



**Crystal Run**  
**50** *of* **Village, Inc.**  
**Years** *Life-Changing Opportunity*

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# News

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## Gratitude Expressed

The Crystal Run Village, Inc. Board of Directors acknowledged 40 years of service by its Executive Director Jim Lawler, on Tuesday, November 24 at a private party in Monroe. Lawler has been executive director since 1998. Throughout his career he has been an advocate of the value of community responsiveness to human need and the vision of a just, inclusive society for all people regardless of their differences.

Lawler, a native of Galway, West of Ireland, was recruited to work in the mental health services field in 1969 through the J-1 Visa program, sponsored by Senator Robert F. Kennedy. His initial position with Crystal Run Camp was as a summer camp counselor. He was retained fulltime as a teacher in 1972 when the camp transitioned to a residential school and, he soon became director of day programs. In 1978 Lawler was appointed director of the Crystal Run Village, Inc. Residential School in Fallsburg.

Lawler holds a Humanistic Masters Degree in Professional Services from SUNY New Paltz. He earned his undergraduate degree from University College in Dublin, Ireland and a Higher Diploma in Education from University College in Galway, Ireland.

Crystal Run Village, Inc. has been creating and providing services for the inclusion, independence, and enrichment of the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and mental illness for 50 years. The agency provides supports in the form of housing, opportunities for employment, and programs for learning, self-expression and recreation. The administrative offices for Crystal Run Village, Inc. are based at the site of the original summer camp on Stony Ford Road in Middletown.

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