

Advent House Report for PEM December 2, 2019

Residents:

We have welcomed eighteen Residents this year; nine in eight weeks. Needless to say, it was a very busy, emotionally draining time for all. Laurie and I hosted a Death and Dying meeting to provide knowledge and support to our dear volunteers. 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. Annual reviews completed for myself, Vicki Deady, Jeanne Kremers and Meg Sarnoff. So very thankful for the amazing staff that we have.

Finance Committee: September meeting discussion of future investments; staffing needs, additional four hour shift for the Resident Care Giver on Sunday evening from 8pm til midnight approved. Sweet Charity ten hour workers increased to 14 hours per week during the busy holiday season.

Fundraising: See Vicki Deady's report. The golf tournament was another great success thanks to a wonderful committee and our dedicated golfers. Vicki and I composed the Annual Appeal letter and hopefully you have received by now. Snowflake theme; always bittersweet and so lovely to see all the names of the many that we have known and cared for. Gala meeting schedule for early December; save the date April 18, 2020! Always a wonderful evening.

House Maintenance: The front gardens have been tended to and look pretty even with the weather turning. The trees are dying and will need to come down in the spring. Makes me sad. Our new volunteer, Mike Matthews has agreed to become "house husband" for which I am immensely grateful. Furnace maintenance next week scheduled after a bit of a scare when it was only blowing cold air!!

Sweet Charity: 650 Whitney Road, Suite C: Continues to be a wonderful success and absolute blessing to the House. We hosted the Chamber of Commerce coffee hour in September with a great turnout. Always nice to network with our fellow businesses. Also, had a fabulous scarecrow for the October Fest. Friday, December 6th is our holiday open house with a 10% discount all day and holiday treats from 4pm til 8pm. There will be a "BIG" half price sale of Christmas items starting December the 14th. Then, the store will be closed from December 22nd until January 3rd to enable our dedicated staff and volunteers to enjoy the holiday season.

Volunteers: See Laurie's report. Weekends and evenings continue to be challenging. Thankfully the students have returned and look to be a promising group. Laurie continues to pursue many different options and we have welcomed some wonderful new folks!

As ever, I am so grateful to all of you for your dedication to this wonderful ministry and your support and prayers. Wishing you a most blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

Peace,
Glenda Hastings, Director