



# NEWSLETTER

**H**appy Spring everyone!

Things are popping at When HELP Can't Wait (WHCW).

We were graciously given two opportunities to advertise fund-raisers on Buzz on Biz on WRDW, radio am-1630. I was honored to speak to the 'Pacesetters' at St John's Methodist church and made new friends there. We were very fortunate to be asked to speak at Quest Methodist church where their outstanding mission program awarded us with a generous donation. We're excited to have gained a new volunteer from that appearance. We are eternally grateful to all the support we've had from many local churches in this past year.

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With no grants to help this year, we've been busy with fund raisers orchestrated by our energetic Director, Donna Bowles. We've held a 'Valentine



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Boutique'; joined in a Senior Citizens Bazaar and held our tri-annual Yard Sale. Our newest venture is a booth at the Midtown Market on Kings Way, where we sell our 'upscale yard sale items'. Our generous donors of in-kind donations with their collections and attic treasures are making a huge difference in the lives of many.

Our new Chaplain program is off to a good start with one active pastoral care volunteer and two in training. We are excited to be able to offer this service to our residents who previously have not had access to Chaplains.

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Other programs continue without interruption – Clothes closets being very active – lots of clothes being given out, and our



Hand Spas conducted by Beauti-Control consultant, Diane Dome. We've distributed multiple loads of candy donated by Walgreen's to several area homes – always a popular donation. Activity Directors continue to 'shop' for much needed comfort and entertainment items from our office/warehouse on a regular basis. Our friendly visitors continue their one-on-one visits to make sure that no one is left out and they become close to the residents they visit. Our welcome basket program had been prolific as new residents are entering the homes daily. We also helped celebrate another 100 year-old birthday with

the donation of a beautiful cake from Sam's Club.



Warren Baptist loaned us volunteers to help with our yard sale and some took a 'Donut Party' to one home. We are also pleased to have added two new friendly visitors to our roles who are already doing a wonderful job just days into their volunteer positions.



We had a great Volunteer Appreciation Dinner this year with the help of The Church of Our Savior Episcopal church who loaned us their dining room and Shane's Rib Shack who catered it and fed us extremely well. It was a small reward for our outstanding volunteers.

Unfortunately, we had some sad news in this quarter in that we lost one of our original Board members, LTC (Ret) Jim Rasmusson in January. He was a strong supporter and will be greatly missed. We also attended the funeral of



a beautiful resident whom we had come to love after visiting her for three years – she was special to Wanda & Chuck who were her ‘friendly visitors’.



At the heart of our caring are the residents themselves who touch our hearts. At a recent clothes closet a man shopped for some clothes and the volunteer placed a ball cap on his head and he beamed with a big smile of thanks – he told them he was 93! Another volunteer had to hold back tears as a female resident came in with no legs to get help in selecting some warm pretty clothes in the much needed larger sizes and also got a pretty hand knitted hat. (they love something on their head – man or woman)

I was able to attend the Environmental Aging Conference held in Atlanta in March. The primary subject was Culture Change – promoting an environment which supports optimized personal usage by our aging population. I continually try to keep current on new ideas. ‘Culture Change’ has been the mission of WHCW since its

inception. In our small way, we strive to make the present day nursing home as ‘homelike’ and pleasant a place to live as we can with our supportive and nurturing programs.

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Won’t you help us continue to do that? If everyone receiving this Newsletter contributed only \$10, that would fund WHCW for a quarter, \$20 would fund us for two quarters. We exist primarily with in-kind donations, and being a totally volunteer organization greatly reduces our need for a large cash budget.

We invite all to visit our offices at any time for a tour and we are open for donations from 10:00 until 4:00 Mon-Wed and from 10:00 until 2:00 on Thursdays. Visit our booth at The Midtown Market, Tues thru Sat until 6:00. Thank you for helping us serve nursing home residents across the CSRA!

## When HELP Can’t Wait

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*When HELP Can't Wait is a 501(C)3 organization. All donations made to our organization are tax deductible. At the current time, there are little or no administrative costs to our organization. Our Board consists entirely of volunteers, including our director. We are dedicated to keeping administrative costs low. Our Board is comprised of local CSRA area business men and women.*

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