



Heart of Mercy

# Misericordia

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2017

### Family Fest 2017 — Sunday, September 10 — 11 am - 6 pm

Misericordia is proud to host its largest fundraising event of the year on September 10, 2017 — Family Fest!

When the Misericordia family joins the larger community for a day of great entertainment, food and fun, we also celebrate the lives of the residents who call Misericordia home.

With the political climate uncertain at best, it is so important to protect the continuation of the



programs and high-quality services that Misericordia offers its residents and families. Please join us on the beautiful Misericordia campus as a guest, volunteer or sponsor!

**Corporate Sponsorship** accounts for the majority of funds raised at the Fest. Contact Father Jack Clair at: [frjack@misericordia.com](mailto:frjack@misericordia.com) or call (773) 273-4165 to learn how you or your company can become involved.

**Volunteer!** Click on the volunteer tab at [www.misericordia.com](http://www.misericordia.com), or call or email the Volunteer Office at [volunteeroffice@misericordia.com](mailto:volunteeroffice@misericordia.com) or call (773)273-4161.

For tickets, please call 773-973-6300 or visit our website at [www.misericordia.com](http://www.misericordia.com)

**Cash raffle:** Top prize \$50,000; Additional prizes between \$15,000 and \$500. Tickets: \$100 (3,000 available)

**Win a car!** Compliments of **Andy Francis of Evergreen KIA** – and cash prizes, too! Tickets: \$50 or 3/\$100.

To enter, please call: (773) 273-4160 or mail your check to: Misericordia, Attn: Cash/Car Raffle, 6300 N. Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660.



The Early Bird Drawing for the 2017 Family Fest Cash Raffle was pulled on July 20. For a list of winners, please call 773-273-4160.

Dear Family and Friends,

In Psalm 27, I found a verse which I felt was very significant for my loving gratitude to God and His people for the growth and development of the Misericordia of today. It reads: *"I know I will see how good God is while I am still alive. Trust in the Lord – be strong – be brave! Trust in the Lord!"*

Today, when I drive around our Misericordia campus and see all that has been accomplished, not only on the campus – but having twelve lovely homes in different neighborhoods, my sense of gratitude to our wonderful friends, present and past, knows no limit. All responded to a call from God to be involved as a loving member of the Misericordia Family. Many are now with God, and I feel certain their dedication to Misericordia was duly noted by the Lord.

And yes, in the mystery of God's love, I am still alive! My trust in the Lord and in you, His people, has never faltered! Since my first day at Misericordia South in 1969, the right people have always been in the right place at the right time. I am absolutely convinced this was and is not accidental. It is another proof of God's love for our mission. The Lord has always sent His "finest" and they have always been appropriate to meet every need. I should add, they always made and continue to make me "look so good."

I truly believe this was a great gift from God for these very special, competent, compassionate people inside the walls of Misericordia – our Executive Team, administrators, staff, families and volunteers – along with the thousands of people whom we can claim as wonderful and involved members of our Misericordia Family. We know how blessed we all are, because every day we can make a difference!

We face the future with great confidence because we know we are doing God's work and our Misericordia Family is always there for us. So we continue our efforts to reach out to more people on our waiting list. We promise we will never lose "quality lives" for those we presently serve, but we are aware of the great gift we can give to families when their most vulnerable member is accepted as a Misericordia resident. It is truly only possible because of your belief in our mission. It is you who enable us to continue to reach out to more people on our long waiting list.

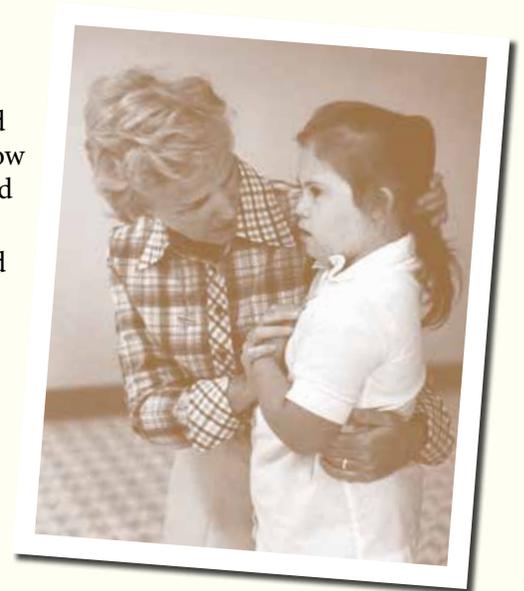
Although some social services are cutting back on staff or even closing their agencies, Misericordia is looking forward to being able to share life with more families in need. The only reason we can be who we are, is because we are successful raising the private dollar. We work very hard at fundraising, and we are successful because thousands of families and friends are believers of our mission. They hold that our children and adults not only have the right to life, but to one worth living. They know "our residents" are not able to create a good world for themselves, but once it is theirs they become the gift givers. They believe and therefore they respond generously to this calling to be involved. How blessed we are by their loving friendship and generous support. This is the only reason Misericordia is the beautiful home it is today.

Thank you for believing in us! You have never disappointed us! God's blessings on you and yours.

Lovingly,



Sister Rosemary Connelly, RSM  
Executive Director



## Employers and community workers share and celebrate

On June 22, Misericordia held its first-ever Appreciation Dinner for community employers that hire and employ Misericordia residents. More than 25 employers were in attendance. Additionally, guests from different community volunteer sites, advocacy groups and job developers attended, totaling more than 65 community guests being present.

Each of the employers had a resident representative, and four residents were selected to participate in a guided panel discussion about how they value their community employment. The goals of the night were to show appreciation to those that provide community employment and to strengthen those relationships through getting to know Misericordia more personally. Both goals were accomplished, and employers continue to share how they were inspired by the night!



**Above: Misericordia resident ambassadors, from left: Jess, Jeff, Maika, Andy and Patrick pictured with Michael Diaz, Administrator, Developmental Training, and Anne Pellettieri, Community Access Supervisor.**



**Left: Representatives from ComEd celebrate at the first annual Appreciation Dinner. Pictured, from left: Paula Conrad, Lisa Schuh, Jessica Stumpe, Jessica F., Altaira Citron and Michele Ptaszek.**



**Illinois State Senators Tom Rooney and Dave Niezgodski visited Misericordia to learn more about our many programs. Pictured, from left: Fr. Jack Clair, Roger and Katie McCarthy, Senator Niezgodski, Senator Rooney, Sister Rosemary Connelly, Sharon Rickerson, Alicia Krippinger and William Veldman.**

## 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 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](http://www.misericordia.com).**



Federal employees nationwide can pledge donations to Misericordia!

Our CFC code is 43851.





Family's dedication to Misericordia throughout the years. Thank you to all of our sponsors, golfers, friends and to the BUMS committee for their generous support!

**Left: The Misericordia BUMS celebrate the most successful BUMS Golf Outing yet!**

## Misericordia Bums Golf Outing marks 43 years and counting

We are so grateful to the more than 500 golfers and friends who came together for the 43rd annual Misericordia Bums Golf Outing held on Monday, June 12, at the beautiful Olympia Fields, Calumet and Flossmoor Country Clubs.

The Bums have raised money and awareness over decades that have

helped to ensure Misericordia's programs for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities continue. Congratulations to **Ray Wicklander** who was presented with the Brian O. Shannon "BUM of the Year" award for his commitment to the outing and to the entire Wicklander



**BUM of the Year Ray Wicklander, center, enjoys the day at Olympia Fields with, from left: Mike Schmidt, Chris M., Sister Rosemary Connelly, Bill W. and John Scully.**

## A Summer night of family, friends and lasting memories

Misericordia's family gathered at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont on Saturday, June 24, 2017, for the Misericordia Family Association Dinner Dance. The evening included a sit-down dinner, live and silent auctions, raffles, dancing, and entertainment by the Heartzingers and Heartbreakers. Thank you and congratulations to chairs Debbie and Gay Villers, and to all who donated or volunteered!



### *Legacy Sponsors* \$20,000

Jim & Carol Palmer  
The Joseph & Mary Kay Calabrese Restaurant Family  
Mark & Margaret Dillon  
The Hersh Family and Friends

### *Heartfelt Heroes Sponsors* \$10,000

Mark & Barbara Cabin  
Howard & Judy Gilbert  
GCM Grosvenor  
Jim & Cheri Rafferty  
Erich & Janice Teske & Family  
The Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade  
The Veldman Family  
Wintrust Financial



**The MFA Committee, from left: Mary Pat O'Brien, Mark and Margaret Dillon, Jo Halleran, Sister Rosemary, Tom Halleran and Debbie and Gay Villers.**

# The Artist in All honors 20 years of empowerment through art



**Above, from left: Honorary Chairs Anne Pramaggiore and Pam Cullerton with Sister Rosemary and the 2017 Artist in All committee**



*Presenting Sponsor*  
**ComEd**

*Honorary Chairs*  
**Anne Pramaggiore, Pam Cullerton and Amy Rule**

*Supporting Sponsor*  
**FGMK/Netrix Family of Companies**

*Grand Sponsors*  
**Sarah Hackett-Lien/Housing Headquarters**  
**Butch and Maura Navarro and the Sylvester Family**

**Northern Trust**  
**Iris and Michael Smith**  
**The Villers Family**  
**American Airlines**  
**Lock Up Self Storage**  
**Practical Angle Framing**

of the 20th Anniversary celebration. Many thanks also to Brian Shannon of Print Post and our many generous printers for their belief in our mission.

Congratulations to Artist in All Co-Chairs Lisa Paradis and Jackie Miller, President Debbie Lasch Crane, and the entire SIBS committee for this year's amazing and successful event!

centered event, was once again held over two floors at the Modern Wing of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Guests enjoyed dinner and cocktails while bidding on artwork created by Misericordia artists throughout the year with the assistance of instructors, staff and volunteers. Sincere thanks to this year's **Presenting Sponsor, ComEd**, alongside **Honorary Chairs Anne Pramaggiore, Amy Rule and Pam Cullerton**, for their overwhelming support



On May 24, 2017, 200 resident artists displayed their work at the 20th Anniversary of the Artist in All silent auction and exhibition hosted by the Misericordia Siblings Association. This joyful annual, and most resident-



**left: Artist in All co-chairs Lisa Paradis and Jackie Miller**

Many thanks to the student-athletes, families, coaches, and administrations of the New Trier and Loyola Academy lacrosse teams who once again came together to raise more than \$35,000 for the children and adults of Misericordia. The students at Loyola and New Trier, as well as those at many other area high schools, have shown their friendship to Misericordia in numerous ways throughout the years. If you have a son or daughter at an area high school who would like to be a member of the Misericordia Junior Board, please have him/her call Teresa Puente at 773-273-4160, or email her at [teresap@misericordia.com](mailto:teresap@misericordia.com).



## Misericordia Young Professionals Council

### Red Heart Bash 2017

**October 14, 2017**

**Wintrust Grand Banking Hall**

**231 S. LaSalle St. | Chicago, IL 60602**

An evening to benefit Misericordia! Enjoy an open bar, heavy hors d'oeuvres, live music and fabulous silent auction. Cocktail attire requested. **For more information email Julie O'Sullivan at [julieo@misericordia.com](mailto:julieo@misericordia.com)**





**Left: Fashion Show chairs and Women's Auxiliary President pictured with Mary Pat O'Brien, Sister Rosemary Connelly, Lois Gates and Father Jack Clair.**

**The Misericordia Women's Auxiliary's 33rd Annual Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show** showcased the best in spring style this year. More than 600 guests enjoyed the afternoon at the Sheraton Grand on Wednesday, May 3, 2017, sponsored by our generous friends at **Bloomington's Old Orchard**. Guests had a delicious lunch and viewed the



best in spring and summer fashion on the runway. The Misericordia Heartbreakers were once again the highlight of the day! Many thanks to our Fashion Show chairs, Corinne Guarraia, Michelle Nelson and Leah Thenstedt, for their dedication and to Auxiliary President Cathy Popp and all committee members for the most beautiful and successful day.

**Left: Thanks to our good friends at Bloomington's Old Orchard! From left: Vince Theodore, Phil Wells, and Debbie Beaty**

Photos by Robin Subar for JWC Media



**Sister Rosemary with the 2017 Honorees: Jim Connolly, Paula Conrad, Chuck LoVerde, and Suzanne and David Moore.**

**The Heart of Mercy Ball annual kick-off evening** was held on June 27, when the honorees for 2017 were announced. Congratulations to David and Suzanne Moore, recipients of the Heart of Mercy Award; Paula Conrad, recipient of the Sister Rosemary Connelly Service Medallion; and The Chicago Laborers' District Council, Jim Connolly and Chuck LoVerde III, recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award. We look forward to celebrating with them on Novem-

ber 17, 2017, at the Chicago Hilton for the 2017 Misericordia Women's Board Ball!



**Women's Board President Felice Madda and Ball Chair Beth Donovan.**



**Above: Many thanks to our 2017 Heart of Mercy Ball kick-off chairs for their work on this beautiful event! Pictured, from left: Katie Newsham, Mary Kay Kickels, and Arlene Chiaro**

**Left: Women's Board members Moyenda Knapp and Maureen Durkin Roy enjoy the festivities.**



The Heartlinks Committee, pictured from left: Jeff and Cari Mory, Hugh Connolly, Sister Rosemary, Carrie Connolly, Linda Fahrenbach, Dave Moore, Greg Fahrenbach, Sue Moore, and Janice and Rick Price.

## Summer days of golf and giving at the Heartlinks Outing

July 18th was a perfect day for golf and giving when the Heartlinks Committee hosted the 16th annual outing at beautiful Shoreacres Golf Club in Lake Bluff. Guests enjoyed 18 holes of golf, a delicious luncheon, and an awards reception and cocktail party overlooking Lake Michigan.

The event was a sell out, with all proceeds benefiting Misericordia! Thank you to the entire Heart Links Committee for their hard work and continued dedication to the outing and to Misericordia.

**Misericordia athletes** have been keeping in shape over the summer months! Our Misericordia Special Olympics team celebrated with a recognition dinner on July 18, marking a successful and fun season. On Tuesday, June 27, the Loyola Academy Varsity Football team hosted Misericordia residents for its 6th annual Misericordia Sports Day on Hoerster Field. Guests from Misericordia had the opportunity to experience the thrill of playing high school football with the Ramblers! Many thanks to the Recreation and Leisure Department at Misericordia and to Loyola Academy Varsity football!



Pictured clockwise, from upper left: Henry is proud of his Special Olympics accomplishments this year!

Michael and Tom enjoying the applause at Loyola's Misericordia Sports Day.

P.J. and Denise with Loyola Varsity football players.

**Thursday, September 28, 2017**

**FALL FESTIVAL GOLF OUTING**  
benefiting Misericordia Home  
Evanston Golf Club

**Sponsored by**  
**R.J. O'Brien & Associates, LLC**  
**The Corcoran Family Foundation**  
**The Clearing Corporations**  
**Charitable Foundation**

**7 am:** Morning tee time check in, Continental Breakfast  
**8 am:** Morning Shotgun start  
**10:30 am:** Afternoon tee time check in  
**11:30 am:** Buffet Lunch  
**1:00 pm:** Afternoon Shotgun start  
**5:30 pm:** Cocktails/Hors d'oeuvres Reception and Awards Ceremony with live auction and raffle

**To get involved as a golfer or sponsor, purchase raffle tickets or join us for lunch/dinner, please contact:**

**Lulu Caravette at 312-373-5030**  
[lcavette@rjobrien.com](mailto:lcavette@rjobrien.com), or visit [misericordia.com](http://misericordia.com)

**The Sweets on Wheels** bakery truck has hit the road in the Chicagoland area this summer and is available for private parties! The truck provides exciting new job opportunities for Misericordia residents and also helps us to bring our message and delicious treats to the community!

**For more information please contact: 773-273-4743 or find us at: bakerytruck@misericordia.com**

**Right: Developmental Training instructor Christopher Siefer with Paul, on the job!**



**Blessings to Misericordia's own long-time volunteers Bob and Madge Erlenbaugh on a special anniversary! Pictured, at left: Fr. Dan Hartnett, S.J. Jesuit brother of Madge, and former missionary for 23 years in Peru, explains the mission of Misericordia to Pope Francis after concelebrating mass at Santa Marta on June 13 where Bob and Madge received special blessings for their 50 years of marriage.**



*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.*

Dennis A. Baker; Claire Eleanor Baldwin; Natalie Ann Benker; Paul Francis Bresnahan; Myron Anthony Candioto; Philip A. Cassella, Sr.; Richard F. Cherney; Margaret "Peg" Coleman; Bridget "Delia" Connolly; Irene Mae Crane; Leonard J. Danca; Janet Gail Dawson; Patrick Michael Durkin; Gerald E. "Red" Dwyer; Joseph Carson Fenner; Catherine Ann Garvey; Doris Gibson; Maureen "Mary K." Gibson; Philip M. Gordon; Joanne A. Halston; Anne Marie Hanek; Mary K. Hardy; Elizabeth A. "Betty" Howlett; Anthony "Tony" Kearney; Robert H. Lantz; Mary Ann "Marie" Lynch; Dennis John McDonnell; Michael K. "Mick" McGovern; Dorothy M. McGuire; Grace C. Muto; Therese Ann Naughton; Mary Virginia "Mimi" Nolan; Loretta O'Connell; Thomas E. O'Driscoll; Thomas C. Parsons; Marilyn K. Quinn; Rose Marie B. Reilly; Sheila M. Sammons; Kathleen E. Schiller; Richard J. Skorka; Melita L. Stroth; Ronald "R.J." Sullivan; Steven E. Thode; Theodore James "Ted" Thompson; Joseph F. Unger; Joan C. Ward; Geraldine "Geri" Wisniewski

## Misericordia Women's Golf Outing

**Monday, September 25, 2017 | Oak Park Country Club**



**8:30 a.m. Step Aside Scramble — Reservations: \$350 (after September 1: \$400 per person)**  
Sponsorship opportunities are available!

**Contact: Therese Loftus for more information**  
[tloftus@misericordia.com](mailto:tloftus@misericordia.com) or 773-273-4163

## Save the Date

**September 10 | Family Fest**  
[www.misericordia.com](http://www.misericordia.com)

**Sept. 25 | Women's Golf Outing**  
[tloftus@misericordia.com](mailto:tloftus@misericordia.com)

**Sept. 27 | Joyce Schragger Lecture**  
[loisg@misericordia.com](mailto:loisg@misericordia.com)

**Sept. 28 | Fall Festival Golf Outing**  
Lulu Caravette at 312-373-5030,  
[lcaravette@rjobrien.com](mailto:lcaravette@rjobrien.com)  
or visit [misericordia.com](http://misericordia.com)

**Sept. 29-30 | Heartsquad Ragnar Race**  
Contact Joe Ferrara at [joef@misericordia.com](mailto:joef@misericordia.com)

**October 8 | Bank of America Chicago Marathon**  
[marthaf@misericordia.com](mailto:marthaf@misericordia.com)

**October 14 | MYPC Red Heart Bash**  
[julieo@misericordia.com](mailto:julieo@misericordia.com)

**November 17 | Heart of Mercy Ball**  
[misericordia.com](http://misericordia.com)

**Sundays, Dec. 3 and 10 | Christmas Brunches**  
Early reservations are being taken: 773-273-4738 or  
[christmasbrunches@misericordia.com](mailto:christmasbrunches@misericordia.com)

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](http://misericordia.com). The Misericordia Newsletter is published quarterly. Please send any comments about the newsletter to [kathyw@misericordia.com](mailto: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 Peter Behle at 773-273-2768 or [peterb@misericordia.com](mailto:peterb@misericordia.com).

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