

Advent House Report for PEM September 14, 2020

Residents:

We remain “on pause” and will do so until at least January 2021. This was a very difficult decision made after many meetings with our Finance Committee, Directors of the other Comfort Care Homes, the Home Care Agencies including the medical director of VNS. The condensed version is that there are too many unknowns, the future of COVID is too unpredictable, there would be very limited agency support, and most importantly there would be a potential for great risk to our volunteers and staff. I continue to meet with the other House directors and all in Monroe County are remaining closed. One positive COVID test would close the House, put everyone into quarantine and leave no caregivers for the Resident. It will look very different for a bit but as the situation eases, we will get back to our “normal” open armed welcome!

Staff: We continue to be very busy. We are blessed indeed to have such a dedicated staff willingly stepping out of their job descriptions to do whatever is needed whenever and wherever they are needed. Unless I am away, I am working six days a week to ensure adequate coverage at Sweet Charity as well as keeping up with administrative duties at the House, attending comfort care home meetings, Finance Committee meetings, etc.

Finance Committee: Heartfelt gratitude to this committee of dedicated professionals that have so wisely shepherded our finances. We are meeting more regularly and I am so very appreciative of the additional support. The income from Sweet Charity continues to be such a blessing.

Fundraising: See Vicki Deady’s report. Golf tournament great success! Annual Appeal letter has been mailed and the responses are very heartwarming.

House Maintenance: The House is in great shape. Looking beautiful and ready to welcome our next Residents. One of our family members has overseen and completed a memorial garden in the backyard area in honor of his wife and our former volunteer. It’s so lovely and so nice it will be where Residents and family can enjoy. We had an Eagle Scout do his project here at the House. He and his troop did the entire landscaping project down by the stream in the backyard. It looks amazing; was a daunting task. We also had a fraternity from RIT do a service project. They cleaned the garage, removed much debris from under the deck; cleaned up around the sign and trimmed the trees! Another job much needed and so appreciated.

Sweet Charity: Reopened June 17, 2020 after much procedural reorganization. We are able to comply with all the COVID restrictions and maintain business pretty much as usual. We have been gifted with many wonderful donations and very happy shoppers who have missed our sweet shop. Advent House staff and Sweet Charity are the shop staff and it is going very well. Thankfully, we had an amazing record month in November!!!

Volunteers: Please see Laurie Eisele’s report. We miss our volunteers. Laurie and I have been keeping in touch regularly with them and love when they write back. Unfortunately we have had to cancel our planned volunteer gathering in December due to COVID. We are most hopeful to gather as a group in the spring. We have received three volunteer applications from the request in the annual appeal and fingers crossed for more.

As ever, I thank you all for your involvement and support.

Peace,

Glenda Hastings, Director

