MINNESOTA  
INDEPENDENCE  
COLLEGE &  
COMMUNITY  
**MICC**  
Learn Skills. Experience Life.