



Making A *Difference*

Lutheran Hospice...a Grace-Filled Ministry



A few months ago there was a concerning voicemail left with the on-call nurse at Lutheran Hospice. The woman's voice was strained, and her call was a plea for help. She

was recently diagnosed with cancer, and was in pain but adamant she could not go to the hospital due to past treatment experiences. She was afraid to call 911, and felt there was nowhere else to turn.

The Executive Director and Case Manager with Lutheran Hospice began the journey of finding 'Ms. Betty' and determining what type of assistance and care she needed. Our staff soon drove the rural back roads to an address listed on the GPS. They came to a small trailer off the side of the road. They gave a knock at the door, but Ms. Betty was not there.

After inquiring with a neighbor they were directed to a small shed in the distance. Certainly this was not her residence. But the structure was in fact her home, and Lutheran Hospice began evaluating Ms. Betty and her situation. She had just been diagnosed with stage IV metastatic breast cancer. There was nobody to help care for her, and the limited medicines available were not

sufficient to handle any pain.

Ms. Betty did not have the resources to pay for prescriptions or the ability to look into any care facilities due to her mistrust of health care systems. Because of the diligent efforts of our staff, they were soon able to gain her trust and she agreed to be admitted as a patient.

Lutheran Hospice needed to help locate Ms. Betty to a setting where appropriate end-of-life care could be managed. An emergency funding request was submitted to the Foundation, and our ministry approved a

grant to cover the costs of her care. She was transported to her new home at Lowman within 24 hours of agreeing to let Hospice manage her care.

Barely 90 lbs., and suffering much pain, Ms. Betty was brought to a safe-space for much needed end-of-life comfort and care. She was embraced by our staff at a time when she felt most alone. She was welcomed with open arms and she was loved.

Only a few days later, Ms. Betty succumbed to the disease. How heartbreaking to think that if we had not responded to her plea for assistance, that she would have passed away without the help she so desperately needed. There is such joy in knowing she received grace-filled care, and we rejoice that she



was embraced by the loving hands of Lutheran Hospice and the ministry of Lutheran Homes.

Ernest L. Beck, MAR, CFRE
President and CEO

Highest Rating for 8th Consecutive Year



Charity Navigator announced earlier this year that the Lutheran Homes of SC Foundation has again

achieved highest marks with earning another 4-star rating. Congratulations are in order for demonstrating strong financial health, accountability and transparency. We are proud to have an eighth consecutive 4-star rating, which indicates that the Foundation outperforms most other charities in America. This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets us apart and acknowledges our level of commitment to good governance, best practices and accountability. Charity Navigator is the largest and most utilized evaluator of charities in America helping donors make intelligent giving decisions.

Bank Drafts and Credit Card Payments

The Foundation accepts one-time and recurring contributions through bank drafts and credit card payments. Please contact Judith Whisman at **800.756.9443** or LutheranHomesSCFoundation.org.

Mission Statement

The mission of Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation, Inc. is to support the ministry of Lutheran Homes of South Carolina by enabling donors, who care about older adults and hospice patients, to achieve their philanthropic goals and by being a faithful steward of their gifts.

Therapy on Wheels



As we age, there are activities that we may find more difficult or simply stop doing. The Life Enrichment teams across Lutheran Homes pride themselves on providing a wide array of activities to help residents stay engaged and active both on campus and in the local community.

Our newest addition to these activities is the side-by-side tricycle. Life Enrichment Director at Franke at Seaside, Brittany Hutson-Wilgus, brought up the idea of adding the side-by-side to campus, which would have functional use for Life Enrichment and Rehabilitation services.

Since adding it to the activities schedule, Brittany has noticed a boost in physical fitness and an increase in self-confidence in those residents that regularly ride.

The Rehabilitation side of our facilities have also seen positive impacts for use of the side-by-side. According to Josh Felton,



Director of Rehabilitation, "Therapists are able to join residents and assess trunk control, gross motor coordination and overall safety. The trike serves as a good transition for residents that at one time used a 1-person bike. This may assist in building confidence in returning to their personal device in the future, following a hospital stay, short term rehab or simply out of habit."

Franke at Seaside has been able to see benefits of the program for both recreational and rehabilitative use, and because of our donors' generosity to the Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation, a side-by-side tricycle was purchased for each of our facilities across the

state. No matter your age or ability, it is great to enjoy the freedom and breeze you experience when you take a ride outside in the fresh Carolina air.

Elliott Williams
Director of Development

Employee Educational Assistance Fund

Lutheran Homes developed an Employee Educational Assistance (EEA) Program, which recognizes the importance of continuing education and the development of its employees to provide quality services and care to residents, patients and clients. This program gives employees an opportunity to apply for reimbursement of the cost of tuition, fees and books if they pursue a degree from an accredited institution that supports employment at Lutheran Homes or seek certification in an area related to their employment.

Funding for the EEA program is provided by contributions to the Foundation designated for the program. While contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law, the assistance provided to employees is not considered taxable income for them.

Please use the attached envelope if you would like to express your gratitude to the staff by making a gift to the Employee Educational Assistance Program.

Foundation Financial Report

Through the first two quarters of Fiscal Year 2021-22, there were 1,491 donors that contributed to the Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation. Their gifts along with income on endowments made it possible for the Foundation to provide \$1,358,458 in support to the ministries of Lutheran Homes.

This generosity certainly gave peace of mind to the 20 residents, hospice patients and clients that had their care subsidized with support totaling \$212,011. They were able to receive the services they needed even though they could not afford to pay the full cost of their care.

Those gifts also made a difference in the quality of life for all of those served

by Lutheran Homes as we spent \$937,411 to fund capital purchases, facility upgrades and medical equipment. Also included was an additional \$209,036 to support our ministry sites with program enhancements, operational grants and transfers such as life enrichment, pastoral care and special projects.

Being able to give back is a good thing for the donor as well as the charity. And when you give a gift to the Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation, it is good for our residents, hospice patients, clients and employees because your gifts will be used to make a real difference in the lives of those we serve.

Innkeeper Legacy Society

Friends of Lutheran Homes who make us aware of their plans to leave a legacy of care through a will, gift annuity, charitable trust, life insurance policy or retirement plan may remain anonymous or give permission for their names to be included on the roll of the Innkeeper Legacy Society. We are grateful for the following individuals and couples who have given permission and made the Foundation aware of their planned gifts:

(Anonymous 10)*
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Beck
The Rev. H. Gene &
Frances Beck
Mr. & Mrs. Luther C. Boliek
Mr. & Mrs. Perry Bouknight
Mrs. Kaye Bradley
Mr. & Mrs. Mark C. Buchanan
The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Boyd F. Cook
The Rev. & Mrs. Robert G. Coon
Mr. Charles & Mrs. Joan Cope
Mrs. Ann K. Dasher
Ms. Kaye D. Derrick
Ms. Denise L. Dickinsen

Mr. David Ritcey & Judith
Dunbar
Jim & Jewell Eanes
Mrs. Anita B. Easter
The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Derald
H. Edwards
The Rev. Mary Mappus Finklea
Karen & Jamie Fivecoat
Ms. Melanie R. Gregg
Mr. Parke B. Horton
Mrs. Barbara W. Keil
Mrs. Marie Kleckley
Mr. & Mrs. Mark H. Lee
CDR Steven M. Lofton



Ms. Dolly Nethercot
Mr. Joseph Owens*
Mrs. Betty Park
Dr. Donna Millar Potts &
Dr. David Potts
Mrs. Ned (Mary) Schall
Ms. Phyllis Shaffer
Sister Marilyn H. Stauffer*
Mr. Walter A. Sigman, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. George W. Smyth, Jr.
David & Susan Troutman
Dr. Sandra S. Watson
Mrs. Rosmarie W. Wessinger
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Yetter

* New Addition to Public Legacy Listing

Please call the Foundation at **800.756.9443** or use the attached envelope to tell us about your planned gift or receive information about establishing one.

Notes of Grace

Many of the gifts to the Foundation come with expressions of deep gratitude for the care and services provided by our staff. Here are a few excerpts from some of the letters and notes recently received.

"Thank you so much for the care and support Lutheran Hospice provided to my mother and our family over her last months. It was comforting to know she was cared for so compassionately when I was not there. Special thanks to her nurse, her CNA and wonderful Chaplain. We appreciate each of you so much."

"Two of our loved ones received such loving care provided by Lowman and the wonderful staff. We hope that in some small way our gift will enable others to continue to receive the love and care that our family experienced. May God continue to provide for all of your needs and bless the ministry of Lutheran Homes."

"My family and I wanted to thank you and the Foundation for providing mom the resources, and standard of living care provided so graciously to her. Franke has improved our mom's quality of life and prolonged her well-being. We wish you a blessed year!"

Purpose Statement

Making a Difference is an official publication of the Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation, Inc. designed to make donors and friends of Lutheran Homes aware of Foundation developments. Call Judith Whisman at **800.756.9443** or email foundation@lhomes.org if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.

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The IRA rollover offers the opportunity to give to the causes you care about without suffering adverse tax consequences. This allows some investors to transfer funds from an individual retirement account directly to a qualified charity without having to count any of that transfer as taxable income.

Individuals who own an IRA must begin taking minimum distributions at age 70 ½, and those distributions could increase tax liability. These dollars qualify for the provision and do not need to be included in the individual's gross income if they make a "qualified charitable distribution." The charitable IRA rollover is a way to donate

to charity and avoid the tax liability.

There is more to charitable giving than just the financial and tax advantages. Donors who make a gift to the Foundation have the personal satisfaction that comes from supporting Lutheran Homes and knowing they are making a difference in their respective communities. It's for all these reasons—financial, taxable, and philanthropic—that it is good to initiate a conversation about charitable giving.

For more information please contact:

Toll free: **1.800.756.9443**

Web: LutheranHomesSCfoundation.org

Email: foundation@lhomes.org

