

CHRIST'S HOME

CONNECTION

VOLUME 108, ISSUE 1 • 2015

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

We are pleased to present our Annual Report Issue for 2014. As I reflect over the past year, I am drawn to this verse: "For the Lord is good, and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations" (Psalm 100:5). The Lord has indeed been good to Christ's Home as we continue to serve Him, now in our 112th year.

Christ's Home is about people – people who are served well with dignity, respect and compassion – and the people who serve them. With that in mind, we've designed this year's Annual Report issue of the Connection to highlight some key stories of the impact that Christ's Home has had in the lives of people, shared personally by the staff most closely engaged with the story. I hope that you will be encouraged as you read these stories.

And to you, our supporters in prayer and giving, we extend our deepest thanks and echo the words of the Apostle Paul when he wrote, "I thank my God every time I remember you" (Philippians 1:3). Thank you for standing with us as we continue to serve disadvantaged children and senior adults in the name of Jesus Christ.

John Bryant, CEO

Welcome



We invite you to continue to support our leadership in prayer as we work on several exciting projects in 2015. Among these are:

- ❄ Continuing the certification process toward offering Adoption and Foster Care services
- ❄ Adding on-campus Adult Day Services at the retirement community
- ❄ Developing concrete plans for a new Child Development Center on the Warminster Children's Campus
- ❄ Pursuit of a location to open a Teen Mother/Baby House in Lancaster County
- ❄ The launch of a new website and branding campaign (be watching for an announcement concerning WEBDAY!)
- ❄ Leading a short-term service trip to the Mahiga Children's Home in Kenya

Looking Ahead

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

STORIES FROM SHEPHERD'S WAY



Banana Split

As one resident's health began to fail and neared the final days of his life, a nurse asked him if there was anything that he wanted. He responded simply "a banana split". After her shift, the nurse ran a few errands, including the purchase of his beloved dessert, and brought it back to his room that evening. His family was with him as she brought it in. This loving act was later described by his family as a blessing to their father.

– Briana Staszkeski, LPN

Successful participation... a few words

Recently a family entrusted the care of their 97 year old mother to the Memory Care staff. When she arrived she was nonverbal to both staff and family members. During her stay, as the staff engaged her in programming and activities, she began to awe her family with her level of successful participation, and she also began to respond to them with a few words. After their mother passed away, the family expressed their gratitude for the special care, kindness, and patience given to their mother and to every resident in the Memory Care Neighborhood.

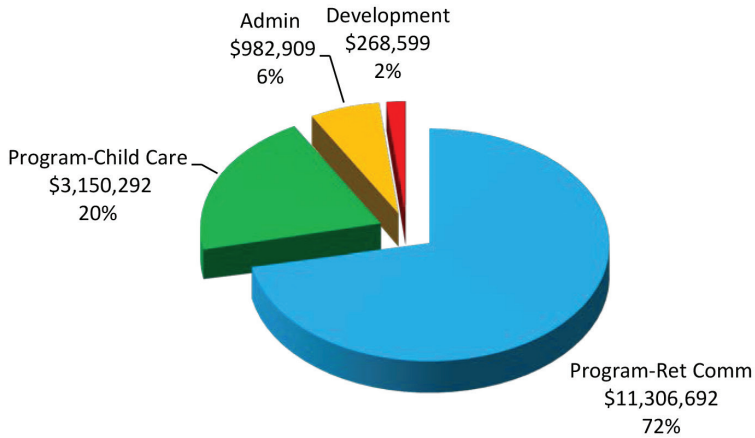
– Briana Staszkeski, LPN

Intentionally Chosen

The daughter of a Memory Care resident expressed her piece of mind in the knowledge that her mother received wonderful care with the utmost respect, compassion, patience, and love by the Christ's Home staff. She too felt genuine support as she watched her mother slip away, and appreciated the staff expressions of condolence and the memories they shared about her mother. The daughter also felt that God had intentionally chosen each of the staff to do His work at Christ's Home.

– Brenda Mast, PCHA

Christ's Home Operating Costs Year Ending 6/30/14



Christ's Home Balance Sheet Comparison

	6/30/2013	6/30/2014
Current Assets	4,855,298	4,215,572
Non-Current Assets	<u>79,532,614</u>	<u>86,934,540</u>
Total Assets	<u>84,387,912</u>	<u>91,150,112</u>
Current Liabilities	4,795,900	4,130,161
Non-Current Liabilities	<u>39,160,552</u>	<u>47,042,248</u>
Total Liabilities	43,956,452	51,172,409
Net Assets:		
Unrestricted	39,240,446	38,734,110
Temporary Restricted	86,097	47,955
Permanently Restricted	<u>1,104,917</u>	<u>1,195,638</u>
Total Net Assets	40,431,460	39,977,703
Total Liabilities and Assets	<u>84,387,912</u>	<u>91,150,112</u>

Your Gifts to Christ's Home...

are essential to the care we provide to children that are placed in our children's program and the assistance we provide to a limited number of needy senior adults in our retirement community. Donations given to the children's program help to cover necessary expenses that are not met entirely through our county contracts, including such basics as clothing, transportation, activities, and the daily care and supervision of the children.

Assistance is provided to senior adults who qualify for Medicaid and a few others who do not. Sometimes the personal assets of residents become depleted and assistance is needed to meet the cost of their daily care. In the fiscal year completed on June 30, 2014, donor support and endowment funds were used to meet \$645,000 of the children's program expenses, and over \$555,000 in benevolent care at the retirement community. Christ's Home expresses our deepest appreciation to our supporters for your kindness and generosity.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



A Generous Thought

Be Confident That Your Estate Plan Will Work

If you have a written will you are already off to a good start. A high percentage of Americans do not have a will, and thus are taking the risk that someone else will decide who will take care of their children and what will happen with their estate. Even with a plan it is important to review your will periodically to make sure it still fulfills your intentions. A good practice is to review your will every five years, or when major life events take place – for example, after the loss of a spouse, or when all your children have reached adulthood. Remember, the best plan can't last forever.

Having an older will doesn't mean that it no longer matches your intentions, however, a lot can change in a few years, so it is worth the thirty minutes it would take to review the provisions it contains and see if any of the instructions are truly out of date. Answer some questions such as: is the executor or executrix named in your will still a valid choice; have you gotten rid of an asset you planned to leave to a specific person (like a vacation house), which would leave them unintentionally written out of your will. Are named beneficiaries no longer living, or have your charitable interests changed over the years. It is also important to review your Living Will and Power of Attorney designation; many financial institutions might question a document that is more than five years old.

The absence of a will can cause the unnecessary payment of estate taxes based on the way some states distribute the assets of the deceased. It can also require more work to settle the estate resulting in higher fees to professionals, thereby leaving less to the intended heirs.

So in the long run, while it requires some expense, work, and diligence on your part, being organized and having current documents will prevent a scavenger hunt when you are gone. This will allow your family to focus on their memories and supporting one another during a time of grief and loss.

To supporters who have graciously helped us care for children at Christ's Home for many years; we humbly ask that you consider making a provision in your will to sustain this giving after your lifetime? Many donors have found peace in knowing that their commitment to the services we provide will not end, but will continue for generations to come through a designation in their will. For more information on how you can direct such a planned gift, contact Vernon Wright: 717.687.9424 (ext 11), vwright@christshome.org.

2015 Alumni Annual Meeting

The Alumni Association annual meeting will be held on June 20, 2015 at the Clubhouse on the retirement community campus. The gathering will begin at 12:00 PM and conclude at 4:00 PM. The afternoon will begin with a picnic lunch and end with the annual business meeting at 3:00 PM. The cost for the picnic lunch is \$6 per person and registrations are being handled by Chuck McDowell. Register with Chuck by mail no later than June 12, 2015 at: 36 East Moreland Ave, #509, Hatboro, PA 19040 and make checks payable to Christ's Home Alumni Association. Further information will be forthcoming from the Alumni Association.



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Mission Statement

The heart of Christ's Home is to serve the Lord by providing services to senior adults and disadvantaged children in an atmosphere graced with love, dignity, compassion and respect.

Corporate Offices

800 North York Road
Warminster, PA 18974
215-956-2260

Paradise Campus

717-687-6072

Retirement Community

215-956-2270

www.christshome.org

Photos and names may or may not depict the children of the home.

The *Connection* is a publication of the Development Department
Vernon Wright, CDO
Colleen Augustin, Donor Relations Coordinator



Donor Choice Program

Christ's Home is a qualified member of and participant in the United Way Donor Choice Program. You may contribute to United Way through payroll deduction or by giving an outright gift. Please be sure to ask for a Donor Choice Form. For the Southeastern PA region (Delaware Valley only) our number is: 00981.

All other regions must use our national number: 007689

Christ's Home is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Gifts are deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

The official registration and financial information of Christ's Home, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. (Certificate of Registration No. 13865)

Registration does not imply endorsement.

STORIES OF COTTAGE LIFE

Progress toward forgiveness and reconciliation

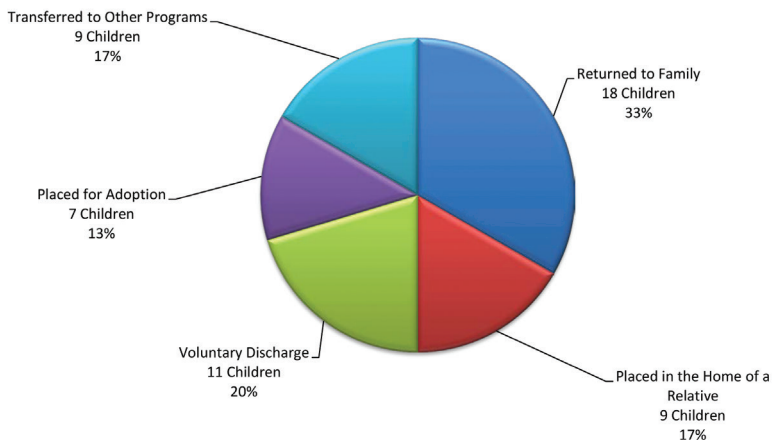
One staff person recounted the opportunity for ministry to multiple generations of one family. The problems included "a history of drug abuse and prostitution" requiring intervention by child protective services. This family is slowly making progress toward forgiveness and reconciliation among family members that can result in reunification with their children. "It is amazing the generations of this family that we [Christ's Home] have been able to minister to and encourage during the time we have been a part of their kids' lives."
- Michelle McKinsey

A change in thinking and direction

"I never would have gotten my GED or gone to school if I had not come to Christ's Home." These are the words of one teenage girl who, about 6 months into her stay, began to understand that she had a great opportunity here. She began exploring schooling options and became a leader in the cottage. She finished her GED, took meticulous care of her child, finished a CNA [Certified Nursing Assistant] course, and became our first resident that we allowed to have a car. Her focus changed to being ready and having help in place when she left the program than she was on just "getting out of here".
- Cheri Errickson

Christ's Home for Children All Discharges for FYE 2014 (7/1/2013 - 6/30/14)

Total: 54 children discharged



Incredibly innocent but deeply profound

While making manger scenes with children in the cottage, I was impressed with how fresh the story is to them, and the joy it produced was something I hadn't felt in years. They enjoyed naming the sheep baa baa's and completing the nativity scene by coloring the characters, cutting each out, and gluing them into their own mangers. The chatter while they worked was incredibly innocent but deeply profound as they discussed how "Joseph is Jesus' Daddy on Earth and God is His Daddy in Heaven."
- Kayla McPherson

Good Stuff THRIFT



Left to right: GST Marketing Director, Ridgely Walters; CEO, Ed Hudson; and Vernon Wright from Christ's Home.

The growth and success of GST (a non-profit thrift store) since the fall of 2013, has been a blessing to four ministries in Bucks County that benefit needy children in various ways. In 2014, Christ's Home was blessed with support in the amount of \$13,000 for our residential program to abused and neglected children. GST has store locations in Fairless Hills and downtown Doylestown. You can support the efforts of GST in the following ways: bring used items in good condition directly to one of their stores, host a collection drive in your neighborhood, or involve your church in an annual collection drive. GST will arrange for a pick up on the day of your drive. Learn more on the web at goodstuffthrift.org, or contact Ridgely Walters at (267) 342-9885, and be sure to mention your connection to Christ's Home. Your support for GST through donated items translates into financial support for Christ's Home!

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