

The FRIEND

GENACROSS LUTHERAN SERVICES



VOLUME CX NO. 3 2024



MAY GOD GRANT YOU PEACE AND SERENITY
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON, WITH BLESSINGS
OF GOOD HEALTH, BOUNDLESS LOVE AND
GLAD TIDINGS THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR.



GENACROSS ADDS HOSPICE CARE TO SERVICE LINE

After years of planning, Genacross Lutheran Services now provides hospice care services at its Napoleon and Wolf Creek campuses. The services began in October 2024, and the new ministry is called Ohio's Hospice at Genacross Lutheran Services.

"Ohio's Hospice, which is one of our partners in Radiant Alliance, is working with Genacross leadership to develop this valuable service for our residents and families," said Rick Marshall, Genacross President/CEO. "Ohio's Hospice and Genacross Lutheran Services are also sharing field staff, such as nurses, aides, social workers, and chaplains, to form a cohesive team."

Hospice care is for people who are in the final stages of an incurable illness (with a life expectancy of 6 months or less). The aim is to ensure they are comfortable and able to live their last days as fully as possible. Hospice care

professionals do not cure diseases; instead, they treat symptoms to improve quality of life. They also aim to include family members and caregivers in decisions that affect each person's care.

"Hospice aims to provide care for patients in whatever setting they call home, whether that is an extended care facility, a hospital, assisted living, or independent living setting, thus minimizing disruptive moves and transitions in care," said Kristy Tocknell, Senior Vice President of Clinical Excellence at Ohio's Hospice. "We are excited to explore this partnership with Genacross to help patients with end-of-life care."



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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

Connect on Social Media:



A note from RICK MARSHALL

President and CEO



Raising Genacross Awareness

In late July, Genacross held a wonderful fundraising event to celebrate our ministries and raise awareness of our services in the community. Headlining the evening was Jim Tressel, former Head Football Coach at The Ohio State University. Joining Coach Tressel was Steve Brinkman, a former client of Genacross Family & Youth Services, who provided a powerful testimony of his time spent with Genacross.

Steve opened the evening by sharing how he had entered the foster care system at 14 months old, suffering through multiple placements and instances of abuse. It wasn't until he was 14 years old that he came to Genacross and found a family and a place that truly felt like home. Steve told of the impact of his Genacross caregiving team; they enabled him to excel in high school and continued to support him through young adulthood. Today, Steve is a successful business leader in Wisconsin and has a family of his own.

Coach Tressel took time to compliment Steve and recognize the amazing work of Genacross as a leader in our community. As a man of faith, Coach Tressel recognized the calling we have to care for others through the example of Jesus. While weaving in examples of faith in his own life, he shared many stories of his coaching journey and his time at Ohio State.

Most in attendance that evening were big Ohio State fans and relished meeting Coach Tressel and getting some "inside scoop" on their favorite team. However, many there were not familiar with Genacross and the nature and impact of our ministries. Coach Tressel was gracious to headline an event that allowed us to tell others about the Genacross team, our players, and the lives we are changing. We change lives like Mr. Brinkman's through our youth programs, older adults through our housing and care ministries, and families as we come alongside them to care for their loved ones.

I am grateful for prominent leaders like Coach Tressel who utilize their platforms to support organizations and missions like ours. The Bible tells us that to whom much is given, much is required. Coach Tressel took this verse to heart, as he lent his support to our organization and helped create an event that successfully raised funds and awareness for Genacross.

Blessings,

GENACROSS AT HOME HOLDS WELLNESS CLINICS

Earlier this year, nurses from Genacross at Home began holding a monthly Wellness Clinic at Luther Crest and Luther Woods senior communities in west Toledo. This partnership between Genacross' home health care agency and its housing ministry exemplifies how working together can benefit residents.

Sherry Thomas and Regina Garcia, both registered nurses, work with Arlena Williams, the service coordinator at Luther Crest and Luther Woods, to plan the clinics. They pick a topic each month, and the nurses share education and answer questions. Residents also have the option to get their blood pressure checked at each clinic.

Topics that have been covered include heart health, the respiratory system, benefits of healthy eating, benefits of exercise, vaccine education, medication management, and ways to stay healthy during cold and flu season.

"Having these clinics gives the residents the opportunity to interact with the home health nurses and each other; they have really enjoyed the conversations," Ms. Williams explained. "The residents have also learned about home health services and how they can benefit from them."

"The wellness clinics are an example of how our knowledgeable staff creates ways to best serve our housing residents," stated Amanda Schroeder, Vice President of Home & Community Based Services. "We hope to expand these clinics to some of our other Genacross housing locations in the future."



Registered nurses from Genacross at Home educate Luther Woods housing residents on different health topics.

Hospice care - continued from front page

"During the soft rollout of our hospice line of service, our areas of focus have been our Wolf Creek and Napoleon campuses," said Amanda Schroeder, Genacross Vice President of Home and Community Based Services. "Once we have our operational processes working efficiently and build a solid census foundation within our Genacross communities, including our home health care ministry, we will expand to the community at large."

At the present time, Ohio's Hospice is managing all hospice care and shared staffing for the partnership. Ohio's Hospice has a full-time registered nurse and state tested nurse aide working between the Napoleon and Wolf Creek campuses. They work closely with the Genacross social worker and chaplain at each campus.

"Hospice is a valuable service to ensure we are providing quality of life for our residents and patients," Mrs. Schroeder explained. "Genacross strives to provide quality of life when we cannot add quantity."

Genacross and Ohio's Hospice leadership have routine meetings to discuss the new partnership and any potential areas of improvement that can be implemented to facilitate growth and expansion of Ohio's Hospice at Genacross Lutheran Services.



DAY OF GIVING EXCEEDS GOAL

On September 18, the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation held its third annual Day of Giving. Through the generous support of donors, the Foundation exceeded its fundraising goal, raising over \$23,100.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of matching donors - Plante Moran, Terry L. Bossert, and Stapleton Insurance Group - the first \$9,500 raised was matched dollar for dollar.

Donor contributions enable the organization to fulfill its mission: "Inspired by the Christian faith, we embrace individuals and families with compassionate care and services throughout life's journey."

"The Foundation is deeply grateful to its donors for choosing to support the Genacross mission and become a vital part of its ministry," said Mike George, Foundation Executive Director.

NAPOLEON CAMPUS CELEBRATES EMPLOYEES FOR YEARS OF SERVICE



This fall, the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus celebrated employees who had achieved years of service milestones. Throughout the ministries of Genacross Lutheran Services similar yet unique celebrations were held to honor employees. At Napoleon, the employees being celebrated this year were invited to a dinner at Leisure Time Winery in Napoleon.

The Napoleon Campus employees' years of service ranged from 5 to 35 years. Prior to the dinner, campus residents and coworkers were asked to describe each employee in one word. The answers were then used to create wooden pieces of wall art that the employees could hang and enjoy. The plaques featured words like "hardworking," "kind," "loving," and "caring" to describe the dedicated individuals.

Tim Lyons in maintenance and Bailey Flogaus, an assisted living nurse aide, were honored for 5 years of service. Nicole Dunning, LPN, and Andrea Flogaus, Director of Dietary Services, were awarded their gifts for 10 years of service. Chandra Cooper was recognized for 15 years as the Social Services Director, while Cheryl Daman and Jan Winover,

both assisted living resident aides, received recognition for 25 years. The longest milestone award went to Janet Westhoven, LPN, for 35 years of service on the campus.

Genacross Senior Vice President of Finance & Operations Lorinda Schalk congratulated staff members and personally thanked them for their dedication and service. "I feel privileged to work alongside each of these special individuals and feel truly blessed to witness how much they care for our residents," added Executive Director Casey Amonette.



Napoleon Campus employees Tim Lyons and Nicole Dunning enjoy dinner at Leisure Time Winery.

Wolf Creek Campus benefits from certified activity director

What an exciting time for residents of the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus! They now have the knowledge and expertise of a certified activity director to enhance the life enrichment activities and programs on the campus.

Assisted Living Activity Director Andrea Neeley-McCan completed her Activity Director Certification (ADC) program on September 18, 2024. It was a team effort, according to Executive Director Katie Miller, who said staff members "worked together to support Andrea's endeavor, especially Vicki Ropp, the Nursing Care Activity Director, who helped keep the campus' activities running smoothly when Andrea was busy with the ADC course."

Much of the certification class focused on how fulfilling activities can be for residents, Mrs. Neeley-McCan said. "The certification class was impactful because it taught me different ways to approach each resident and situation. It taught me that there is always something you can learn about residents to bring fulfillment to them and empower them to live their best life."



Andrea Neeley-McCan (far left) took a break from her ADC studies in August to spend quality time with her Wolf Creek residents and Genacross staff at a Toledo Mud Hens game.

Mrs. Neeley-McCan achieved her ADC with the help of the Staff Scholarship Special Fund through the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. "Andrea would not have been able to start the certification class without the assistance of the Foundation scholarship," Mrs. Miller said.

CORE VALUE: QUALITY OF SERVICE

FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES SCORES HIGH MARKS

Genacross Family & Youth Services has many outside governing bodies to ensure quality services are being provided to those they serve. These agencies, including the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, help the Genacross youth ministry embody the Genacross Core Value of Quality of Service.

Another one of these governing bodies is the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), now known as CARF International. CARF accredits all of the Family & Youth residential treatment and clinical programs in Ohio and Michigan.

CARF comes every three years and completes a three-day survey of all of the residential programs, mental health services, staff files, youth files, and required documentation, evaluating them against 1,613 standards. During its most recent survey, Family & Youth Services had only four minor recommendations and two partial recommendations.

“Our Family & Youth team worked diligently for the months leading up to the survey to ensure all plans, outcome-driven

analyses, required documentation, and files were ready for review and prepared for the survey team,” explained Executive Director Katie Zawisza. “We are beyond proud of our results and the positive comments from the CARF survey team.”

The survey team identified Genacross team members’ commitment to youth, their “never give up” philosophy toward the youth served, and the longevity of many of the administrative and direct care staff as the main reasons for the program’s success over the years. After interviews with both staff and youth, the CARF surveyors identified that Genacross has extremely compassionate staff and that they provide a caring and structured program that makes the youth feel safe and open to working on their goals and building their skills.

Faithfulness to Christ
Equality and Justice
Wholeness of Life
Integrity
QUALITY OF SERVICE
Stewardship of Resources

Coon family creates a Legacy of Love endowment

David and Mary Coon’s love story began in 1944 and flourished for 58 wonderful years until Mary’s passing in 2003. In her final years, as she required care, Mr. Coon witnessed the struggles of other husbands whose wives were also in senior care. Many of them faced financial challenges, inspiring him to establish an endowed fund, in perpetuity, to support those in need.

After Mr. Coon passed away, his children, Sharon, Dave and Nancy, learned that the facility where their mother had been cared for would be closing. They took on the responsibility of finding a new home for the endowment, which had been created in honor of their parents’ love.

Dave Coon, their son, reached out to several local facilities and ultimately connected with Mike George, Executive Director of the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. Eager to ensure the fund continued its mission, the son arranged a tour of the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus. During the visit, he was impressed by the cleanliness, the compassionate interactions between staff and residents, and the overall happiness radiating from the residents.

After discussions among the siblings, the family decided to transfer the endowed fund to the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. Thus, the David and Mary Coon Endowed Fund was established, dedicated to funding memory care programs at the Wolf Creek Campus.



David & Mary Coon

“We are so happy to know that the fund will help memorialize the love our father had for our mother and will also help those in need have a more comfortable experience at Wolf Creek,” the younger Mr. Coon expressed gratefully. “As my father loved to say ‘perpetuating perpetuity is what is great about an endowed fund.’”

For more details on giving or how to establish an endowed fund, contact Mr. George at MiGeorge@Genacross.org or 419.861.4964.

IN MEMORY OF

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Carol & Georgia Ardner by Mary Ardner

Harold Borden by Pamela Roberts

Karis Box by Pamela Roberts

Grandchildren, Michael and Megan Brown, by Mary Schimming

Daughter, Susan Brown by Mary Schimming

Peggy Buckmaster by Richard & Joyce Chapla

Judith Ann Chromik by Bob & Sue Pfefferle

Harold Cook by Maria Cook

Fred & Marge Dais by William & Lynda Dais

Husband, Walden "Bud" Damschroder, by Mary Damschroder

Charles Davis by Mary Davis

Richard Ehrhardt by Kurt & Nancy Ehrhardt

Irene N. Ewing by Charles Ewing

Virginia Feusse by Richard Feusse

Norma Jean Gast by Terry Gast

Beth Genter by Janice Rohrs

Calvin Gerwin & David Gerwin by Evelyn Gerwin

Nancy Ann Guegold by Michael & Beverly Amstutz

Rev. Fred & Dorothy Hagen by DeAnna McCashin

Thomas Hartford by Roseanne & Misael Martinez

Doris Hoesman by Kermit Hoesman

Jim Jacobs by Rose Gibbs, Ed Jacobs, Ron & Susan Lang, Nicholas & Julie Razzoog, Robert Storer, Pamela Roberts

Rev. Gerald & Mrs. Ilean Labuhn by Roseanne & Misael Martinez

Loved Ones by Pamela Roberts

Suzanne Metzger by Nancy Hardin

Margeruite Meyer by Al & Dorine Miller, Ryan & Kara Miller, Neil & Susan Raymond, David & Patricia Stuebe, Douglas & Cathy Willeman

Mrs. Jan (Nissen) Hawkins, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Nissen by James & Rachel Nissen

Parents, Edward & Elfrieda Nowak, by Mary Schimming

Richard Phillips by William & Donna Nelson

Barbara Pocock by St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clyde

William Pumphrey by St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clyde

John D. Ray by Ann Ray

Dave Roberts by Pamela Roberts, Jeff & Nancy Wellman

Ernest Rosebrock by Marilyn Rosebrock

Husbands, Clyde Sandrock & Milton Schimming, by Mary Schimming

John & Brodie Schmich by Debbie, Brandon & Brenton Schmich

Richard Storch by Irene Glore

Lois Varner by Judy Bostater, Paul Clark Sr., Dan & Linda Dierksheide, Howard & Dolores Oestreich, Bill & Esther Rapp

Delfina Villarreal by Helen Winkelman

Fran Wilson by Pamela Roberts

John Winkelman by Helen Winkelman



IN HONOR OF

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Friends at Creekside by Pam Roberts

Arlene Gerig by Norm and Susan Merkel

Herr Gott, which is German for The Lord God or Almighty God, by John Weislmeier

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Siefke 50th Anniversary by St. John's WELCA, Oak Harbor

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Stoltz's 55th Wedding Anniversary by St. John's Ev., Oak Harbor

ORGANIZATIONAL DONATIONS

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Country Garden Club, Perrysburg

Eastman & Smith Ltd., Toledo

Hylant, Toledo

Key Bank, Toledo

Kroger Community Rewards, Columbus

Northwestern Ohio Synod, ELCA, Findlay

Plante Moran, PLLC, Columbus

Robison, Curphey & O'Connell, LLC, Toledo

Savage Foundation, Maumee

St. John Lutheran School, Napoleon

Stapleton Insurance Group, Sylvania

Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, Appleton, WI

TOPS #1648, Oregon

Transcend Strategy Group, Toledo

United Healthcare, Englewood, CO

NON-CASH

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Anderson/Miller Insurance Agency, Inc

Beverly Apel

Arlene Gerig

In Bloom Flowers & Gifts

Jupmode

Melanie Moore

Maria and Corey Schmalzried

Twilight Gardens

Jen Worline

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INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Mike & Bev Amstutz	Charles Ewing
Anonymous	Richard Feusse
Beverly Apel	Jason & Cheryl Fisher
Mary Ardner	Marissa Fitzpatrick
Judy & Ron Ashley	Diane M Frazee
Rev. Dr. Gerald Bauer	Terry L Gast
Steve & Amy Bauerle	Arlene Gerig
James & Mary Bell	Carol Gerken
Miriam & Ted Benner	David Gerwin
Jason Beyer	Evelyn Gerwin
Estate of Harlan Bellow	Rose Gibbs
James & Katy Bingle	Irene Glore
Hilde Boes	Elaine Gruetter
Terry L. Bossert	Timothy Guss
Judy Bostater	Merle & Ruth Haar
Karen & Chuck Botzko	Elizabeth Halloran
Stephen Bowe	& John Wilmore
Steve & Deb Bowsher	Nancy Hardin
Kari Bucher	Vicky & Demetrius
Ruby Burkey	Harris
Christina Burnette	Estate of
Elizabeth Cannon	Arthur Hickok
Joyce & Richard Chapla	Bernie Higbea
Beth Charvat	Kermit Hoesman
Estate of Walter Christen	Keith & Sue Hunsinger
Paul Clark	Estate of J. Henry
Joe & Judith Conda	Huseman
Maria Cook	Ed Jacobs
David & Mary Coon	Rebecca Jaessing
James Cordy	Eric & Cynthia Johnson
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Mary Damschroder	Doris Kemmerer
Mary L. Davis	Daniel & Julie Kunos
Tamara Dawson-Kynard	Ron & Susan Lang
Dorothy Delker	Rev. Matthew Lash
Jeff Dempsey	Estate of Iolantha
Carl & Barbara	Lohmann
Dierksheide	Stephen Lutz
Alan & Mary Ann Draves	Ian & Alanna Malhoit
Jane & Rick Eakin	Anita Marshall
Lila Eaton	Ann & Michael Marshall
Kurt & Nancy Ehrhardt	Rick & Janet Marshall
Sue Eidenier	Roseanne & Misael
	Martinez

CONGREGATIONAL DONATIONS

May 1 - Oct. 31, 2024

Bethel, Toledo	Providence, Holland	St. Paul, Liberty Center
Bethlehem,	Resurrection,	St. Paul,
Pemberville	Port Clinton	Bowling Green
Bethlehem (Okolona),	Shepherd of the	St. Paul, Clyde
Defiance	Valley, Perrysburg	St. Paul, Defiance
First St. John, Toledo	Solomon, Woodville	St. Paul, Maybee, MI
Grace, Elmore	St. James, Bradner	St. Paul,
Grace, Fremont	St. John, Deshler	Sulphur Springs
Grace, Toledo	St. John's Ev.,	St. Peter Ev., Norwalk
Holy Trinity, Toledo	Oak Harbor	Trinity, Elmore
Hope, Hamler	St. Mark, Fremont	Zion, Gibsonburg
Church of the Master,	St. Martin's, Archbold	Zion, Perrysburg
Perrysburg	St. Matthew, Lima	Zion, Petersburg
Messiah, Toledo	St. Michael,	Zion, Waterville
Olivet, Sylvania	Ottawa Lake, MI	Zoar, Perrysburg
DeAnna McCashin	Fred Rahtz	Scott Slee
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Carol Meuser	Ann Ray	Mark & Sandy Snyder
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Carole Miller	Nicholas & Julie	Robert Storer
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Sherilyn Moon	Joe Restivo	David & Patricia Stuebe
Melanie Moore	Suzanne Riehl	Paula Susterich
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Paul Nelson	Dr. & Mrs. Michael	Melissa & Ryan
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Nungester, Sr.	Lorinda & Jeff Schalk	John Weislmeier
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Debby Peters	Amanda Schroeder	Willeman
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David & Linda Polzin	Stephanie Sieben	
Jeff & Sharon	Estate of Christine	
Przywiecki	Siefert	

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COACH TRESSEL ENTERTAINS DURING EVENT



Those who attended the “An Evening with Jim Tressel” fundraising event in July at the Pinnacle had an opportunity to learn about the vital services Genacross provides to the community and how the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation supports those efforts. The event raised more than \$25,000 for Genacross ministries.



The evening’s program began with attendees hearing a powerful testimony from Steve Brinkman, a former resident of the Genacross Family & Youth Services program. Mr. Brinkman described the incredible impact Genacross had on his life and thanked his caregivers for helping him succeed.

Coach Jim Tressel (top left) delighted the audience while interacting with emcee James Starks. The evening began with a powerful testimonial by Steve Brinkman (lower left), a past youth in care, and ended with Coach Tressel signing autographs.

Then Coach Tressel, who led the Ohio State football team for 10 seasons, took center stage with James Starks, 13abc news anchor and the evening’s emcee. They shared inspiring anecdotes, often sprinkled with laughter, about football, faith, and life. The evening concluded with questions from the audience and autographs and pictures with fans.



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

GenacrossLutheranServices.org