

House of Care
515 W. Beaver Ave.
State College, PA 16801

Board of Directors
Welcome New
Administrator and Board
Members

This summer the Board of Directors interviewed and hired **Sherry Pinamonti** to fill the role of Administrator. Until she receives her license in October, Evelyn Wald continues to serve as the interim director. Sherry has prior experience in home care and is studying to become a registered nurse.

Since our last newsletter to you we have also welcomed two board members.

Ruth Bell is an elementary school educator in the Bellefonte Area School District. Her first experience at the House of Care was through the Calvary Baptist Church monthly dinners. She wanted to expand her help by assisting with volunteers and serving on the Board. Ruth says, "The House of Care serves a section of the local population that is often overlooked when services are provided for people. The area does not always acknowledge that there are people who need lots of extra help due to a lack of family and/or finances. I love to help others who need a good, safe home environment. The House of Care does this."

Neill Johnson is a research associate at the Penn State Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence, a member of University Baptist and Brethren Church of State College, and a former volunteer at the AIDS Project. As a young adult, he helped provide home care for his grandfather and regularly visited a grandmother who spent the last 10 years of her life in a small nursing care facility before she passed away of "old age" at 105. "I have always been interested in the quality-of-life needs of senior citizens and I am pleased to be joining the Board of the House of Care."

Other Board members include -- **Carolyn Tseo**, a registered nurse at Geisinger-Scenery Park. Carolyn's dad was a resident at the House of Care. **Evelyn Wald**, a grief counselor and founder of the House of Care. **Eloise Ingram**, a staff member at the Pattee-Paterno Library. **Connie Martin**, a part-time companion at Brookline Home Care and Hospice.

Please consider serving a term on the Board of Directors. Contact Connie Martin (814-360-4630) or Evelyn Wald (814-364-1130) for details.

Incoming Administrator Notes

Autumn is a time for reflection and change. As the leaves turn from green to their brightly colored hues and begin to scatter around us they remind me of the memories and past experiences that shape all of our lives. It is a privilege and an honor for me to share in the transition that is the autumn of the lives of many of our residents. As they share the brightly colored memories of their past with me, I look forward to the opportunities that await us all at the House of Care.

It is an exciting time for us here at the House of Care. As I move into the position of administrator and begin to take on more responsibilities, I look forward to meeting and talking with many of you. We currently have three residents living at the House of Care, and are looking forward to welcoming new members to our family. If you have a family member that you feel would benefit from living at the House of Care, or if you would simply like more information about the services we provide, please feel free to call me any time. Remember, our doors are always open and you are welcome to come for a visit and get to know our staff.

At press time, Sherry is in Texas to try to bring one resident back to live with us. Based on our record of occupancy the Board approved accepting one evacuee.

Respite Care

Many of you may not realize that while the House of Care provides permanent residency for individuals in need of long term care, we also offer respite care. We provide a safe, caring, healthy environment for people who are leaving the hospital or rehabilitation center but are still unable to return to living on their own. We have recently had two respite residents – one for two days and one for five weeks. Perhaps you are the primary caregiver for a terminally or chronically ill family member and need to be away from home for a few weeks or months. You can rest assured that your family member will receive the best possible care while staying at the House of Care until you return. Whatever your situation, we would be happy to discuss the options available to you and your family and provide you with a tour of the House of Care.

Third Annual Memorial Service

You are invited to join us on Sunday, October 23 at 2:00 PM at Calvary Baptist Church for our 3rd Memorial Service remembering all the residents that have lived and died at the House of Care. It's a time to share stories and celebrate lives. We'll have a time of fellowship after the service. Please display the enclosed flyer or share it with others. Come. Remember. Celebrate with us. Hope to see YOU there.

TIDES – A program for grieving children and the families who love them

In March, 2003, TIDES welcomed its first families. As we enter our third year TIDES has provided support to 19 grieving families. We also received a **\$2000.00** grant from the Centre County Community foundation. TIDES is facilitated by volunteers. The program is FREE to all participants.

We gather together at Mt. Nittany Middle School the first Thursday of each month. We enjoy pizza at 6:00 PM, then the groups meet from 6:30 – 7:30 PM. If you know of a family that might benefit from TIDES or would like further information, please call TIDES at 692-2233.

TIDES is a program of the House of Care, co-sponsored by the State College Area School District, Mt. Nittany Medical Center and Brookline.

Volunteer of the Year – House of Care - 2005

Each year the Centre County Council of Human Services asks each member to nominate a Volunteer of the Year. It was our privilege to honor **Nancy Harrison**. Nancy trained with our first group of staff and volunteers five years ago. She has continued to visit our residents almost weekly. She also visits residents while in the hospital or after they are transferred to

another facility. Nancy and her husband Paul were able to attend the recognition ceremony in April. Thank you Nancy for helping our residents at the House of Care.

Holiday Baskets for Sale

The House of Care will again be selling holiday baskets and bundles. An order form is enclosed and can be copied (share with friends, co-workers). If you would like a basket to display, please call Evelyn (364-1130). Let us help you make your holiday giving extra special. Orders will be taken through December 9th. Thank you for your support.

Alternative Christmas Event – December 4, 2005

The House of Care will participate in the Alternative Christmas event at the University Baptist and Brethren Church on South Burrowes, State College. The event gathers about 20 local agencies each year and allows all of us to make contributions instead of buying “things” at the holidays. Come early and have lunch and contribute to House of Care.

Centre County Community Foundation Supports Hospice Care

Since opening five years ago, the House of Care has served 35 families and about one-third of those residents have elected to accept Hospice care. It has been our observation that at this difficult time a family may not have the financial means to meet this end of life choice. We therefore, applied to the Centre County Community Foundation for assistance. We received **\$6800.00**. This will allow a family to come to the House of Care without the fear of financial burdens.

Thank you to all of you who also contribute to the Centre County Community Foundation
P.O. Box 648
State College, PA 16804

14th Annual Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. Charity Golf Outing

In July the House of Care and Centre Volunteers in Medicine shared the profits from the Hawbaker Golf Tournament. Each organization received over **\$34,000.00**. This brings the funding raising at the House of Care to the "next level". The most exciting part of this association is that we will be the recipients for two years. Special thanks to **Bob Barbash** from Calvary Baptist church who recruited and assigned volunteers for the House of Care. It was a wonderful

day and involved many community members. We look forward to the 15th Annual event next summer. Mark July 22, 2006, on your calendar.

The cost of a tee or green sponsorship in 2005 was \$300.00 and full sponsorship was \$2500.00. Watch for information on our web site for 2006 fees.

Updates on the WEB

Thanks to a student group from Penn State, and our friend Al Verbanac, the House of Care has a terrific web site. Please check it frequently for information and events. It is our hope that the next newsletter will be posted online. This will reduce our mailing costs.

www.thehouseofcare.org

In Honor of or In Memory of – Contribute \$155.00

Last winter we invited friends to contribute \$155.00 to establish a special recognition Day for friends and family. We have received 13 of these contributions. Please add your loved ones or friends to this list.

March 10 – Gerald Stein
April 1 – Bob and Lois Barraclough
April 4 – Connie Martin
May 1 – Ted Vallance and Susan Tait
May 17 – June Callis
June 25 – Patsy Hartman
July 1 – Evelyn Jacobson
July 23 – Ric Haag
August 9 – John Donahue
August 25 – Angela Jane Hawn
September 24 – Ed Callis
November 15 – Evelyn Wald and Eloise Ingram
December 28 – John and Connie Martin

Listed above are the individuals who have been honored by their friends and families. Thank you all!! These contributions go directly to support the care of individuals who are unable to pay the full fee required for their care.

Thanks to WIN Group for generous support

Women investing in Non-Profits contributed **\$20,000.00** to the House of Care. This matching program raised over **\$40,000.00** for the support of our mission.

To recognize the dignity and worth of each person

To establish personal care for those with limited life expectancies

To administer to the spiritual and emotional needs of residents' loved ones in a family-like atmosphere.