



# GOD AT WORK IN OUR MIDST

*Stories of the Called Ministries of  
Genacross Lutheran Services*



February 2021

## TOLEDO CAMPUS

After spending 38 days in the hospital (20 of them on a ventilator) with complications from COVID-19, "Scott" arrived at The Labuhn Center on the Genacross Lutheran Services-Toledo Campus for rehabilitation. The 43-year-old patient arrived on a stretcher and in need of physical therapy, occupational therapy, and wound care. Scott spent hours in therapy building up his strength and endurance. Nursing staff worked hard to heal his open wound. His positive attitude and cheery personality made him a popular patient, and his commitment to getting better made his stay productive. After 23 days of in-patient rehabilitation, Scott walked out of the building to return home. Scott described his care as "top notch," adding that "if I needed something they were there." Upon his discharge, he began receiving home health services from Genacross at Home. He receives physical therapy twice a week and wound care three times a week as he continues his recovery at home.

## FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES

In October 2019, a new funding source to address the needs of multi-system youth (MSY) became available in Ohio, allowing parents to seek residential treatment for their children without having to relinquish custody. In February 2020, Genacross Family & Youth Services received its first MSY-funded youth, who was placed at the Wynn Group Home. Almost immediately, Genacross began to create a reunification plan for "Perry" and his family. Perry was born with fetal alcohol syndrome and later diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder. He was placed with a foster family days after his birth and was adopted by them prior to his second birthday. He had additional problems through which his parents were trying to work, including intense sensory issues and aggressive behaviors toward his siblings and the family pet. Due to these behaviors, his parents sought residential treatment as an intervention. Family & Youth staff worked hard to teach Perry how to self-regulate many of his destructive behaviors. Perry also participated in individual and group therapy. He had family visits and family therapy via video conferencing. In the summer, his parents were able to have in-person outside visits at the group home. They brought his bike and outside activities to enjoy together. Eventually, he was able to have family visits at a local hotel that limited his exposure to COVID-19. In December, Perry had visits in his family home, and he was able to discharge from Family & Youth care at the end of the month. The family is reunited, and Perry is happy to be home.





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## NAPOLEON CAMPUS

“Letty” lived alone in the country and felt that the outside work at her home was becoming too much to handle by herself. She contacted the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus about moving into one of the Bavarian Village condominiums. She felt it was a good place for her retirement, and she was happy to let the Genacross team take care of maintenance needs. Bavarian Village also provided her with a new community and support system. “I enjoyed living there because I could be around people and was able to have someone help take care of my needs and property,” Letty said. Eventually, however, she needed more day-to-day help and had more clinical needs. Her physician also recommended that she should not live alone. The campus’ next level of care, Alpine Village assisted living, seemed to be a logical step, and Letty was willing to make the move. “Even though there are restrictions due to the coronavirus, we are still able to have activities,” she explained. “The food is good, and the employees all try to take care of my requests when I need something. It’s a good place to live.”

## WOLF CREEK CAMPUS

“Midge,” a 49-year-old stroke victim, was admitted to the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus in August 2020. Her stroke was severe, and she demonstrated multiple clinical needs, including a paralyzed right side, a tracheostomy, 24/7 oxygen, and the inability to swallow. The clinical care team completed its initial assessment and began a rigorous rehabilitation program coupled with daily oversight by respiratory therapy. Initially, Midge was depressed, angry, and ready to give up. The care team spent numerous hours providing high quality clinical care, as well as psychological support through encouragement and positive feedback. Each week saw Midge regain her physical capabilities. As she slowly re-established her functional abilities, her attitude improved. At Midge’s discharge conference, there were tears in the care team member’s eyes because of her new-found independence. Now back at home, Midge is continuing her recovery with Genacross at Home in-home health services.



## HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

“Betsy,” a resident of Genacross’ Covenant Harbor senior community in Oak Harbor, has been working with the housing site’s Service Coordinator since December 2020 to meet her increasing needs. She has a history of falling at least three times a week and usually has to call EMS for help. Recently, Betsy fell and broke her shoulder, and doctors did not cast it or do surgery, deciding to have it heal on its own. After breaking her shoulder, she needed rehabilitation at a local skilled nursing facility. Every other day, Betsy’s daughter and the Genacross Service Coordinator discuss Betsy’s progress and their concerns, and strategize how best to help her. They determined that looking into an assisted living setting was the best option for Betsy moving forward, and Betsy agreed to the plan. The goal is to have Betsy discharge from the rehab center and move directly into assisted living at Bethany Place in Fremont, another senior community operated by Genacross Home & Community Based Services. After much coordination by all parties involved, Betsy’s transition to assisted living is expected to take place by the end of February.

## GENACROSS AT HOME

As the result of some health issues, “Don” became a patient in The Labuhn Center, the short-term rehabilitation center located on the Genacross Lutheran Services-Toledo Campus. He received great care while at The Labuhn Center, and he wanted his therapy team there to follow him home to continue his recovery. To facilitate that, Don was referred to Genacross at Home for skilled home health services. The Genacross at Home team worked with his in-patient therapy team to coordinate home health services. Don successfully transitioned home, being more comfortable and confident in himself and his care because he was able to work with the same therapy team during his entire recovery process.

Although pseudonyms are used in the above ministry stories, Genacross follows HIPAA guidelines and has either obtained permission from our residents, patients, or clients, or has sufficiently concealed their identities, thereby enabling us to use their stories of God’s grace.