

The FRIEND

GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES



VOLUME CVIV No. 2 SPRING/SUMMER 2019

2019 ANNUAL MEETING SHARES MINISTRY SUCCESS

Heartfelt testimonials, inspirational entertainment, the CEO report, and election of board members are a few of the highlights from Genacross Lutheran Services' 159th Annual Meeting of Member Congregations, held April 11 at Hope Lutheran Church in Toledo.

Nearly 150 individuals, including 66 delegates representing 35 congregations, attended the 2019 Annual Meeting. Attendees at the event began the evening with hearty hors d'oeuvres, followed by a brief worship service and a performance by singer/songwriter Kerry Patrick Clark.

As part of the evening's agenda, Genacross recognized directors who have completed their terms. Carol Dille, who retired from the Napoleon Campus ministry board, was on hand to receive a gift from President/CEO Rick Marshall.

Genacross residents Ray and Jane Grob then spoke about their positive experiences living in Bethany Place senior community in Fremont, Ohio. The couple shared how happy they are to be living there and how it has enhanced their lives.

During his report, Mr. Marshall spoke about the Genacross Promise initiative, the growth of the Family & Youth Services and Genacross at Home ministries, and the Lutheran Services in America Senior Connect program. Genacross is one of 11 senior service organizations that have come together to develop a model for helping



Residents Ray and Jane Grob gave testimonials on their happiness living in Bethany Place senior community.

seniors with chronic conditions manage their health care needs and stay well in their homes (more on page 2).

Congregational delegates then voted to elect four members to the Genacross Board of Directors: Dan Wakeman, Rosary Cathedral Roman Catholic Church, Toledo; Lynn Warren, St. Luke's, Temperance, Michigan; the Rev. Mark Wentz, Grace, Elmore; and Lee Wunschel, Olivet, Sylvania.

There was no new business to be considered during the meeting, and Mr. Clark closed the evening with a stirring rendition of "How Great is Our God," which many people were moved to sing with him.

A photo gallery of the 2019 annual meeting is on page 4.



Connect with Genacross Lutheran Services on social media. We are now on Facebook and LinkedIn, providing new ways you can learn about, share, and comment on the latest Genacross news and events.

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OUR MISSION

Inspired by the Christian faith, we embrace individuals and families with compassionate care and services throughout life's journey.

OUR VISION

Through our faith and work, we strive to be a forward-thinking, compassionate organization that improves the lives of current and future generations.

OUR VALUES

Faithfulness to Christ

Equality and Justice

Wholeness of Life

Integrity

Quality of Service

Stewardship of Resources

OUR MINISTRIES

Genacross Lutheran Services
Napoleon Campus

Genacross Lutheran Services
Toledo Campus

Genacross Lutheran Services
Wolf Creek Campus

**Genacross Housing &
Community Services**

Genacross Adult Day Center

Genacross at Home

**Genacross Family &
Youth Services**

**Genacross Lutheran Services
Foundation**

Connect on Social Media:



A note from

RICK MARSHALL

President and CEO



Social Determinants of Health

In our society today, many individuals struggle to maintain their health and receive the care necessary to treat illness and manage chronic conditions that affect their daily well-being. How can this happen in a country with tremendous medical advances and readily available health care? The answer often lies in what are known as the social determinants of health. Social determinants are those factors that, if not addressed, will prevent an individual

from receiving care and other services that will allow them to maintain and manage their health.

Social determinants generally fall into one of seven categories: access to transportation, food insecurity, social support, housing, health literacy, economic well-being, and crime/violence.

If individuals are unable to visit their physicians due to lack of transportation, then they will not receive the care necessary to manage their medical conditions. If people do not have access to nutritious food on a consistent basis, then their diet will promote an unhealthy lifestyle. Likewise, if elders do not live in clean housing, then they are at risk for the spread of illness. The list goes on and on.

In many parts of our country, thousands of people who could be living healthier and longer lives are denied this opportunity because of social determinants. Statistics tell us that gaps in health care cause over 60% of premature deaths while, conversely, reliable transportation eliminates 55% of missed medical appointments. Furthermore, when properly screened for mental health issues, 67% of undiagnosed seniors could be treated for their condition.

Through a program called Senior Connect, Genacross Lutheran Services recently made a commitment that will allow us to help individuals address social determinants in new and helpful ways. Service Coordinators in Genacross affordable housing sites are implementing a new, comprehensive assessment tool that will proactively enable us to address social determinant issues affecting our residents. By spending time with residents and working together to evaluate their needs, we can connect them to services within our communities that allow them to receive the care they need to manage their health and live independently as long as possible.

After caring for the needs of our own residents, we envision rolling out Senior Connect on a larger scale to promote health and well-being in the communities we serve. Healthier communities are possible only when the social determinants that prevent our most vulnerable citizens from receiving the care they need and deserve are effectively addressed.

Blessings,

LEADINGAGE OHIO RECOGNIZES GENACROSS STARS

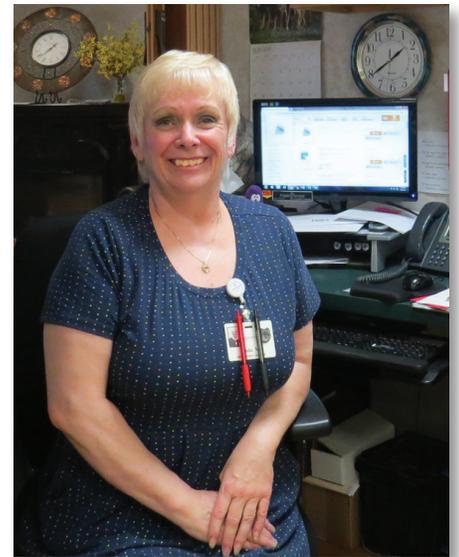
Annually, **LeadingAge Ohio** sponsors the STARS Awards to recognize deserving employees whose positive actions and attitudes shine brightly in their daily interactions with residents, patients and clients. This year, 10 Genacross employees were recognized by LeadingAge Ohio.

The employees honored were: **Colette Anderson**, Child Care Worker with Family & Youth Services; **Andrea Ankney**, Activities Assistant at the Napoleon Campus; **Angela Clay**, Child Care Worker/Business Office Coordinator with Family & Youth Services; **Karen Koberstein**, Activities Assistant at the Toledo Campus; **Kristan Lillich**, Registered Nurse with Genacross at Home; **Maggie Myers**, Dietary Aide with Housing & Community Services; **Dana Riker**, Maintenance Worker with Housing & Community Services; **Kelly Siefke**, Resident Assistant at the Toledo Campus; **Linda Weaver**, Administrative Assistant at the Wolf Creek Campus; and **Janet Westhoven**, Licensed Practical Nurse at the Napoleon Campus.

Because the LeadingAge Ohio Northwest Region STARS Awards Luncheon was held at a location too remote from the Genacross ministries, Genacross Lutheran Services held its own STARS luncheon on May 31 at Cousino's Steakhouse in Oregon, Ohio. Honored employees had the opportunity to attend the luncheon with President/CEO Rick Marshall, Vice President for Human Resources Jeff Schulte, and other Genacross leadership team members.

"Our STARS continue to be excellent examples of what we look for in employees who provide care for our residents," Mr. Schulte said. "As we continue on our journey with the Genacross Promise, these employees exhibit the model behaviors we strive to instill in all of our staff."

STARS Award winners are required to be non-management staff members and are nominated by co-workers, residents or their supervisors. Each winner received an award certificate from LeadingAge Ohio and will be invited to the annual Genacross Employee Appreciation and Recognition event to be held at the Toledo Zoo on August 8, 2019.



STARS Award winner Linda Weaver, Administrative Assistant at the Wolf Creek Campus, is the friendly, smiling face that greets people at the front desk of the Health Center.

ONU students help residents

Ten students from Ohio Northern University (ONU) in Ada, Ohio, volunteered at Luther Pines senior community in Lima. The effort was part of ONU's student-led LOVE (Living Our Values Everyday) Day on April 6. The students helped 23 residents with such tasks as hanging pictures, washing windows, putting up shelves, and cleaning blinds.



Genacross holds celebration of former orphanage building



Genacross Lutheran Services celebrated the 100th anniversary of the opening of the former Lutheran Orphans' Home building, located at 2411 Seaman Street, on April 28. The day began with a worship service at nearby First St. John Lutheran Church, which served as the home church for the orphanage until it closed in 1964. After the service, a luncheon reunion was held at the church for former residents and their families. In addition, there was a public Open House in the afternoon, featuring tours of the former orphanage building. Museum Curator/Archivist Bob Haar (center) talks with individuals in a classroom that is maintained as it was when the building was filled with children and staff. To book a tour, contact Mr. Haar at 419.724.1878.

ANNUAL MEETING PHOTO GALLERY



Attendees enjoy fellowship and food in Hope Lutheran Church's Larson Hall to start the evening.



The Rev. Kevin Wilson, President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Ohio District, was one of the officials on hand to bring greetings to attendees.



The Rev. Dr. James Dumke, Vice President for Mission Integration, leads the brief worship service.



Secretary Lynn Warren is one of four board members elected and installed to the Genacross Board of Directors during the 2019 Annual Meeting.



President/CEO Rick Marshall provides an organizational update, highlighting some of the past year's successes and previewing future growth opportunities.



Entertainer Kerry Patrick Clark encourages the audience to participate during his enjoyable performance.

GRANDFRIENDS PROGRAM BRINGS JOY TO RESIDENTS

The Grandfriends program at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus is a vital intergenerational component of the campus' activity calendar. About 10 years ago, assisted living residents began visiting the fourth-grade classrooms at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School.

The partnership allows for the development of strong bonds between Wolf Creek residents and students, as they



Wolf Creek assisted living resident James Stader visits with students at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School.

read, play games, create craft projects, practice flash cards, work with technology, and talk together. The visits help keep the residents' minds sharp, and the friendships and connections made can combat depression and isolation. The residents look forward to interacting with the students each month, and the visits provide stories that are shared throughout the year.

"Our residents are constantly amazed at the technology and course work that the kids have in the classroom today, compared to the days of school for themselves and their children," said Vicki Ropp, Wolf Creek Activities Assistant.

Assisted living residents travel to the school once a month during the school year to visit with the students. In May, the students then travel to the Wolf Creek Campus for games and a picnic as part of an end-of-the-year celebration.

"This gives the students an opportunity to see where our residents live and to get a better understanding of the senior community," said Jessica Kirkendall, Associate Executive Director for the Wolf Creek Campus. "The joy and smiles on the faces of residents and students is priceless and something we cherish seeing as staff."

Napoleon Campus celebrates patients returning home

For the past five years, staff members at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus have worked together to create a tradition that celebrates those patients who have successfully completed their short-term rehabilitation on the campus and are returning home. Referred to as "Chicken in the Hen House," it uniquely celebrates patients graduating from therapy services.

When a patient is ready to leave, a staff member calls "Chicken in the Hen House" down the hallways. "When I was the receptionist, one of my jobs was to make sure I knew when someone was going home," explained Yolanda Perez, who is currently the Business Office Coordinator. "When they were ready to leave, I would call out

'Chicken in the Hen House,' and staff members would come running."

Employees know that they are being called to gather around the doors in the Health Center lobby to send



Staff line up to send successful patients home with a celebration in the lobby.

successful patients home with praises, hugs and hand clapping. When the tradition began, staff would play the "Chicken Dance" or a patient's favorite song during the send-off. Song or no song, staff members heartily cheer for the patients as they head home.

Each patient also receives a gift and has an opportunity to take a picture at the selfie wall in the lobby. These images are then posted on the Napoleon Campus Facebook page, providing another way to celebrate the successful recovery of patients.

GIFTS IN KIND BRIGHTEN DAYS AT ADULT DAY CENTER

The Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation sponsors a local radio program titled "A Firm Foundation for Life." Recently, a segment was pre-recorded at the Genacross Adult Day Center (ADC). The hosts, Rick and Jackie Metz, interviewed Amber Burnett, ADC Nursing Manager, and Jackie Petersen, Director of Service Coordination, regarding the ADC and its services.

While this was taking place, Foundation Executive Director Kathy Lemmerbrock spoke with ADC client, Hubert "Hubie" Pitts, age 89. Mrs. Pitts talked about her



Adult Day Center client Hubie Pitts likes the many activities offered, especially dancing.

life, as well as the activities she likes at the day center. "I like television, but the most, I like to dance," she said. Her husband was a good dancer, she explained, adding: "We would go out every weekend and dance. Sometimes we danced at home. When we have dancing here [at the ADC] I love it. I feel like I am on 'Dancing with the Stars,' and I think of my husband."

Mrs. Pitts and others come to the ADC's daily program to enjoy activities and socialize. Some cannot stay in their homes by themselves during the day when their children or other caregivers are working or otherwise occupied. ADC participants can enjoy crafts, movies, group outings, seasonal and birthday parties, interactive games, dancing, as well as many other activities.

Typically, these amenities are not covered by the costs charged to private pay participants or the reimbursements received from insurance or Medicaid. Donor gifts make it possible to continue and expand social activities that increase the individual's well-being and, ultimately, produce a healthier and happier life for these older adults.

Individuals may choose to make a cash contribution or a gift in kind. Non-cash donations can include items that

brighten the day of participants. Items the ADC accepts include the following:

- ✧ Baking supplies
- ✧ Bingo prizes
- ✧ Coloring books
- ✧ Craft supplies
- ✧ Markers and crayons
- ✧ Movies (DVD)
- ✧ Nail polish/remover
- ✧ Party favors
- ✧ Plastic cups and saucers
- ✧ Plastic/paper dinnerware
- ✧ Soft blankets
- ✧ Walkman CD players and headphones

Please consider a cash or in-kind gift. Thank you for your support in transforming the lives of older adults and their families who depend on the Adult Day Center. Together, we change lives!

To listen to the radio program podcasts featuring Genacross programs and services, go to the Genacross website at <https://genacrosslutheranservices.org/foundation/community-outreach/> and click on the Community Radio Program link for listening choices.

IN HONOR OF January 1 - March 31, 2019

Mr. & Mrs. Roger Burmeister's 60th wedding anniversary by St. John's WELCA, Oak Harbor

Jim & Dawn Dumke by Rev. Paul Deppen

Mary Kay & Jeff Gabel's 40th wedding anniversary by John Farizel & Carol Farizel-Wasserman

Geraldine Haase by Patricia Shoemaker

The Holy Spirit by John Weislmeier

Ilean Labuhn by Mr. Misael & Mrs. Roseanne Martinez

My family by Weldon Mueller

Edna Nagel by Cheryl & Gary Daman

The Nungester Family by Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Nungester

Our just and merciful Father by John Weislmeier

Nelson Roberts' birthday by Dave & Pam Roberts

If we have failed to list your name or have listed it incorrectly, please accept our apologies and contact Anne at 419.861.4965 to correct our records.

IN MEMORY OF *January 1 - March 31, 2019*

Marie Asta by
Marge Bollinger

Al Billow by
Mary Billow

JoAnn Boyd by
John & Sandra
Husman, Jill Suleski

Carl Breske by
Robin & Bob Burkett

Millie Bruns by
Cheryl & Gary Daman

Katharine Carr by
Mary & Al Mortemore

Mary Cox by
Jeanene Pifer

Fred & Marge Dais
by William Fred
Dais, Ed.S.

Betty Dennis by
Cheryl & Gary Daman

Doris Dietrich by
Cheryl & Gary Daman

Miriam Fansler
by Gene & Joyce
Zimmerman

Lawrence Haase by
Patricia Shoemaker

The Rev. Fred & Dorothy Hagen by
DeAnna McCashin

Helen Heacock by
Dennis & Mary Jo
Hagey

Pr. Rex Heidmann by
Elaine Gruetter

Doris Hoesman by
Kermit Hoesman

Lois Kuhlman by
Frank & Pat Mensing

Alma Mueller by
Lynn & Joyce Olman

My wife, Mary by
Weldon Mueller

Parents by
Dave & Pam Roberts

Virginia Pifer by
Jeanene Pifer

Glenn Pocock by
Molly Pocock

Cathy Roberts by
Dave & Pam Roberts

Christine Rohrs by
John Rohrs

Ralph & Frederick Sandrock by
Edna Sandrock

Minnie Shick by
Jeannette Kubitz

David Vander Hooven
by Jean Emery, Jim &

Linda Heilman, Jerry
& Dianne Lear, Emma
& George Oravec,
Dorothy Otis, Helen &
Robert Wakefield, Ted
& Shannon Weaver

Helen Wheeler by
Sharon Ann Wheeler

James F. Wheeler by
Sharon Ann Wheeler

James J. Wheeler by
Sharon Ann Wheeler

Rev. Thomas Wilson
by Mrs. Frances Wilson

Anna Yunker by
Mary Jane Joehlin

ORGANIZATIONAL DONATIONS

January 1 - March 31, 2019

AmazonSmile Foundation, Seattle, WA
Kroger Community Rewards, Columbus
Thrivent Financial, Appleton, WI
TOPS #1648, Toledo
United Way of Greater Toledo

GIFTS IN KIND *January 1 - March 31, 2019*

Joette Boyd-Randall
Valerie Castro
Beth Fry

Kathy Hagan
Beth Labuhn-Allan
Kathleen B.
Lemmerbrock

Sharon Parmelee
Linda Sitlava

CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS

January 1 - March 31, 2019

St. Martin, Archbold
St. Paul, Blissfield, MI
Christ, Bowling Green
St. Paul,
Bowling Green
St. Paul, Defiance
Grace, Fremont
St. Mark, Fremont
Zion, Gibsonburg
Immanuel, Ida, MI
Zion, Lafayette
St. Matthew, Lima
Zion Church Women,
Luckey
St. Peter, Martin
St. Paul, McClure
St. Peter, Norwalk
St. John, Oak Harbor
St. John's WELCA,
Oak Harbor
St. Michael,
Ottawa Lake, MI

Church of the Master
Perrysburg
Zoar, Perrysburg
Resurrection,
Port Clinton
St. John, Port Clinton
St. Peter,
Ridgeville Corners
St. John's, Stony Ridge
St. John, Stryker
St. John Ladies' Aid,
Stryker
St. Paul,
Sulphur Springs
Augsburg, Toledo
Bethlehem, Toledo
Faith, Toledo
First St. John, Toledo
Messiah, Toledo
St. John, Toledo
St. Mark's, Wapakoneta
Trinity, Wauseon
Solomon, Woodville

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

January 1 - March 31, 2019

Anonymous
Beverly Apel
Rev. Dr. & Mrs.
Gerald Bauer
James Beardsley
Jason Beyer
Anne Biel
Harlan & Lois Billow
Patricia Blankenship
Hilde Boes
Stephen & Deborah
Bowsher
Kari Bucher
Christina Burnette
Elizabeth Cannon
Vicky Chambers
Angela Clay
Diane Cline
Jenny & Matt Darr
Tamara Dawson-Kynard
Dr. Jim & Dawn Dumke
Beatrice Eastwood
Bruce Flory

Ron & Mary Lou Gabel
Rev. Richard &
Christine Habrecht
Norma Jean Hall
Mr. John Wilmore & Dr.
Elizabeth Halloran
Victoria & Demetrius
Harris
Harry Jenkins
Eric & Cindy Johnson
Michael & Irene Kelly
Dawn Knisel
Julie Krauss
Dan & Julie Kunos
Molly & Steve Laux
Kathleen B.
Lemmerbrock
Rev. & Mrs. Steve Lutz
Beverly Mackey
Ruth Marquardt
Rick & Janet Marshall
Carol L. Meuser
Melanie Moore

Mary & Al Mortemore
Mark Muller
Rev. Dr. Tim & Mrs.
Kate Philabaum
Jeff & Sharon Przywiecki
James Reardon
Jon Russell
Mary Satterfield
Jeff & Lorinda Schalk
Amanda Schroeder
Jeff & Paige Schulte
Jane Sharp
Scott Slee
William E. Smith
Jim & Louise Sommers
Meg & Dennis Stieber
Carol Taylor
Wyatt Vaughn
Lynn & John Warren
Linda Weaver
Darlene Williams
Katie & Jay Zawisza

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Chinese: 注意: 如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-888-546-7745 (TTY: 1-888-546-7745)

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Join us for the final wave as the sun sets on the Four Lutheran Agencies of NWO Golf Outing

Surf The Links

Registration deadline
is June 14, 2019.

RAFFLE
BASKETS &
WEAR YOUR
BEST HAWAIIAN
SHIRT!

HOLE IN ONE
CONTEST FOR
A TRIP TO
HAWAII

Golf Outing at Stone Ridge Golf Club
Bowling Green, OH
Friday, June 21, 2019

Shotgun Start at 9:00am
Rain or Shine!

\$85.00 per golfer
(Scramble style)

Registration fees include coffee and
donuts, green fees, 1/2 golf cart, use
of driving range & a lunch buffet.

Prizes are awarded to the top
two in each division: Open,
Mixed (2 men and 2 women)
and Senior (minimum age of all
team members is 60).

Questions? Contact Joyce
Willier at 419-350-4809 (cell),
419-726-8653 (home) or
jwillier@lssnwo.org.

Online Registration is available at:
<https://bit.ly/2iVDq7z>