

A message from Sister Rosemary



Dear Friends,

A new year is upon us and all of us here at Misericordia are approaching it with great hope and confidence. This is based on the fact that you, our family and friends, continue to bless us with both your monetary gifts and the gift of your presence.

Our fundraising throughout November and December was the best in the history of Misericordia. Since we are now facing a deficit of twelve million dollars for 2012 (the difference between what the government pays us and what it costs us to operate), these gifts are truly needed and appreciated.

We also hope to share with you some exciting new plans for our aging population. Having persons with special needs living into "later years" is a new phenomenon that our society has not faced.

Throughout this special season of Love Incarnated, thousands of volunteers were available to us within different areas. This was especially evident in the bakery, the packaging room, coffee making area along with waitresses, waiters and dishwashers for our brunches and other parties. Our Greenhouse Inn Restaurant and our shops, staffed mainly by volunteers, welcomed thousands of guests who seemed pleased to be doing Santa's work while supporting Misericordia.

What was truly beautiful to behold was the mixture of people involved as volunteers. For example, in our dishwashing area, you found judges, lawyers, doctors, dentists, corporate heads of companies doing their best to maintain the pace of our young kitchen aides. They were also found scooping cookies in our bakery. My impression was most would happily return to their daily work but were pleased to be just where they were...volunteering. You learn much about human nature here at Misericordia.

But what if, after all of this work, no one ordered our boxes of goodies or came to visit, dine, or shop? Thus, we want to thank everyone who played a role in making our Christmas such a blessed one. Whatever you did, please know what a gift you are to our residents, their families, our staff, and all in administration.

You who know Misericordia are fully aware of what makes Misericordia the beautiful and compassionate home it is for the 610 children and adults who deserve the best -- it is our staff at every level. We all form a "community of believers" who know we are called to do God's work. Everyone, whatever their position may be, is as important as those of us who are more present to the public.

For me personally, I am conscious that the greatest gift God gave to me is to surround myself, inside the walls of Misericordia and within our groups and many friends, with some of the most competent, compassionate, generous and loving people you would find anywhere in the world. And they make me look so good! How blessed I am!

Thank you for believing in Misericordia. Our prayer for all of you, good and generous friends who want to make a positive difference in our world today and have found your way to Misericordia, is to ask God's blessings on you and yours in this new year of 2012. We are truly grateful for your loving friendship and generous support!

Lovingly,

Sister Rosemary