

2016 IN REVIEW



IN THE COMMUNITY





HISTORY OF PHILANTHROPY AT IC SYSTEM

IC System strives **to be the best, most trusted provider of receivables management services to original creditors**—in fact, that’s our mission. Beyond generating revenue for our clients or creating a great place to work, our view is that every business is part of a larger community. IC System remains one of the largest employers in our neighborhood and city, but we also try to have a presence in our state and national communities. Indeed, ever since the company was founded in 1938, an essential component to IC System’s philosophy has been the importance of giving back to our communities, both local and national.

2016 marks the **35th Anniversary** of our in-house philanthropic team, called **ECHO (Employee Charitable Help Organization)**. Members of ECHO organize our employee charitable efforts, creating donation events and community activities throughout each year. Sometimes that means collecting donations for our local food shelf; sometimes that means arranging a visit from the American Red Cross so employees can give blood on site. Every year ECHO’s efforts prove even more inspiring than the last. In 2016 alone, ECHO helped raise \$32,000 for various charities and logged over 536 hours in community events!



ECHO volunteers are passionate about bringing our staff together for fundraisers and events that give back to the community, and IC System takes pride in their efforts. The 2016 members of ECHO include Joel Bierbach, Robin Borneman, Rocky Bzdok, Katie Edmeier, David Gunderson, Kyle Leeks, Thomas Mayfield, Nicole Mueller, Crystal Rolfzen, Tim Scholl, Siri Skoriuchow, Chrysten Strawser, and Daynesha Younger.



ECH

Employee Charitable Help Organization





I joined ECHO not really knowing what it was, I am thankful that I joined. The way that we can help and touch others in our community is amazing. Knowing that we can impact the life of someone else who has fallen on hard times makes my heart smile.

– NICOLE

IN-HOUSE VOLUNTEER PROJECT

IC System volunteers from around the Vadnais Heights home office gathered in February to assemble breakfast bags to serve children in need. Dozens of employees helped assemble bags filled with healthy snacks and treats. Five employees (Chrysten Strawser, Luz Ingram, Joel Bierbach, Angela Lee-King, and Mary Jo Mills) delivered these bags to the Ronald McDonald House Family Room at Gillette Children's Hospital in St. Paul, where they also served dinner to hungry families. Lasagna, salad, bread, and beverages (and dessert too!) were served to the families and patients at the hospital.



**Gillette
Children's**
Specialty Healthcare

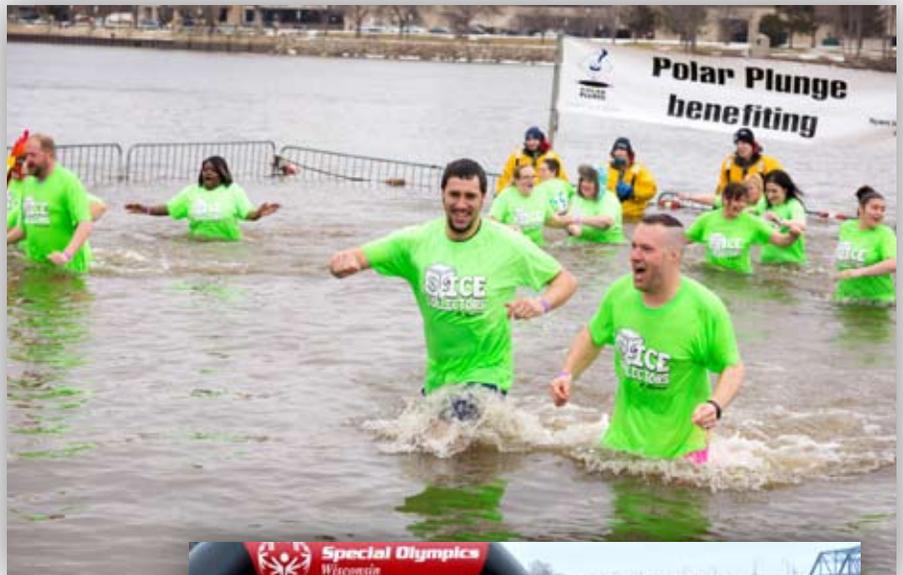


POLAR PLUNGE

LACROSSE OFFICE

Employees from IC System's offices in La Crosse and St. Paul participated in the Annual Polar Plunge for Special Olympics Wisconsin on March 5, 2016. The winds were up, but then so were the temperatures; however, that did not stop the ICE Collectors team from making the plunge into the chilly waters of the Mississippi River at Pettibone Beach.

The plunging team members included Paul Ayotte, Ryan Bilskemper, Rocky Bzdok, Blake Crusier, Kim Dickinson, DeShun Givance Jr., Eric Johannes, Karen Jonas, Ezra Kazee, Aubrey Larive, Jess Larivee, Paige Larivee, Vanessa Lindsey, Beth Moratto, Nicole Mueller, Siobhann Steindorf, and Danielle Teale. This was also a special year for team captain, Ryan Paulsen; he celebrated his tenth consecutive year taking the plunge by participating and donating to two separate teams back-to-back. Overall, IC System staff raised \$4,975.61 from donations for the Polar Plunge event.



Special Olympics
Wisconsin

HOT Chocolate 15k/5k

HOT CHOCOLATE RUN

One of IC System's most supported charities is the Ronald McDonald House, which cares for families of children with complex medical needs by providing a home away from home while the patient receives treatment. In April of 2016, IC System participated in the Hot Chocolate 15K/5K run in support of the Ronald McDonald House. Fourteen employees volunteered to help facilitate the event, and each received a hoodie, long sleeve shirt, or halfzip shirt for lending their time and support.





I realized how little time I spent involved bettering my community. I wanted to be part of an organization that I could help effect positive change for the less fortunate and their communities.

– KYLE

IN-HOUSE VOLUNTEER PROJECT

IC System employees from both our St. Paul and La Crosse office's helped raise funds and put together a whopping 636 backpack lunches for the local food shelves. Volunteers made donations to help the White Bear Area Emergency Food Shelf in Minnesota and Hunger Task Force of La Crosse, Wisconsin purchase food and materials for lunches. IC System employees then assembled the bags by hand, preparing them for delivery to families with children who need the extra support during the summer break.





BLOOD DRIVE FOR THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

In both June and October of 2016, IC System hosted the American Red Cross bloodmobile to do our part so blood is available when needed. During the June visit, our employees donated 25 viable pints of blood; in October, 28 pints of blood were donated. Combined, the two visits mean that more than 150 lives could be saved from IC System donations. Plus, the American Red Cross gave us free cookies and juice!



Two years ago, I lost my Momma to cancer. It was the most difficult time in my life. Knowing that the money we raise for the Relay for Life goes to the American Cancer Society for cancer research fills my heart with joy. Anyone that has never experienced the darkness of cancer, it is my hope that they will never have to.

– CRYSTAL



WHITE BEAR LAKE **RELAY FOR LIFE** FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

IC System employees, friends, and families from both the La Crosse and St. Paul offices participated in a company-sponsored team at the White Bear Relay for Life in July 2016. A team of 36 employees, called the IC Angels, raised money to support the effort of the American Cancer Society. This annual 12-hour event remains a yearly staple of IC System charitable efforts, and 2016 was our best year yet. The IC Angels spent all year raising a record of \$12,264 in donations, and then walked all day (and all night) in support of cancer research!



MINNESOTA TWINS **RELAY FOR LIFE** A DAY AT THE BALLPARK

More than 125 employees of IC System gathered to attend a Twins Game on Saturday, April 30 at Target Field in Minneapolis, and IC System covered half the cost of every employee ticket. For each ticket purchased, the Minnesota Twins and the Center for Diagnostic Imaging donated \$10 toward IC System's Relay for Life team in support of the American Cancer Society. Game attendees supporting Relay for Life were also given the chance to walk a lap around Target Field in support of cancer research.

Because so many proud IC System employees participated in the event, John Erickson, President of IC System, was honored with the opportunity to throw out the game's ceremonial first pitch. Although the Twins won't necessarily turn to John for immediate help to their underperforming bullpen, John genuinely enjoyed the entire experience of throwing out the pitch in front of an anticipatory Twins crowd.

"That was a really amazing experience. Getting a chance to walk a lap around Target Field, much like a survivor lap at a Relay for Life event, was a powerful experience. Throwing out the opening pitch was just icing on the cake," said John Erickson.





18TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

IC System staff was joined by a group of volunteers from our business partners and vendors in 2016 for our 18th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. More than twenty sponsors and donating companies helped contribute to the fun. Participants enjoyed eighteen holes of golf, hole competitions, a putting contest, and plenty more fun on the course. Fifty-two golfers and four volunteers helped raise \$5,058, which was split and donated to St Jude's Research Hospital and ARMinG Heroes. "This is always one of my favorite events of the year at IC System. It gives us a chance to get outside, in the sun and spend time with co-workers, vendors and friends. The added bonus is that we're raising money for our favorite charities too," said Eric Johannes, Director of Marketing.



St. Jude Children's
Research Hospital



FALL FUNDRAISER

Autumn marks a special time at IC System. Our staff knows the changing leaves means it's time for the annual Fall Fundraiser event. For the last two weeks of October, a series of events and office activities help raise funds for local charities. In 2016, these events included a Shoe Away Hunger donation van, tie blanket making, a contribution to Quilts for Kindness, several charity games, and our own 5K race—the IC Fun Run! In all, employees helped raised \$4,800 for charities like Community Health Charities, the Minnesota Environment Fund, the Special Olympics, the St. Paul Children's Hospital, and the United Way.



Last year we came up with the Idea of having employees or teams sponsor blankets. Our Family sponsored one in our son's name. Little did we know when we did this that my nephew would end up being in Children's Hospital for 3 weeks with some very serious kidney issues. We were able to present him with the blanket that we sponsored in Axton's name. It was a very special thing for us as a family. This was made possible because people at IC System got on board and made this project a massive success.

– TIM



**SHOE AWAY
HUNGER**

Feed The Future One Sole at a Time

SHOE AWAY HUNGER

IC System's Fall Fundraiser began with large Shoe Away Hunger bins on each floor of IC System's home office. Employees were asked to donate new or gently used footwear (including sneakers, sports shoes, casual shoes, boots, flip flops, etc.) for the charity. The shoes are donated to those in need or are recycled for an eco-friendly purpose. Every pair of gently worn shoes means a week of groceries for someone in need! Altogether, employees donated 167 pairs of new or gently used shoes.



ECHO is a way for me to give back to the community around me. Growing up, my family was assisted by different community organizations that helped us get through some tough times. So I know what it feels like to be on the needing end, and it's an honor now to be able to give back and help someone else in need.

– TIM

TIE BLANKETS & QUILTS FOR KINDNESS

Employees devoted their time and money to create blankets for young patients in need during the Fall Fundraiser. For \$15, an employee could sponsor a blanket and take time from their busy workday to tie together the layers of a fleece blanket. IC System raised \$1,400 and assembled 77 blankets, donated 50 to the St. Paul Children's Hospital and 27 to Gundersen Hospital in La Crosse, WI. Employees raised an additional \$120 for the St Paul Children's Hospital by selling pieces of a Quilts for Kindness!



Having been a caregiver for my mother during her battle with breast cancer, this is a topic that hits deep for me. I am so proud of our efforts with this cause.

– ROBIN



Pet Partners
Touching Lives, Improving Health

CHARITY GAMES

A tournament of games during the Fall Fundraiser afforded one employee the chance to donate to a charity of their choice. Three rather elaborate office games involving ping pong balls, buckets, cups, bowling, and stacking resulted in \$100 being donated to Pet Partners on behalf of employee Tony Snowden!



I have a deep desire to give back. It's one of the reasons I left my previous employer and came to IC System. I wanted to not only impact the company I worked for, but also the community I live in.

– ROBIN

5K (IC FUN RUN)

The cool weather around the Fall Fundraiser makes the perfect time for a 5K. A total of 166 employees signed up to run or walk on October 21, 2016. Each runner participated in this annual IC System wellness event where games, healthy snacks (and grilled hot dogs), and company pride were celebrated by all. Additionally, IC System employees could sponsor a runner for \$5 to support, and over \$320 in donations were raised.



TURKEY DASH



IC System's annual Turkey Dash is a three-story contest at the St. Paul home office. Our goal is to collect nonperishable food items or monetary donations to help the White Bear Lake Food Shelf. What better way to drive donations than a little friendly competition? Each of the home office's three floors participated in a company-wide Turkey Dash against each other to determine which floor can raise the most. After a tense race to come out with the most food and money donated, our first floor reached an incredible 1044% of their goal. Throughout IC System, donations reached heights of \$1,625 in cash and 450 lbs. of nonperishable food!



I am proud of how all employees love getting involved in helping a charity whether it be a monetary donation, packing a lunch bag, or actually going out in the community. It definitely makes me proud to work for a company that is passionate about giving back, not just cutting a check to a charity but actually having employees impact the community with their time.

– NICOLE

TOY & FOOD DRIVE

FOR THE VADNAIS HEIGHTS LIONS CLUB

For the last five years, IC System has partnered with our local Vadnais Heights Lions Club for a holiday Toy and Food Drive, with proceeds going to Toys for Tots and the Vadnais Heights Lions Club. IC System's 2016 drive brought in 33 toys and 106 food items for families in need!





444 Highway 96 East
St. Paul, MN 55127

Business Hours:

Lobby: Monday–Friday
8am–4:30 pm

Phone Numbers:

Main: 651-483-8201
1-800-443-4123

IC System wishes to thank ECHO members for organizing these events, as well as all employees who volunteered their time to give back. As ECHO member Tim Scholl observed, “Employees at IC System come from all walks of life, and no matter what their journey may look like, they really understand and embrace the need to give back to the community around us. All of us at one point in our lives have needed help from someone else, and it’s comforting to know that help is there when you need it. ECHO wants to make sure our employees and the community knows that we’re willing to help out those in need in whatever ways that we can. It’s great to see that the employees here have embraced that vision and have hopped on board to help us achieve our mission.”



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