

Community
CONNECTIONS

A stylized black silhouette of a city skyline. It includes several buildings of varying heights, some with antenna-like structures on top. Utility poles with cross-arms and wires are interspersed among the buildings. Small birds are perched on the wires and poles. The word "Community" is written in a red, cursive font above the skyline, and the word "CONNECTIONS" is written in a large, black, serif font below it.



CONNECTIONS



Laurence C.
Gumina
President/CEO



Donald L.
Malone
Board Chair

We have often heard, “There is strength in numbers.” However, it all starts with one – *one spark, one idea, one person* . . . and, that one connects with another one and so on. We see the results of that here in our 2012 Community Benefit report, “Community Connections.”

As an organization, we are passionate about serving those entrusted to our care, as well as their loved ones. We are also passionate about serving the greater communities where we do business. It is there that we truly, exponentially, see strength in numbers.

It is essential that this work be done and be documented. As a not-for-profit organization, it is our duty and obligation to serve our greater communities. However, we do not measure our services by the numbers; we measure them by the quality that is in everything we do. It is with a strong sense of pride, commitment, caring and yes...connection that we do this. As one of our Board members said, “It is our mission in action.”

We hope you enjoy reading about these connections. They connect us to you, and for that we are so grateful. We are grateful to those who we serve and for the opportunity to connect them to the mission every day.

Lastly, to all the hands that made possible the connections that you will read about on the following pages, we applaud you and we say... thank you.

COMMUNITY



Breckenridge Village

Breckenridge Village implemented a Chaplaincy Internship program this past year that had tremendous results. This training program represents a commitment to quality pastoral care and spiritual life formation for those whose calling is to pastoral care in a long term care community environment.

Kimberly Coe Trombley, a student in the Deaconess graduate degree program at Concordia Theological Seminary, was under the guidance and spiritual direction of Reverend Don Grauer, Breckenridge's full-time chaplain and spiritual care director. Kim assisted Don in planning and coordinating worship, funeral and memorial services; attended care plan meetings with residents and their families; participated in staff meetings; and attended local, ecumenical ministerial associations. Since completing her internship, Deaconess Kim has been hired to serve as a ministry consultant for a faith-based network that works with people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Other Contributions

- Hosted fundraiser benefitting Project Hope, an organization that helps the area's homeless
- Continued the Prayer Shawl Ministry
- Held two blood drives for the American Red Cross

"Today, one in four dying Americans is a veteran."
~We Honor Veterans



Greater Cleveland Region

This year, Senior Independence's Greater Cleveland Region was Level One certified with We Honor Veterans, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Through this program, Senior Independence hospice staff guide veterans through their life stories and toward a more peaceful ending, comforting those who have a military history and those who may suffer with physical or psychological trauma. The staff plans to go through all four levels of certification so that they can do their part in serving those who have so bravely served us.

Other Contributions

- Provided health education classes to local retirement communities
- Hosted numerous wellness clinics at area senior centers
- Continued to grow and expand the Parish Nurse program



Dorothy Love Retirement Community

Raising awareness for those who protect our country was at the heart of the USO Show that was held at Dorothy Love Retirement Community. Through the hard work and dedication of many volunteers, a variety of donations were collected at area businesses. On the night of the show, area performers shared their talents with those in attendance. "The ultimate goal of the USO show was to have an event to send goodwill and show our concern for our troops who were away from home at Christmas time. It was a wonderful experience," stated Lori Puterbaugh, Dorothy Love's independent living activities director. A total of 47 large boxes filled with personal hygiene items, snacks, magazines and games were sent overseas to those serving our country.



Other Contributions

- Held Summer Youth Camp in conjunction with the local YMCA®
- Packed and sent gift boxes to Samaritan's Purse® at Christmas to be sent to children in more than 100 countries
- Organized and hosted "A Salute to Veterans" program that included a luncheon for veterans and their spouses

"As of March 2012, there are 1,409,877 active-duty personnel serving outside the U.S. and its territories."
~U.S. Department of Defense

Miami Valley Region

Senior Independence's Miami Valley Region operates wellness clinics five days a week at retirement communities throughout the area. Residents of those communities can visit the clinic during open hours for routine preventive care checkups, which include blood pressure checks, eye exams, foot exams and consultations with an LPN. The services are provided at no charge, are convenient and allow the residents to receive immediate attention from the staff working in the clinics. Helping residents at these communities focus on their health and well-being, while making it easily accessible and affordable, is one way to give back to the local communities.



Other Contributions

- Provided educational programs for older adults
- Held multiple nutrition classes
- Offered exercise classes in numerous area locations



SHARE



Cape May Retirement Village

Each spring, students from Wilmington College get involved with the nationally recognized Grow Food, Grow Hope program that teaches them how to plant and care for a garden. These students shared this experience with the residents at Cape May, helping them build boxes and maintain the gardens throughout the spring and summer. Many residents have grown gardens throughout their life, and this coming together and sharing of knowledge has resulted not only in tasty meals, but wonderful friendships. One of the staff involved at Cape May says that the residents' relationships with the students and staff of Wilmington College has contributed a sense of pride for the students for their volunteerism and joy to the residents as they get to know these delightful young adults.

Other Contributions

- Participated in the Alzheimer's Association® Memory Walk
- Developed new recycling program
- Hosted a monthly breakfast for area veterans

Mount Pleasant Retirement Village

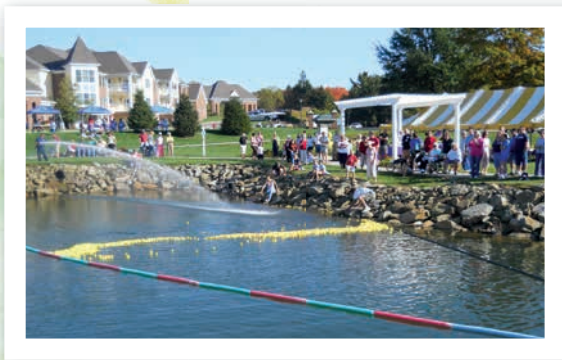
It's no secret that cancer is affecting more and more Americans each year. This May, Mount Pleasant Retirement Village did their part to help in the fight against cancer by participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life®. Several events were organized and held prior to the walk to raise funds, including a cookie raffle and a chili cook-off. There was also a drawing for door prizes held during the event itself. Numerous Mount Pleasant staff members volunteered and walked in support of the cause, and together they raised a total of \$7,419 that was donated to the American Cancer Society.

Other Contributions

- Held a monthly spiritual health lecture
- Worked with nursing students from local schools
- Conducted food drive benefitting One Way Farm, an organization that cares for neglected, abandoned and troubled youth



“In 2012, it is estimated that 1.6 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed in the U.S.”
~American Cancer Society



Lake Vista of Cortland

In October 2011, Lake Vista of Cortland held their first annual duck race to raise money for domestic violence awareness and protection. Utilizing the pond on their campus, rubber ducks were released into the water and when they needed some assistance, the local fire department helped them cross the finish line using their fire hoses. As the crowd cheered on their favorite duck, the Mayor of Cortland acted as the emcee. The proceeds of this fun event were donated to Someplace Safe, Trumbull County's domestic violence shelter. Residents, staff and volunteers truly felt a sense of pride in giving back to the community and have already begun planning next year's race.

Other Contributions

- Hosted a health fair for the local community
- Took part in "Operation Christmas Child," a program that distributes gift-filled shoe boxes to underprivileged children located in countries outside the U.S.
- Held a retired pastor appreciation luncheon

The Vineyard on Catawba

For more than 20 years, Firelands Presbyterian Church in Port Clinton has hosted a seven-week Lenten Luncheon series for their members, as well as the greater community. The series consists of a bible study, lunch and worship.

Last fall, Pastor Jeanne Gay and Church Relations Director for The Vineyard on Catawba Jan Winke determined that moving the series to The Vineyard could improve access to increase attendance and perhaps encourage a more ecumenical involvement of other congregations. After the decision was made, the transition began and staff helped distribute flyers and emails, complete menus, print the bulletins and secure musicians who volunteered to play at each of the services. Through a lot of hard work, The Vineyard was transformed into a place of worship, study and sharing for an average weekly attendance of approximately 50 participants.

Other Contributions

- Provided additional educational programs for church congregations and ministerial staff
- Hosted event for ConKerr Cancer – created pillowcases for children who have to stay at the hospital
- Rang bell for the Salvation Army at Christmas

“One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.”
~National Coalition Against Domestic Violence



Llanfair Retirement Community

In December 2011, Llanfair Retirement Community's Chaplain Jan Ledford informed the Llanfair staff that Feed the Children, a national organization, had partnered with College Hill Christ's Community and needed volunteers to help distribute boxes of food to 1,200 deserving families in the community. Executive Director Sheena Parton and eleven other staff members responded and spent a very cold morning delivering the food to local families in need. A similar call came in April 2012 for another distribution, and again a number of big-hearted Llanfair staff members volunteered to help. This is just one example of the ways Llanfair reaches out to the community throughout the year.

Other Contributions

- Collected school supplies for the Tools for Schools drive benefitting local school children
- Donated items of daily use to Hope Lodge, a home where out-of-town guests can stay free of charge while receiving cancer treatments at local hospitals
- Held health fair for the local community

Southwest Ohio Region

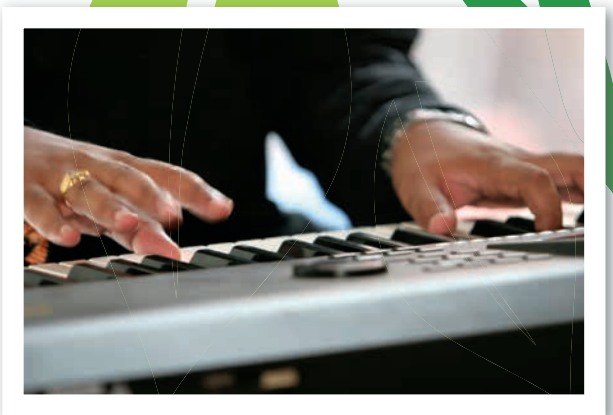
Senior Independence's Southwest Ohio Region has adopted an exciting new program. The Clavinova Project is an opportunity for people to play music in an enjoyable setting, connect with others and enhance their quality of life. Each week, small groups of approximately 30 people gather at Senior Independence's Anderson Senior Center for the program. According to Libby Feck, director of program services for the Anderson Senior Center, "This program was purchased by Anderson Township and we house it here at the Center. There is no professional music experience required and we welcome new participants." This program helps seniors in the greater community combat loneliness, boredom and depression. It also helps with social interaction, as participants build confidence and connect to one another through music.

Other Contributions

- Organized concert for local food bank
- Provided hospice bereavement and grief groups at multiple locations
- Offered a monthly nutrition class to the community

"In 2010, the U.S. Census reported that 16.4 million children lived in poverty and food insecure households."

~Feeding America



GIVE

“Research shows that older adults who participate in senior center programs can learn to manage and delay the onset of chronic disease and experience measurable improvements in their physical, social, spiritual, emotional, mental, and economic well-being.”

~National Council on Aging



Park Vista of Youngstown

Park Vista of Youngstown has taken an opportunity to extend its mission to students majoring in physical therapy at Youngstown State University. Together, they are working to create a wellness program that will provide a bridge for those being discharged from the last level of rehabilitation services and returning home. The goal is to optimize the quality of life and functional independence for older adults. The program fills a requirement for the students' course work and provides Park Vista the chance to reach out to older adults to help them age actively and successfully. By establishing a wellness program and providing learning opportunities for students, Park Vista has found a new way to give back to the community.

Other Contributions

- Participated in American Heart Association® Walk
- Conducted a Low Vision support group
- Provided Lifelong Learning programs



Mahoning Valley Region

Senior Independence's Mahoning Valley Region has two social workers who work in the Senior Center. They help older adults learn about available services such as HEAP, AT&T Lifeline and Summer Crisis.

In addition, these social workers provide a Medicare review during open enrollment for those who have questions or want further explanation of what is offered. They also facilitate support group meetings; make home visits to assess needs for independence; and provide recommendations for services they may require, including Meals on Wheels, home care, transportation, housing and prescription assistance. These positions are made possible through a partial grant from the Area Agency on Aging.

Other Contributions

- Held numerous flu shot clinics
- Collected food for the Youngstown Food Pantry
- Donated toys to the Tri-County Toys for Tots program

BACK

Rockynol

For the past ten years, Rockynol and Akron Public Schools have had a partnership offering students an opportunity to complete their education while gaining life and job skills they can use to obtain employment.

While at Rockynol, the selected students work in a variety of departments including culinary services, nursing, therapy and housekeeping, allowing them to experience several jobs throughout the course of the school year. Not only do students gain necessary job skills for future employment, but they also gain social skills while interacting with Rockynol residents. Rockynol's Director of Resident Life & Volunteer Services Jessica Goff commented, "Each year, I see these students form relationships with our residents. By the end of the school year, they are greeting residents and carrying on daily conversations with them." The staff at Rockynol appreciates the support from the local school system to help foster intergenerational programs.

Other Contributions

- Held Wreath Festival with proceeds going to The Haven of Rest, a local homeless shelter, and to Akron's Alzheimer's Association chapter
- Mentored local college students in various fields of study
- Taught Bible study classes at nearby adult day center

Akron/Canton Region

Providing Christmas gifts to a local area agency for homelessness is one way that Senior Independence's Akron/Canton Region is able to give back.

Humility of Mary (H.M.) Life Opportunity Services helps families trapped in the cycle of homelessness gain independence and stability so they can reconnect with the community. The Akron/Canton staff of Senior Independence was excited to provide Christmas gifts and other items such as paper towels, shampoo, toothpaste and cleaning supplies. As we all know, the true meaning of Christmas is to share the many joys and blessings that we experience throughout the year, and the staff felt blessed to serve the needs of those at H.M. Life Opportunity Services.

Other Contributions

- Held weekly or bi-weekly wellness clinics in senior housing buildings
- Hosted numerous programs with children from the local YMCA®
- Conducted multiple educational sessions on hospice and end-of-life care



"3.5 million Americans experience homelessness yearly. There are 777,000 homeless children in public education systems."
~National Coalition for the Homeless



Swan Creek Retirement Village

Since November 2007, the staff at Swan Creek has participated in the Meals on Wheels program through Mobile Meals of Toledo. This program delivers meals to those in the Toledo area who are unable to prepare or obtain meals for themselves during a period of need.

On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, two Swan Creek staff members take time out of their afternoon work schedule to pick up and deliver meals to approximately 20 Mobile Meals clients. Ages of those served range from 65-90, and all meals are delivered in areas close to Swan Creek. "We fully support our staff living out the mission by providing this needed service to the older adults in our community," says Executive Director Jean Morgan. Twenty staff members give their time on a rotating basis, keeping their five-year history of volunteering with Mobile Meals of Toledo alive and well.

Other Contributions

- Held monthly program for family members and caregivers
- Donated items and cards for "Tribute to the Troops"
- Recycled pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House®

Greater Toledo Region

Senior Independence's Greater Toledo Region co-sponsored the Alzheimer's Professional Education Conference, which was held in May at St. Luke's Hospital in Maumee, Ohio. Many participants were drawn to their display featuring the Reality Comprehension Clock Test (RCCT) that assesses borderline to severe dementia. This non-invasive assessment also helps to determine any cognitive deficits, as well as a person's functional age and whether or not they are at risk for falls.

Utilizing the RCCT assessment tool, the Toledo staff has developed "The Winding Road of Alzheimer's Dementia" program. The information gathered can assist the staff in counseling families on possible next steps like speech therapy, physical therapy or other services that may help their loved one. The staff also has ongoing contact with the elder and their family, providing guidance and support.

Other Contributions

- Offered "People with Arthritis Can Exercise" program
- Conducted blood pressure clinics and fall risk assessments
- Held memory screenings at local health fairs



"An estimated 5.4 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease in 2012 – this includes 5.2 million aged 65 and older, which is one in eight people."
~Alzheimer's Association



EDUCATION

Westminster-Thurber Community

OPRS has a vehicle that reaches out to people in all 88 of Ohio's counties through its own radio show, Journey Through Aging. Hosted by Westminster-Thurber Community's Director of Marketing Joel Wrobbel, the show is a weekly conversation about the issues today's seniors and their families are facing, and uncovers solutions to help make life easier and more fulfilling.

The show can be heard every Saturday morning from 8-9 a.m. on WRFD 880AM in the Columbus area; WHKW 1220 AM in the Greater Cleveland area; and WHKZ 1440 AM in the Youngstown-Warren area. Each week's program features at least two interviews with leading experts covering a multitude of different topics, some of which have included low vision awareness and care, keys to successful life transitions, exploring brain fitness, nutritional tips and much more. Recently, Journey Through Aging was nationally recognized by receiving the 2012 Public Trust Award from LeadingAge.

Other Contributions

- Assisted in the "Christmas Cheer" giveaway
- Hosted Church Administrative Assistants Appreciation Luncheon
- Worked with psychology students from local college



JOURNEY THROUGH AGING WITH JOEL

Tune-in to Joel Wrobbel every Saturday morning, as he talks with experts from around the state regarding issues that affect Ohio's seniors.

WRFD 880AM • Saturdays 8-9 a.m.
or listen on-demand
www.journeythroughaging.com



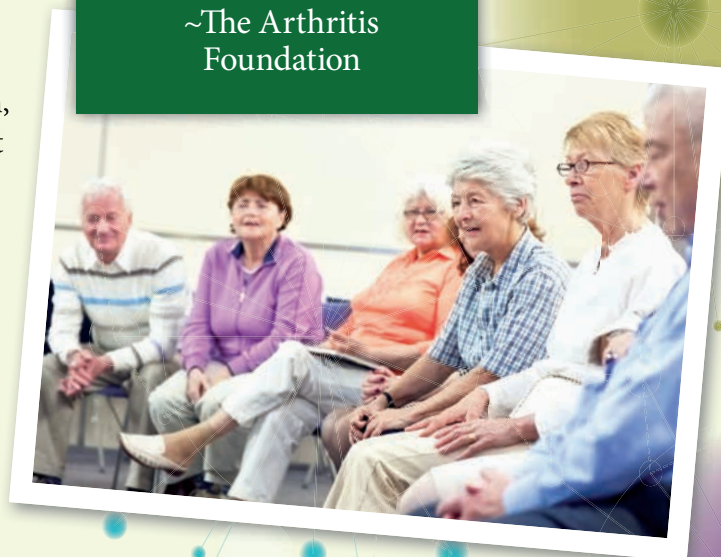
Central Ohio Region

Educating others is part of the focus for Senior Independence's Central Ohio Region. One way they achieve this is through "Opposing Osteoarthritis," a 60-minute program that is conducted for independent and assisted living residents at various locations throughout Ohio. During the presentation, a certified physical therapist provides tips on how to prevent and/or live with osteoarthritis. At the conclusion of the presentation, balance assessments are offered. Based upon the results, each person is given recommendations on ways to either treat or slow the loss of balance, including specific exercises or other outpatient treatments.

Other Contributions

- Offered multiple bereavement groups
- Held blood pressure clinics
- Gave presentation on heart disease

"Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis and it affects nearly 27 million Americans."
~The Arthritis Foundation





OPRS *Statewide*



Church Relations

Missy Buchanan, a popular author and speaker on the topics of aging and faith, traveled to five OPRS retirement communities this year and talked about the need to “lean into life.” During her speech, she said everyone experiences “holy nudges” and that you need to pay attention to “this stirring in your soul that moves you in a certain direction.”

More than 400 residents and people from the greater community attended these presentations. Missy enlightened and engaged audience members and said that after caring for her own parents in their final years she now finds “fresh inspiration in the lives of older adults who graciously invite me to pull up a chair and listen to both their joys and concerns about growing old.” Missy brought words of encouragement and hope to all who attended.

OPRS Corporate

Each year, employees of the OPRS corporate office do what they can to give back to the community. One way staff got involved this year was by participating in a food drive. Each department was asked to bring in as many items as they could to see which could donate the most. The winning department was the President’s Office, which has only two members – OPRS President/CEO Larry Gumina and his Executive Assistant Lauren Mathis. In total, 725 items were brought in and donated to the Mid-Ohio Food Bank.



Also this year, the corporate office created a new program, “Recycling...For Good.” They partnered with local churches to donate gently used furniture that was no longer needed. This is a creative solution that helps our organization extend the life of the office furniture and is greatly appreciated by the recipient – a “win-win” for all involved.



OPRS Foundation

The OPRS Foundation raises and manages charitable funds that support OPRS retirement communities and Senior Independence regions throughout the state. In fiscal year 2012, the OPRS Foundation raised a total of \$7.6 million in support of those served by OPRS.

Financial CONNECTIONS

The Financial Impact of Our Community Benefit

Our social accountability is best depicted in the stories and activities of the lives touched described in the fiscal year 2012 OPRS Community Benefit Report, “Community Connections.” In addition to this human impact, there is also financial measure of our efforts.

The following chart illustrates the total financial impact of OPRS’ community benefit. The dollars represent OPRS’ commitment to each of the communities it serves. Below is a description of each item in the chart.

Honorable Service Grants

OPRS has instituted a program to honor the service of long standing church workers and those with military service. This program provides significant discounts on fees for apartments and homes at OPRS Communities.

Health Care and Assisted Living Medicaid Charity

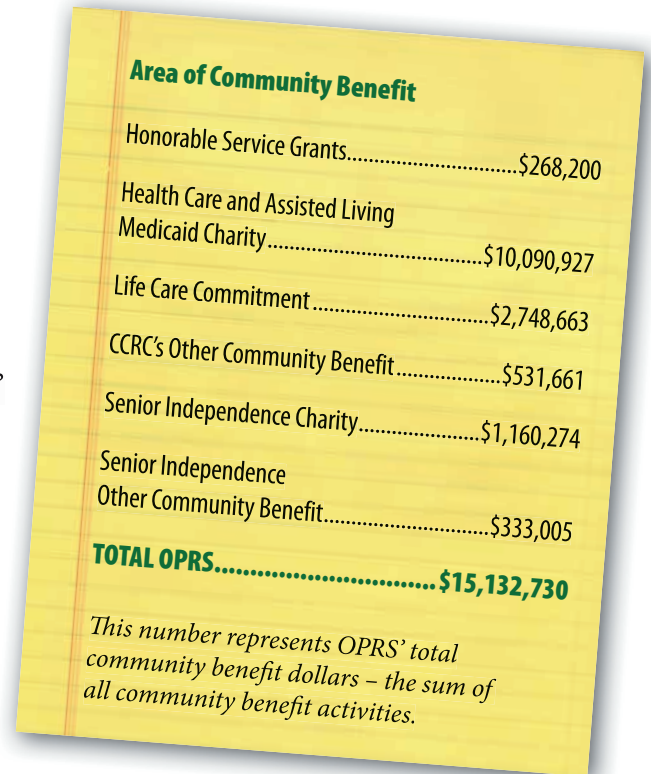
Medicaid is the state of Ohio’s health care funding source for low-income individuals. The dollars in this line item represent the difference between the cost of care at OPRS health care and assisted living centers, and the Medicaid or Medicaid Waiver reimbursement for that care.

Life Care Commitment

The Life Care Commitment, backed by OPRS with the help of charitable support, helps assure all OPRS residents that they will always have a home even if – in good faith – they run out of the funds meant to see them through.

CCRC’s Other Community Benefit

This number represents goods and services provided to the greater community by OPRS Communities and corporate office at no cost or at a discounted rate.



Senior Independence Charity

Senior Independence offers a number of home and community based services to older adults in the greater community. Senior Independence works with Passport, local levies, Title XX, the United Way, Title III and numerous other funding sources in order to make services available to people of all income levels. The dollars depicted in this line represent the difference between the cost of providing these services and the reimbursement received for them.

Senior Independence Other Community Benefit

This number represents goods and services provided to the greater community at no cost or at a discounted rate.

In affiliation with LeadingAge's Quality First standards, OPRS:

- Welcomes and actively supports volunteer involvement in our organization,
- Has social accountability programs that benefit the local community, thus continuing a tradition that enhances the quality of life of the individuals we serve,
- Demonstrates good citizenship by serving as a catalyst, convener, facilitator and sustainer of community efforts, and
- Is actively involved and keeps abreast of public policy issues important to our organization and the people we serve.



Our mission is to provide older adults with caring and quality services toward the enhancement of physical, mental and spiritual well-being consistent with the Christian Gospel.