

Advent House Report for PEM June 3, 2019

Residents:

We have welcomed nine Residents this year. Families continue to express such gratitude and relief that their loved one is being cared for so tenderly in such a beautiful home. As ever, we receive so much more than we give.

Staff: We continue to deal with a Resident care volunteer shortage. Laurie has been actively pursuing many different options and a few of our hand on caregivers have also stepped up to actively do recruitment. See her report. Our weekend nurse of 21 years, Molly Shanto, is decreasing her time from two weekends per month to one per month because of the increased lack of weekend volunteers and the increased time commitment for the on-call nurse. I interviewed and hired two new weekend nurses. They will each do one weekend a month. They are now hired with the understanding that this is no longer just an on-call position and that they should plan on covering shifts both Saturday and Sunday. We may need to increase the weekend salary. Also, a new position has been created called Resident Caregiver. I have hired a volunteer resident caregiver for every Friday and Saturday evening from eight pm until midnight. She has graciously continued to volunteer Sunday evenings from eight til midnight. A true blessing. I continue to cover many extra shifts including recently an overnight.

Finance Committee: Met May 15,2019 We welcomed two new members recommended by Ray Wager. Tim Ashman and Eric Lunger both with accounting and finance backgrounds. Annual budget for 2019/2020 discussed and prepared for presentation to PEM for approval. Discussion regarding increased expenses in the areas of maintenance and potentially Resident care as volunteer base continues to decline.

Fundraising: See Vicki Deady's report. Gala huge success and wonderful time had by all. Golf tournament planning in full swing! Please promote at your churches. Many thanks to Vicki for her continued dedication, enthusiasm and hard work.

House Maintenance: Expenses in this regard continue to increase. We now must contract for front garden maintenance and mulching. Thankfully, a group from Paychex Corporation came to us for Day of Caring and did a wonderful job of planting, weeding, repairing the bricks in the patio and general cleanup of the side and back gardens. Our lawn mower, RTK, continues to donate his services. We are most grateful. We had the gutters checked and cleaned of much debris to see if that resolves the runover problem. Several fir trees have needed to be cut down due to a disease and it is looking that we have more that sadly are dying. Thus, increased expenses. In August, we will need to do through general housecleaning, re wax the kitchen floor, power wash and restrain the deck, and retar the driveway etc.

Sweet Charity: 650 Whitney Road, Suite C: Continues to be a wonderful success. We have hired two new assistant managers to replace Nancy Loughran at ten hours per week each. Kitty Keller has much experience in retail since she was the owner of Patricia's Fabric and Susan Rhody who has also had much retail experience. We are trying a new adventure with First Fridays; staying open until 8PM since Steve's Diner is open that evening and brings in quite a crowd. Will evaluate the success and decide whether it is worth our while to continue this through the winter. A volunteer appreciation picnic is planned for June 25th to honor all the wonderful people who so graciously give of their time to the store.

Volunteers: Laurie and I hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner which was very successful. Again, attendance was spotty but those who came had a wonderful evening. This is no longer a pot luck because there were complaints that if it is "appreciation" they should not have to bring a dish. We have increased our volunteer appreciation budget to accommodate these gatherings twice a year. Our volunteers remain our greatest asset and greatest need. See Laurie's report.

As ever, I am so grateful to all of you for your dedication to this wonderful ministry and your support and prayers.

Peace,
Glenda Hastings, Director

