

GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES



VOLUME CVIII No. 1 WINTER 2022

2022 annual meeting goes virtual

Genacross Lutheran Services has scheduled its 162nd Annual Meeting of Member Congregations for Thursday, April 7, 2022. This virtual-only event will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Annual Meeting will feature Genacross President/CEO Rick Marshall presenting his annual report on current operations, as well as congregational delegates electing new members to the Board of Directors.

To make a reservation, please call Bev Apel at 419.861.4954 or email BApel@Genacross.org by March 31. Supporting documents and procedures for logging on will be sent to registered attendees as the date of the meeting approaches.



Genacross features Wholeness of Life Core Value

During 2022, Genacross Lutheran Services will be lifting up the third of its six Core Values, "Wholeness of Life." "It is important that we make clear, as we did with 'Equality and Justice,' that this value is also rooted in our 'Faithfulness to Christ' value," said Dr. Jim Dumke, Vice President for Mission Integration.

"After all, Jesus commanded us, first, to love God 'with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind,' (Matthew 22:37), and then, to love our neighbor as ourselves," Dr. Dumke said. "We are whole beings, dedicated to God and to others."

Indeed, if there is one thing that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has made clear, it is that human beings, young and old and all ages in between, are not just physical beings. It is evident that residents, clients, and co-workers are also mental beings, spiritual beings, family beings, and social beings. "We see on a daily basis that the state of any and all of these has an

> impact on our physical health and well-being; any or all of them affect an individual's quality of life," Dr. Dumke explained.

So then, if Genacross truly desires to care for individuals, caregivers must be concerned with more than just their physical needs. Broken hearts or minds, broken spirits, broken families, or broken relationships can be as serious as

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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
Wolf Creek Campus

Genacross Home & Community
Based Services

Genacross at Home

Genacross Family &

Youth Services

Genacross Lutheran Services
Foundation

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A note from RICK MARSHALL

President and CEO



Mandates Moving Forward

Federal COVID-19 vaccine mandates have dominated the news headlines over the last several months. With a variety of government directives, legal challenges, and court rulings, it has been difficult to keep track of who is required to be vaccinated in order to perform their work. At Genacross, we have strongly encouraged all of our team members and eligible residents to receive a vaccine to protect their health and the health of those we

serve. However, a recent Supreme Court ruling upholding a mandate from the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) impacts Genacross and brings new requirements for our employees.

Under the CMS mandate, all employees of Genacross who work in one of our skilled nursing facilities are required to be fully vaccinated by March 15, 2022. In addition, employees who are not direct care providers in the skilled nursing facilities, but whose responsibilities at times require them to be in the buildings, must be vaccinated. Because our assisted living communities at our Wolf Creek and Napoleon campuses are in close proximity on the same campus and often share staff, we are extending the mandate to these individuals as well.

Employees may apply for a medical exemption or religious exemption to the CMS mandate. Medical exemption requests must be validated and signed by a licensed medical practitioner. Genacross leadership will review religious exemption requests. If a team member is granted an exemption, they must observe additional protocols to prevent transmission of the virus, including routine COVID-19 testing and the use of extra personal protective equipment (PPE).

While other Genacross ministries are not subject to the CMS mandate, we still provide PPE and testing resources for all of our team members. Team members who test positive for COVID-19 are subject to isolation protocols as determined by guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The health and safety of our residents and employees has always been our highest priority. From the early days of the pandemic, Genacross has taken whatever steps necessary to ensure appropriate PPE supplies and to control the spread of infection. While mandates may change some of our requirements, the commitment to taking care of one another is nothing new. God calls us to minister to others regardless of the circumstances around us. Genacross follows this commitment, as we continue to provide compassionate care and services across generations.

Blessings,



GENACROSS HIRES REGIONAL CLINICAL DIRECTOR

enacross Lutheran Services announces the appointment of Ladina Suber, RN, WCC, as the organization's Regional Clinical Director. This position is responsible for directing the ongoing clinical operations, development, and competencies of the Genacross long-term care ministries.

"Ladina brings a wealth of expertise to our Genacross team," stated Jeff Barror, Director of Operations. "Her clinical experience and leadership will prove vital as we look to continue to be a premier provider of quality care and services to our senior population. We are fortunate to have such a proven leader on our team."

As Regional Clinical Director, Ms. Suber will foster an environment of growth designed to develop the leadership skills of the directors of nursing and clinical teams in order to improve quality care and outcomes. Furthermore, she will enhance medical care capabilities and service delivery of team members at each of the care campuses.



Ladina Suber

"I view nursing as my purpose in life and a way to give back to my community," Ms. Suber stated. "I have always had a passion for long-term care, in particular, and working for a non-profit, faith based organization in that field aligns with my personal and professional goals."

Ms. Suber's career spans 30 years, with most of that time spent working in long-term care. She began her

career as a state tested nursing assistant, progressed to a licensed practical nurse, and then became a registered nurse in 2007. From 2012-2015, she was the Director of Nursing at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus.

She received an associate degree in applied science from Excelsior College in Albany, New York, and has additional certifications in infection prevention and wound care. She resides in Deshler, Ohio, with her husband, Jim, and has two grown sons.

SEEKING BOARD MEMBERS

The Nominating Committee for Genacross Lutheran Services is currently seeking qualified candidates to serve on the Genacross Board of Directors. The Board guides the strategy of the organization as it achieves its mission to provide compassionate care and services. If you are interested or know of a suitable board candidate, please contact:

Genacross Nominating Committee c/o Rick Marshall **President & CEO** 2021 N. McCord Road **Toledo, OH 43615**



Wholeness of Life - continued from front page

broken bones. At Genacross, the goal is wholeness, where spiritual care and activities are real priorities. Chaplains lead worship and offer prayers and counsel on the care campuses. Staff members lead activities and all sorts of other programs to engage and stimulate residents and patients.

Furthermore, with safety precautions in place due to COVID-19, families and friends are encouraged to visit their loved ones, and volunteers provide added

opportunities for connection. Dietary teams strive to provide attractive and healthy food. Service coordinators work hard to connect residents with the help they need. This focus on wholeness extends to the youth in care at Genacross, as well.

"So we strive to be faithful to Christ," Dr. Dumke stated, "by following his example of love for others, and, through our efforts to heal the whole person, loving them as he loved us."

GRANT REWARDS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF

Genacross Family & Youth Services was awarded a Behavioral Health Workforce Retention Initiative grant by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OMHAS) in late 2021. The \$50,000 grant enabled Family & Youth Services to provide well-deserved bonuses

Clinical Therapist Jessi Broz works with a youth in the sensory room at the Anthony Wayne Group Home.

to 35 Genacross behavioral health team members.

"It was really awesome to learn that Genacross Family & Youth values its employees enough to find ways to retain the staff that we have and reward them for the awesome work that they do each day," said Jessi Broz, Clinical Therapist.

This OMHAS initiative came about in response to systemic behavioral health workforce shortages in Ohio. Qualifying agencies had to be a Community Mental Health Center certified by OMHAS for at least one of the approved services, with employees who had provided much needed behavioral health treatment to individuals throughout the pandemic.

Family & Youth Services is certified for such general services as individual or group psychotherapy, mental health day treatment, community psychiatric supportive treatment (CPST), therapeutic behavioral services (TBS), psychosocial rehabilitation (PSR), and consultation services. Agencies that applied for the grant were eligible for up to a one-time \$50,000 allocation award, and the selection for this award was random.

"Genacross Family & Youth Services was lucky to be chosen as an agency to receive this award," said Katie Zawisza, Genacross Family & Youth Services Executive Director. "We were able to provide much appreciated bonuses just before Christmas to dedicated team members, including clinical therapists, CPST workers, nurses, and qualified mental health specialists."

Wolf Creek bulletin board highlights employee resources

or the staff at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus, the stress of the pandemic has stretched the physical, spiritual, and emotional reserves of even the most well-centered individuals. While Genacross has a number of significant resources for employees facing challenges, the Wolf Creek Campus team felt those benefits required more exposure during this time.

After conversations with frontline staff, Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation Director Mike George, and Wolf Creek Executive Director Marty Jan, Wolf Creek Chaplain Greg Olsen developed a single-stop resource for employees to get needed information.

The bulletin board is conveniently located in a hallway by the employee time clock. The board includes information about no-cost counseling available through the Employee Assistance Program; application forms for the Genacross Employee Assistance Fund; as well as applications and details about the Carl W. Klein Jr. Scholarship, a fund to help employees cover education costs.

"We are so very blessed with resources to help our caregivers, as well as a community of caregivers who care for each other," said Chaplain Olsen. "I want to make sure that every member of our team knows how to access these resources."



| GenacrossLutheranServices.org

GIVING TURNS OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES

As a new year begins, many people take stock of the previous year and then set goals for the upcoming one. But it is also important to take time to be thankful not only for the opportunities, but for the challenges the previous year offered

Most people realize 2021 was full of challenges; yet, so many of you chose to support Genacross Lutheran Services with your time, talents, and treasures, even in the midst of all the obstacles of 2021...and turned those obstacles into opportunities. Thank you!

Ron Gabel was one of those people. Over a year filled with many challenges, he supported Genacross Lutheran Services with his many talents and gifts, as he has been doing for many years. In recognition of his involvement, the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation recently awarded Mr. Gabel with a Certificate of Appreciation for his contributions. Mr. Gabel has served on the Foundation Board of Directors and board committees, helped financially support the organization, and become an ambassador of all things Genacross.

As you take stock and plan for 2022, please consider the following ways to support Genacross Lutheran Services:

Become a monthly donor – by using the secure third-party website link, sending donations by mail, or calling the Foundation office with your credit or debit card information.



President/ CEO Rick Marshall (left) and Foundation Executive Director Mike George (right) recognize Ron Gabel for his support.

Become a Doerfler Society member -

by naming Genacross Lutheran Services
Foundation as the recipient of a bequest in
your will. Bequests can be a flat dollar amount
or a percentage of your estate. They can be
designated for the ministry or program of
your choice, or they can be undesignated,
for Genacross to use where most needed.
The Foundation staff can review the available
funds with you at any time. The following
information will need to be included with your
bequest:

- Legal name of the organization: LHS
 Foundation, Inc. dba Genacross Lutheran
 Services Foundation, Inc.
- Organization address: 2021 N. McCord Rd, Toledo, OH 43615
- Tax ID number of the organization: 34-1678593

Become an Endowed Fund donor – by establishing an Endowed Fund with the Foundation, you are ensuring that your wishes to support the Genacross mission will be carried out in perpetuity. You can designate the fund to support any or all ministries. Over the years, an endowed fund will generate more money to support your wishes than the original amount of the gift.

As with all donations to Genacross, gifts can be designated however you wish. Please visit the Genacross website (www. GenacrossLutheranServices.org/Foundation/Donate) to make a donation, or contact Mike George at 419-861-4964 or MiGeorge@Genacross.org.

IN MEMORY OF

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

All who have passed by Jim & Rachel Nissen

Arthur & Virginia Andrews by Dennis & Janet Andrews **George & Gladys Ardner** by Carol Ardner

Georgia B. Ardner by Anne Biel, Margaret Dembowski, Sharon Henning, John & Judith Kalmbach, Nancy Jo Malone, Angie Nadolny

Carolyn Arps by Cheryl Daman

Dean Asmus by Jim & Judy Hill

Arnold & Elsie Baden by Joann McCally

Sharon Bauer by Rev. Dr. Gerald Bauer

John & Amelia Beins by Michael & Sandra Lininger Kenneth & Louise Beins by Michael & Sandra Lininger

Donald Bell by Esther Bell

Pastor Jon Bell by Mrs. Frances Wilson

IN MEMORY OF Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2021

My parents, Mr & Mrs Donald R Boyd, by Joette Boyd-Randall

Vicky Chambers by Don & Karen Holmes

Dorothy Clark by Paul Clark Sr.

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

Clarence & Edna Dierksheide by Rose Mary Schroeder

Paul & Lois Dierksheide by Diane Bostdorff

Herbert & Julia
Doerfler by Miriam
& Ted Benner

My daughter, Trina, by Joyce Douglas

Greg Eckardt by Ted & Connie Eckardt

My sister, Betty Fee, by Nancy Churchill

Pinky & Bill Fischhaber by Ted & Connie Eckardt

Opal Flener by Michael & Beverly Amstutz

Mary Lou Gabel by Ronald Gabel

Norman Glanz by Mrs. Launita Plassman

Francis Grosjean by Virginia Grosjean

Vince, Verna & Roger Haas by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hundt

Fred Hagen and Family by Ted & Connie Eckardt Rev. Frederick & Dorothy Hagen by DeAnna McCashin

Deborah Hammersmith by
Gary & Darlene
Carstensen

Robert & Betty Hammersmith by Gary & Darlene Carstensen

Bert Hardin, my husband, by Nancy Hardin

Ann Hill by Jim & Judy Hill

William E. Huepenbecker by Marti Huepenbecker

Julius & Emma Kahrs, my parents, by Lillian Keller

Jack & Rosalyn Koss by The Carr Family

Pastor Labuhn and Family by Ted & Connie Eckardt

Rayner Lark by Patricia Lark

Donna C. Lepiarz by Anna Bond Roberson, Judith Makowski, Judy Roehrig, Robert Tomes

Loved ones by Doris Forry, Bob & Linda Knight, Mr. Melvin Schumann

Ed & Anna Miller by Esther Speck

Lois Mills by Lisa Schiel

Beth Motsinger by Jim & Judy Hill

Alma Mueller by Lynn & Joyce Olman

Mary Mueller by Weldon Mueller

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.

My Mom & Dad by Weldon Mueller

My departed loved ones by Myra Zaenger

My family and friends by Sharon Ann Wheeler

Our cousin, Anna Lou Piel, by Ron & Joyce Swartz

Anna Lou Piel by Judith Arfsten, Vickie Davis-Mahler, Guy & Becky Elston

Vernon Plassman by Mrs. Launita Plassman

My husband, Glenn Pocock, by Molly Pocock

Virginia P. Pojedynski by Christy Krawisz, John & Jennifer Okrzesik, Donna & Al Piatkowski, Angela Veghts, Stephanie Vento

Emma Poulson by Don Poulson

Elsie Prongay by Michael & Beverly Amstutz

Carl Ramsey by Cheryl Daman

James Richason Jr. by Barbara Bamm

Evelyn & James Richason Sr. by Barbara Bamm

NON-CASH

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

Bev Apel
Carol Ardner
Anne Biel
Harry & Karen Blackmon
Kari Bucher
Michael A. George
Nichole Miles
Lee & Jan Odegaard
Roxanne & Dan Ott
Jimmy Segura
Claudia Shiell-Bustos
Casey Wylie-Knight

Harlan Rohrs by Joan Hocutt, Janice Rohrs

Connie J. Saffran, my spouse, by James Saffran

The Schalkhausers by Ted & Connie Eckardt

Dennis Schiel by Lisa Schiel

Fred & A. Mary Schroeder by Rose Mary Schroeder

Harry L. Schroeder by Rose Mary Schroeder

The Schwarzes by Friedel & Ursula Helms

Mark Shepard by Gary & Darlene Carstensen

Warren Shepard by Gary & Darlene Carstensen

Dona Skinner by Michael & Karen Bogdan

Louis Snyder by Jean Snyder

Jim Sommers by Rick & Jackie Metz **Dona Sonnenberg** by Gilbert Sonnenberg

Leo & Lillian Sonnenberg by Richard & Marilyn Pratt, Joanne Sonnenberg

Wayne Speck by Esther Speck

Ruth Sprunk by David Goll, Trustee

Tom St. John by Don & Karen Holmes

Pastor R.F. Staber by Lois Staber

Laura Strick by Michael & Beverly Amstutz

Harry & Laura Warnke by Michael & Sandra Lininger

Otto & Marie Warnke by Jean DeWitt

Richard & Ruth
Warnke by Michael
& Sandra Lininger

Larry Witt by Margaret Witt

My mother, Eloise Yunker, by Gary & Tricia Yunker

IN HONOR OF

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

Norm Avers by Doris Avers

The 50th anniversary of Jim Dumke's Ordination by Dave & Pam Roberts

Greg Eckardt by Ted & Connie Eckardt

God by Mrs. Thomas Moon

Jesus by Nancy Churchill

Clarissa & Al Knape by Doris Avers

Jim & Mara Jean Musshel's 50th wedding anniversary by Janice Rohrs

Our 35th wedding anniversary by Mr. & Mrs. William E. Nelson

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Obrock's 50th wedding anniversary by William L. Welling

Our children: Steve, Amy, Scott, Emily & Matt by Bob & Janet Dorr

Seven-year-old "Susan" by Glenn Geldien Louise Sommers by Rick & Jackie Metz

CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

St. Martin, Archbold St. Paul, Blissfield, MI Christ, Bowling Green Bethlehem, Defiance St. Mark, Defiance Hope, Fostoria Grace, Fremont Grace Church Women, Fremont St. Mark, Fremont Hope, Hamler St. John, Holgate Zion, Lafayette St. Paul WELCA -Danbury, Lakeside Marblehead First, Leipsic

Salem Grace United ELCA, Luckey Emanuel WELCA, Napoleon St. Peter, Norwalk St. John, Oak Harbor St. Michael, Ottawa Lake, MI Bethlehem, Pemberville Church of the Master, Perrysburg Shepherd of the Valley, Perrysburg Zion, Perrysburg Zoar, Perrysburg Zion, Petersburg, MI

Resurrection, Port Clinton St. Peter, Ridgeville Corners St. John's, Stony Ridge St. Paul, Sulphur Springs Olivet, Sylvania Bethel, Toledo Bethlehem, Toledo First St. John, Toledo Holy Trinity, Toledo Memorial, Toledo Messiah, Toledo St. Paul's Women, Toledo St. Luke, Wauseon

Solomon, Woodville

ORGANIZATIONAL DONATIONS

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

AmazonSmile Foundation, Seattle, WA James & Mary Bell Charitable Foundation, Los Angeles, CA Benevity Community Impact Fund, Safety Harbor, FL CWS Environmental, Perrysburg Hudson Community Foundation, Hudson Hylant, Toledo Key Bank, Toledo Kroger Community Rewards, Columbus Marathon Classic, Toledo Marshall Melhorn, LLC, Toledo OmniSource, LLC, Toledo Thrivent - Choice Dollars, Appleton, WI Thrivent - YourCause, Plano, TX TOPS #1648, Erie, MI Transcend Strategy Group, Toledo

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Oct.1 - Dec. 31, 2021

St. Matthew, Lima

Anonymous Beverly Apel Judy & Ronald Ashley Dale Avers Mr. & Mrs. James Barton Jason Beyer Patricia Blankenship Hilde Boes Terry Bossert Stephen & Deborah Bowsher Lee & Natalie Bredbeck Kari Bucher Ruby Burkey Christina Burnette Rev. Charles & Mrs. Jeri Campbell Elizabeth Cannon Angela Clay Diane Cline Bill & Carol Cook James Cordy Robert & Marian Damschroder Tamara Dawson-Kynard

Carl & Barbara Dierksheide Fred Doering Alan & Mary Ann Draves Dr. Jim & Dawn Dumke Wylodene Durham Kurt & Nancy Ehrhardt Paul & Vicki Feher Rev. John & Mrs. Sherry Ferne Jason & Cheryl Fisher Diane M. Frazee Glenn Geldien Donna Genzman Michael A. George David & Carol Gerwin Jack & Gretchen Grigsby Victoria & Demetrius Harris Herbert & Pat Hoehing Paul A. Hotmer

Dave & Vicki Huber

Pastor Keith & Sue Hunsinger Mr. Michael & Dr. Natalie Jackson Mary Jane Joehlin Eric & Cindy Johnson John & Mary Kramp Dr. Sandra Laas Burt & Mary Ann Luring Rev. & Mrs. Steve Lutz Rick & Janet Marshall Kathy & Kevin Martin Ed & Nancy Mauntler Rick & Becky McCann Carol L. Meuser Patty Michaelis Blair & Anita Miller Melanie Moore Weldon Mueller David Musteric Jerry & Pam Nagel Paul Nelson Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Nungester Robert & Marie Obrock

Roxanne & Dan Ott Frank & Diane Paine Jennie Parsons Bob & Sue Pfefferle Rev. Dr. Tim & Mrs. Kate Philabaum Jeff & Sharon Przysiecki Kim Quinney Lester & Arlene Ramler Ray & Judy Robaszkiewicz Jon Russell Mary Satterfield Rev. & Mrs. Dale Schaefer Jeff & Lorinda Schalk Karen Schepman Amanda Schroeder Victor Schuerman Tom & Judy Schult Jeff & Paige Schulte Sharon Schwanke Robert Shank Jane Sharp **Duane Shively**

Sieben Joan Slebos Scott Slee William E. Smith Mark & Sandy Snyder Robert & Janis Stein Mr. & Mrs. David Stough Carol Taylor Mrs. Dora Titgemeyer Jill Trosin Sandra Vance Thomas & Mary Wabeke Dan & Jasmine Wakeman Lynn & John Warren Linda Weaver Timothy Weirich Rev. Mark Wentz & Alma Garlo, M.D. Dana & Tod Wollschlager
Lee & Paula Wunschel
Katie & Jay Zawisza

e, color, national origin,
16-7745

TY: 1-888-546-7745). Wollschlager

Mr. Paul & Dr. Susan

Nondiscrimination and Accessibility Requirements Notice

Genacross Lutheran Services complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin,

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NAPOLEON ACTIVITIES TEAM MULTI-TASKS DURING PANDEMIC

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has affected the health care world immensely, especially those caring for the aging population like the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus. When a resident tests positive for the virus, what follows is exhausting. It means isolating the resident, reporting to the Department of Health, alerting family, testing all residents to ensure there are no other positive cases, and countless other steps.

The isolation of residents is always the hardest part. "They can get extremely lonely, so, here at the Napoleon



Campus, our Activities Department has stepped up and really shined," said **Executive Director Casey** Amonette. "They gown up with smiles on their

Resident Joyce Trowbridge's day is brightened by a dance with Activity Aide Susan Moore. faces and bring individual activities to the residents. They sit with them and comfort them."

In addition, because the Napoleon Campus activity aides are also state tested nursing assistants (STNAs), when the campus needs additional staff, they jump right in on the floor to provide care. Activities staff members, in both nursing care and assisted living, work extra hours to make sure the clinical team has the help they need.

They have also completed countless video calls with families, so loved ones could see one another. They even stepped in as beauticians when the Beauty Shop was closed, cheerfully washing and styling hair until the shop re-opened.

"When I think of a servant's heart, the team members in our Activities Department come to mind immediately," Ms. Amonette said. "They are the first to jump in when help is needed, the first to pass trays and bring people to meals. They improvise when a planned activity just doesn't sound fun at the moment. Each one does all of this while wearing a mask, a shield, and a gown when necessary, and they always do it with a smile."





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.