

Misericordia

WINTER 2023

HEART OF MERCY | NEWSLETTER

Virtual

MISERICORDIA HEART OF MERCY

CANDY DAYS



APRIL 28-29

is counting on you

Set up a "Personal Fundraising Page," visit our website at www.misericordia.com, or return the envelope in this newsletter. This year, an anonymous foundation will once again match Candy Days donations up to an unspecified amount! On behalf

of Misericordia Foundation Chairman Sister Rosemary Connelly, Misericordia President and Executive Director Father Jack Clair, and Misericordia Foundation Executive Director Lois Gates, we thank you for your friendship and support!



Bill Kelley



Lisa Rowland Brasher



Mike Withers



Mary Frances Trucco

Thanks to Bill Kelley and the Jelly Belly Candy Co., millions of bags of jelly beans have been donated for Candy Days over many years. A special thank you goes out to President and



CEO Lisa Rowland Brasher for sustaining our tradition! We are forever grateful and are looking forward to next year when we will once again have Jelly Belly jelly beans for Candy Days!

Sincere thanks to our dear friends from Jewel-Osco Mike Withers, President, and Mary Frances Trucco, Director of Public Affairs. During the month of March, shoppers donated to Candy Days at the register of Jewel-Osco!



To set up a personal fundraising page, please contact:
annemills@misericordia.com
or call 773-273-2730

Misericordia News

Dear Family and Friends,

January 1, 2023 was the start of a New Year full of promise. After a Holiday Season in which Misericordia welcomed almost 7,000 guests through our doors, we were back planning the year to come. How wonderful it has been to have everyone truly back "Home." We were blessed with hundreds of volunteers who returned to support our staff, and our events came off without a "hitch." Thank you if you were among the 7,000 who came back! We remain amazed and thankful for your loving friendship and support.

Already event dates for 2023 have been locked in and set in motion. The Women's Auxiliary and the Women's League have hosted First Look for Charity and Heart of Gold respectively to great success. St. Patrick's Day was celebrated at the Chicago Plumbers Union Local 130 2023 St. Patrick's Day parade with

a beautiful float sponsored by the Gibsons Group. Once again, Misericordia's much-anticipated Post Parade Party was held at the IBEW's Memorial Hall. We are very grateful to Steve and Peggy Lombardo of Gibsons, and Don Finn and the Local 134 IBEW for underwriting this event, as well as John Colletti of Gibsons for securing terrific prizes for the raffle.



Now we are on to our virtual Candy Days. If you have not already, be sure to set up a fundraising page for Misericordia. It is a special opportunity to share Misericordia's mission with friends near and far and generate much-needed funds to support programs for our children and adults. If you are not able to make your own page, please generously support the Candy Days fundraising efforts by donating to the pages of others. You will not regret your decision for one second!

The excitement on campus is palpable. The homes of Rosemary Park are springing up quickly. Although this project is ongoing, we are excited to know that soon enough we will be able to reach out to families on our wait list and other families in need. Additionally, our restaurants are open. Please visit our campus! Come for lunch in our Greenhouse Inn, or our drive-through Bakery and Café. We encourage you to bring your friends for a meal and a tour. We are honored when our friends share Misericordia's mission, and it fills our hearts with joy to have guests returning to campus.

We thank God for the gift of your friendship – for touching your hearts and bringing you to Misericordia. Please know you remain in our prayers. God's blessings on you and yours.

Lovingly,

Blessings and gratitude,

Sister Rosemary Connelly

Lois Gates

Sister Rosemary Connelly
Chairman
Misericordia Foundation

Lois Gates
Executive Director
Misericordia Foundation



Honors for our Sister Rosemary — The Ireland Funds Dinner

Last December 6th, the Ireland Funds of Chicago celebrated their 38th annual Dinner Gala, where Sister Rosemary was an honoree. Tom Meagher, Co-chair of the Chicago dinner, spoke about Sister Rosemary's amazing accomplishments throughout the Chicago community for over 50 years. Congratulations!

Pictured above: Kevin Connelly, Cathy and John Scully, Sister Rosemary Connelly, Julie O'Sullivan and Mike Mackie



Pictured above with Sister Rosemary: Tom and Diane Meagher

Pictured right: Gerry Gainer and Nora Gainer





Dearest Friends,
How delightful that we continue to open Misericordia up. Though we continue to have Covid cases on campus, we are able to begin to return life to normal and for that we are so grateful. We love having all of you visit. Whether it is to volunteer, or join us for meal in one of the restaurants, or participating in one of our many events, we are so grateful to see you and feel your support.

Like many others, we continue to feel large staff shortages. Our staff are people who simply want to make a difference in the lives of other people. They often come here not knowing what to expect. They learn to love our residents (which is so easy), and many choose to continue their working life with us. If you know anyone who is looking to make that difference in the lives of others, please send them our way. They can visit Misericordia.com to find out more or to make an application. There are dozens of direct care jobs available. We have homes that are waiting to open – all we need is the right people to say yes and join us.

Our new homes on Thome Avenue are going up quickly. They too will need lots of staff. They will also give us the

opportunity to reach out to people who have been waiting for placement here at Misericordia. There are hundreds waiting. We want to respond, but we need the good staff to do it. Please keep this project in your thoughts and prayers.

The last State election also brought many new Senators and Representatives to Office. We would like to invite them out so that they can experience Misericordia first hand. So many pieces of legislation affect us and we want the Senators and Reps to understand what they are voting on and how it can touch us. Please reach out to your elected officials and invite them out. You can call my office to schedule a tour. We will be hosting an event for them in Springfield during the first week of May – Please encourage them to join us.

Thanks so much for your loving support of our Ministry. You honor us by the support. Thanks to you, each day is a gift at Misericordia!

God Bless!

Fr. Jack

Father Jack Clair
President and Executive Director
Misericordia Home

Misericordia Leadership Updates — Thank Yous and Congratulations



Celebrating the wonderful career of Denise Tigges is a pleasure as we thank her for many years of leadership at Misericordia. Denise has been a devoted advocate for the residents and families of Misericordia for 38 years. She has made a lasting impact in the lives of countless residents! We wish you only the best as you enjoy your retirement!

Organizational changes in several key leadership positions took place at Misericordia at the beginning of 2023. Through continuously recruiting, retaining and offering development and growth opportunities for our staff, we are able to keep the residents at the forefront of what we do while also taking care our staff. This

ensures Misericordia has a plan of leadership for now and into the future.

We are grateful for the support of our staff and families, and appreciate each and every one of you. Please welcome our new vice-presidents as they take on new roles.

Meet the new vice presidents



Geana Connelly
Vice President of People,
Culture and Strategy



Tina Stendardo
Vice President of Program
Delivery



Madelyne Trejo
Vice President of Clinical
Services



Chris Hegg Krackenberger
Vice President of
Residential Services

Thank you for visiting Misericordia

It has been a time of renewal as we have opened our doors to tours, guests and volunteers. Come back soon!

Right: Tobi Williams and Chicago's 39th Ward Alderman Samantha Nugent (far right) visited with Fr. Jack Clair this winter for a campus tour and lunch at the Greenhouse Inn.



Thank you to Niles Mayor George D. Alpogianis for taking the time to visit our campus (pictured above with Fr. Jack Clair).



We are so grateful to our friends at Illinois State Wireless Association for taking the time to volunteer in our Hearts & Flour Bakery and for their generous donation.



Thank you to the 100 Women Who Care - Medinah chapter for your visit to Misericordia and for your generous donation! We are so grateful for your support. Pictured above, from left: Kristy Ingardona, Debbi Stringfellow, Cheri Rafferty, Lois Gates, Peggi D'Angelo and Chrissy Hund.

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

2023 The Artist in All — IN PERSON — at the Art Institute of Chicago



New Date — same great location! The annual art exhibit and silent auction benefit for Misericordia, featuring artwork created by our talented Misericordia artists assisted by our art instructors, staff and volunteers. Watch our website for ticket information.

July 19, 2023

SAVE THE DATE

Corporate sponsorship packages provide the opportunity to become involved in Misericordia's most resident-centered event!

For Sponsorship information and general questions please contact:

Lois Gates at loisg@misericordia.com

Caitlin Deptula at caitlin.love.deptula@gmail.com

Our November 2022 event was a huge success — check out the recap in this newsletter!



Visit our Hearts & Flour Bakery tents
Starting in May through October:

Evanston Farmers Market
Saturdays - 7:00 am for seniors
and people with disabilities

7:30 am - 1:00 pm open for everyone.
Intersection of University Place and Oak Ave.

Daley Plaza
Farmers Market - Chicago
Thursday, 7:00 am - 2:00 pm
Corner of Washington and Dearborn

Bums Summer classic to celebrate 49 years — Save the date for June 12, 2023



Please join 600 golfers on Monday, June 12, at beautiful Olympia Fields, Edgewood Valley and Flossmoor Country Clubs to support Misericordia!

The Bums have raised millions of dollars over the years to support Misericordia's innovative programs and expansion efforts for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

For further information check our website at www.misericordia.com and join our devoted Bums Committee, sponsors, and loyal golfers who have generously supported this event throughout the years.

For Sponsorship information
please contact: dorief@misericordia.com



A team of 75 runners will represent Misericordia at the 2023 Bank of America Chicago Marathon on Sunday, October 8, 2023. Each member of this year's team will raise much-needed funds to support Misericordia's programs and services for our 600 residents and 200 Outreach Program participants.

**Choose Misericordia as your charity
and be part of the Heartracers**

The last day to register as a charity runner is May 31.

To find out more about joining the 2023 Chicago Marathon Misericordia Heartracers, contact: Martha Floberg, Development Officer at 773-273-4125 or marthaf@misericordia.com.

MISERICORDIA YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COUNCIL

THE RED HEART BASH FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023

RAVENSWOOD EVENT CENTER, CHICAGO



Members of the Misericordia Young Professionals Committee (with Julie O'Sullivan) presented the Misericordia Foundation with a fundraising check at the group's annual brunch in February. The MYPC is energized to raise awareness and support for Misericordia starting with The Red Heart Bash on April 14.

 **mypc** INTERESTED IN JOINING
THIS DYNAMIC GROUP?
[JULIEO@MISERICORDIA.COM](mailto:julieo@misericordia.com)



KISSANE FAMILY Special K Golf Outing

On September 12th, the Kissane family hosted their fabulous **Special K Golf Outing Benefiting Misericordia** at beautiful St. Charles Country Club.

The annual event, now in its 10th year, included a great day on the course as well as lunch, dinner and raffle.

Thank you Jackie and Keith Kissane and family and their sponsors for the outstanding generosity and friendship that is so appreciated all year long.



EXCELLENCE 2022



Tracy Prather



Kathleen Keating



Leslie Burgard



Lupe Olivo



Dante Hayes



EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

All of Misericordia's staff is amazing and each year five of our employees are honored with the Employee Service Award.

Nominated by their co-workers, these individuals embody the spirit of Misericordia and live the core values of Quality of Life, Connection,

Responsibility, Spirituality, and Diversity and Inclusion.

This year's winners of the 2022 Annual Employee Service Award are: Tracy Prather, Kathleen Keating, Leslie Burgard, Lupe Olivo, and Dante Hayes. Congratulations!



August 7, 2023

to Benefit the Residents of Misericordia

Shoreacres Country Club

18 Holes | Forecaddie

Carts | Luncheon Buffet

Auction | Tee Prize | Beverages/Snacks

Awards Reception | Cocktail Party



www.misericordia.com



Sunday, August 27, 2023

Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel

The Misericordia Family Association is reaching out to friends old and new this year to present their annual benefit in person for the first time since 2019!

On August 27, 2023, the MFA will bring funding, support, and a long-awaited celebration to honor their loved ones who have a second home at Misericordia.

The MFA's big night will feature a dinner, silent and live auction, car and cash raffles, and a new venue! Event co-chairs Sue Ziesemer and Deborah Brashears, MFA Chaircouple Pam and Jim Capraro, the Adbook Committee and many dedicated families are hard at work to make the night wonderful and worth the wait!

Check our website at:

www.mfabenefit.org/2023

for information to come and help Misericordia continue to thrive in 2023!



MFA Benefit co-chairs Sue Ziesemer and Deborah Brashears



MFA Chaircouple Pam and Jim Capraro



FOREVER GREEN!

Celebrating Misericordia Friendship and the Young Irish Fellowship (YIFC) 2023

We are so grateful to the Young Irish Fellowship Club for choosing Misericordia as their charity for the past two years! Forever Green 48 was a great way to kick off the St. Patrick's Day season! Thank you for your generosity.

Misericordia Women's Auxiliary

FIRST LOOK *for charity*



Left to Right: Anne Mills, Megan Lassman, Rachel Schulenburg, Fr. Jack Clair, Claudia Miquelon, Tracy Winslow, and Lois Gates.



Above from left: Gabby and Alex Maragos with Lou and MaryBeth Manfredini

First Look for Charity and the Misericordia Women's Auxiliary returned to the Chicago Auto Show, held on February 9, 2023. A special thank you to the sponsors, donors, underwriters and silent auction winners of this year's benefit! Many thanks to the Misericordia Heartbreakers and to emcees and auctioneers Lou Manfredini and Alex Maragos for entertaining us and presiding over our fabulous live auction. Congratulations to co-chairs Megan Lassman, Rachel Schulenburg, Claudia Miquelon, Auxiliary President Tracy Winslow, Solicitations chair Vanja St. Clair and the entire committee for a wonderful night.



Lin Brehmer pictured with Sister Rosemary at the First Look for Charity event in 2019.

Remembering Lin Brehmer

Our hearts are heavy with sadness with the news of our dear friend, Lin Brehmer's passing. Sister Rosemary, Father Jack, Lois Gates, Kevin Connelly, our residents and the entire Misericordia Family join together in prayer and keep Lin's family close to our hearts, especially his wife Sara and his son Wilson. He was such an amazing friend and ever dedicated and devoted to Misericordia. May God hold you & your family in His loving embrace. Rest in peace Lin.

In Memorium



The practice of asking for donations to a favorite charity to commemorate the death of a loved one is very thoughtful. In the past few months, such requests have resulted in donations that benefit Misericordia. We thank those benefactors and their families, and respectfully ask that you remember them in your thoughts and prayers.

Joan E. Anderson; Diane L. Benbennick; Joan Bernth; Thomas F. Boland; Sara J. Bredemann; Gene Brennan; George J. Brixie; Mary M. Browne; Richard M. Buhrfiend; Gertrude M. Burns; Jeanne M. Burns; Marie S. Burns; Loretta Caddigan; Anthony Cassa; Roger Casty; Adam M. Cerza; Sheila Clair; Ruth Clancy; Maureen G. Clarke; Genevieve Condon; John R. Connolly; Thomas P. Conrardy; James J. Corbett; John J. Cranley; Mary E. Cunningham; Corrine Dabrowski; Jacqueline Davies; Dorothy E. DeJulis; Leonard J. Deutsch; Richard A. Ferrara; Eugene L. Foxen; Justin Francque; Rosel Galati; Michael Gall; Mary Jane Gibbs; James F. Haughey; Celine T. Heinlen; John J. Hill; Susan Holmes; Charles Holzberg; Kathleen M. Horvatic; Mary Alice Houlihan; Anne T. Iuorio; Theresa J. Jacobs; Anthony Janda; William J. Kenney; Thomas J. Kenny; Betty L. Kofler; Casimir "Cas" Joseph Kotowski; John F. Koutnik; Mark S. LaFramboise; John S. Lawrence; Helen M. Loftus; Florence F. Lorange; Brian V. Lowell; Katherine A. Lunardi; James W. Madden; Susan Magit; Pamela Marzec; William Mateja; Kay F. Mazurek; Ross L. McCarthy; Jody A. McDonnell; Joseph F. McNally; Mary E. Mellon; Jean M. Mendel; Barbara Milling; Rose Montefalco; Marian Moody; Rachel G. Moore; Joseph E. Moorhead; Carol D. Moustakis; Johanna M. Mullane; Mildred A. Nelson; Michael F. Newsham; Madelene A. Nolan; Wanda H. Norkewicz; James T. O'Brien; Bernard F. O'Connor; Nancy J. Orr; Mary C. Ostrem; Kenneth E. Paxson; Peggy A. Pisani; Joan M. Plywaczynski; Mary Jo Pomnitz; Eileen Power; Elizabeth Rattenbury; Herbert W. Redding; Karen A. Rickerson; Megan Rooney; Arlene F. Russell; Joan Ryan; John E. Scanlon; Margaret L. Scanlon; Judy Schumann; John R. Scott; Donald Senior; Helen S. Surdej; John H. Thissen; Sarah Turner; Marilyn T. Van Wetering; Louann Van Zelst; Frank A. Vogel; Robert F. Wenshutonis; Jean A. White; William E. Wilson; Judith Wortel; David Zapler; Eileen M. Zimmerman

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ART

THE ARTIST IN ALL 2022

Last November, the Misericordia Siblings Association honored our artists at the beautiful Art Institute of Chicago with the first in-person event in over two years! To our generous family of sponsors led by presenting sponsors Northern Trust, Maryanne Marymont MD, and the Villers family – thank you for helping to make this year's The Artist in All show a smashing success!

1. Our gratitude goes to the Misericordia SIBS Leadership! (Left to right) Outgoing President Lisa Paradis, Fr. Jack Clair, Kathy Watts, incoming President Megan Biggam, Julie O'Sullivan, Co-chair Colleen Ciraulo, Jack Mayer, Kelly Burgess Mayer, Margaret Babjak, Bill Meyer, Co-chair Sheila Canavan, Caitlin Deptula, Anne Mills, and Lois Gates. (Not present Mike McDonagh, Becky Li and Co-chair Kathleen Davy)



2. Martha and Susie
3. Mark, Margaret and Sarah
4. Readith and Neiman
5. Bill and his painting "Arizona"
6. Deb, Catie and Emily

7. Misericordia's Art Instructors:
Back row: (from left) Sarah Wainright, Cyndi Baldwin, Kristine Monhollon, Miles Lindholtz, Guy Tourangeau, Amy Koetz, Alison Slak

8. Laura celebrating with her family!



IL State Rep. and Assistant Majority leader Marty Moylan (center) joined by Misericordia parents Patrick Owens (far left) and Katie Newsham (far right) Fr. Jack Clair, Charlie and Maxwell, enjoying lunchtime during the holidays at the Greenhouse Inn.

(from left) Fr. Jack Clair with IL State Rep. Lindsey LaPointe (19th District), IL State Rep. Laura Faver Dias (62nd District), IL State Rep. Mary Beth Canty (54th District). Thank you for coming to Misericordia to visit and learn more about our programs.



*A Special
Thanks to our
Secret Santas*

Thank you
for so generously sharing
the spirit of Christmas and
for your loving friendship,
support and prayers!

*From the residents
of Misericordia!*



Carol Marin with Bakery volunteer ComEd CEO Gil Quiniones



Patty and Dan Walsh with Sister Paulette O'Connell

Mark your calendars for September 10, 2023

Family Fest returns!



Please plan to join us as we gather with friends and family for our largest fundraising event. Car and Cash Raffles, great food, entertainment, kids games and more will be waiting for you! We plan to have a sunny day — but rain or shine it will be a day to celebrate the residents that are the heart of our mission.

Corporate Sponsorship accounts for the majority of money that is raised at Family Fest. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor this year, please contact Lois Gates at: loisg@misericordia.com or (773) 273-4160 to learn how you or your company can become involved.

Visit our website at www.misericordia.com

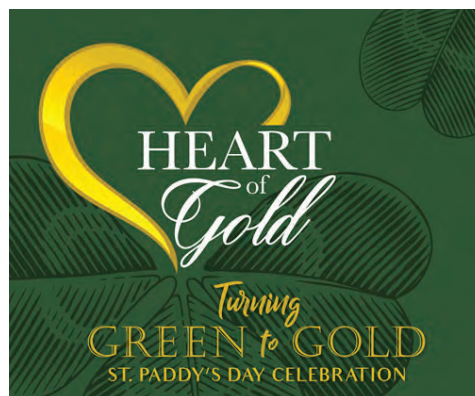
PLANNED GIVING

Have you remembered Misericordia in your estate plan?

Bequests and other planned gifts are an important source of funds to assure the continuation and growth of Misericordia. If you want to learn more about ways to include Misericordia Foundation in your estate plan, please call or email:

Bob Bourke at 773-273-4173
robertb@misericordia.com

**You can also learn more by visiting the
Planned Giving page at
www.misericordia.com**



The Misericordia Women's League hosted an amazing benefit for Misericordia on March 17.

Look for a full recap of this and other early Spring events in our next newsletter!

SAVE THE DATE

April 14 | Red Heart Bash
Ravenswood Center
julieo@misericordia.com

April 28-29 | Candy Days
www.misericordia.com

June 12 | Bums Golf Outing
www.misericordia.com

July 19 | The Artist in All
Art Institute of Chicago
(773) 273-4160

August 7 | Heart Links Open
Shore Acres
www.misericordia.com

August 27 | MFA Annual Benefit
The Renaissance, Schaumburg
www.misericordia.com

September 10 | Family Fest
www.misericordia.com

September 18 | Women's Golf Outing
Oak Park CC
www.misericordia.com

October 8 | Chicago Marathon
marthaf@misericordia.com



Winter fun!

Misericordia is a residential facility serving children and adults with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities from diverse ethnic, religious, racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. A not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization, Misericordia is operated by the Sisters of Mercy under the auspices of the Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago. Misericordia is located at 6300 N. Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660, 773-973-6300. You can find Misericordia on the internet at misericordia.com. The Misericordia Newsletter is published quarterly. Please send any comments about the newsletter to kathyw@misericordia.com or to 6300 N. Ridge Ave., Chicago, IL 60660. If you would like to add, remove or change your contact information on the newsletter mailing list, please contact Jack Mayer at 773-273-2768 or jmayer@misericordia.com