



OHIO PRESBYTERIAN
RETIREMENT SERVICES
FOUNDATION

Where Donors Make A Lasting Impact

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mission *in action*

A newsletter for donors and friends of the OPRS Foundation

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BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS

Donors help support spiritual life

Eight OPRS communities have chapels – all of which were built with donated funds.

These peaceful places, dedicated to prayer, meditation and worship, produce no revenue yet add so much to their respective campuses.

Many OPRS residents can no longer travel to their home churches, so having a chapel where they live means they don't have to lose their spiritual routine, something they have drawn comfort from all their lives.

But worship services are only one part of what spiritual life means at OPRS. Thanks in large part to charitable gifts, it also means Bible studies, choirs, memorial and funeral services, sound systems, pianos, stained glass windows and many other enhancements.

The Rev. Karen Fleming, chaplain and director of pastoral care at **Mount Pleasant Retirement Village** in Monroe, said the campus's Mary H. Kittredge Chapel continues to be a core part of spiritual life because of ongoing support from donors.

"Recent gifts have allowed us to provide needed repairs and upgrades of the sound system and camera in the chapel.

"The sound system and camera tie into our campus TV station, so we are able to broadcast live worship services, concerts and events. This allows residents who

may be ill, bed-bound or home caring for a spouse to still enjoy the services and events from the chapel at home," she said.

Throughout its history, OPRS has maintained a tradition of providing for the spiritual needs of those who call its communities home.

Donors who support spiritual life programs help ensure that residents can continue their spiritual routines, something they may have drawn comfort from all their lives.

One resident described what happened to him when he suffered a heart attack not long after his wife of 50 years had died: "With no family, I could have awakened in my hospital room alone, scared and grieving. But when I woke up for the first time, I felt someone holding my hand. It was the chaplain, praying over me in the middle of the night. He spent that night with me out of his love and concern," he shared.

OPRS chaplains help employees as well as residents. Those who give care and comfort to residents often receive the same from their campus pastor.

One campus, **Breckenridge Village**, has a particularly strong spiritual atmosphere.

“We say grace here, whether at meals, meetings or other gatherings. The chaplain gives an invocation at events. We’re beyond faith-based – we’re faith-infused,” said Jim Hickey, gift planning director at Breckenridge.

Staff and residents have enjoyed weddings and baptisms in the Lyons chapel, and many services and memorial events have been held.

In addition to Friday services, there is also a Wednesday morning prayer gathering that’s been led by a local Lutheran church for more than 26 years.

“Spiritual life is what grounds us. It’s what we do,” Jim explained.

There are as many reasons for supporting spiritual life as there are donors to the program. One resident gives money every other month. Others have set up endowments to support the programs with interest income now and in the future.

Whatever their motivation for giving, we couldn’t be more grateful to the generous donors who support this crucial program. ■

ON THE COVER: *The Rev. Karen Fleming leads a service in The Mary H. Kittredge Chapel at Mount Pleasant. Donor support helps OPRS residents enjoy a variety of spiritual life programming.*

BELOW: *Four of the eight OPRS Communities chapels that have been built through charitable gifts: 1) The Lyons Chapel at Breckenridge; 2) The Amos Chapel at Dorothy Love; 3) The Reed Chapel at Swan Creek; 4) The Margaret Jean Wells Chapel at Llanfair.*



HOME SWEET HOME

Program alleviates hassle of selling

If you've ever sold a home, you know that the process can be a burden.

You have to make sure your home is in top shape, choose a realtor, wait for a buyer, negotiate... The list goes on and can take months at best!

Couple all that with trying to move and settle into a new home, and it can be downright overwhelming.

But some savvy homeowners have found

a much more desirable alternative – one where they were able to bypass the hassle of selling yet still receive tax benefits and fixed payments for life.

Sound too good to be true?

It's not – just ask the homeowners who have partnered with the OPRS Foundation as part of its real estate program.

These individuals have used their homes to fund

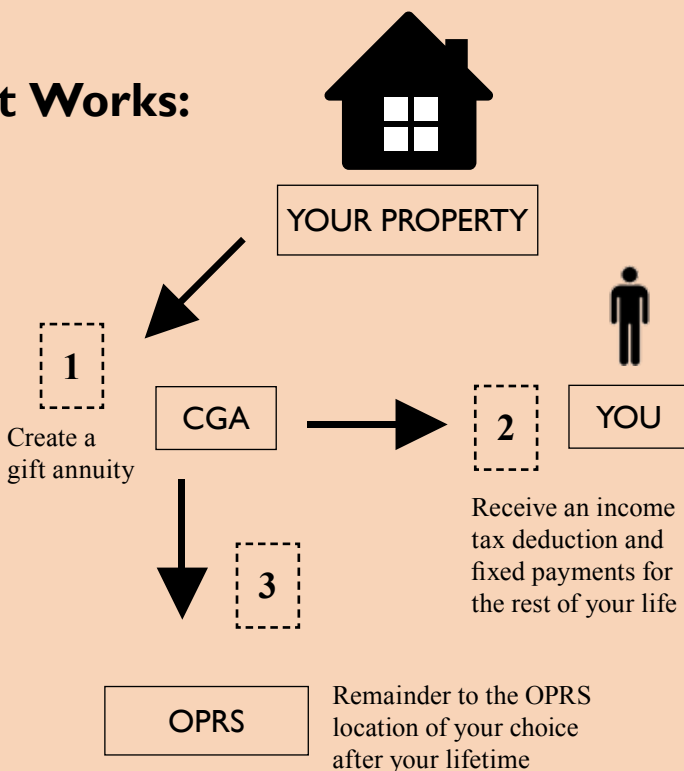
charitable gifts to benefit OPRS, and are reaping the benefits!

They have found that this opportunity provides both current and future savings on income taxes, while also paying a guaranteed lifetime income.

It really is a win-win! ■

**Want to know more?
Call your local gift
planning director, listed
on the back cover.**

How it Works:



BON APPETITE!

Donors fund eatery renovation

Bill and Ann Willoughby believe in the good work that goes on at **Breckenridge Village** and have shown their support through charitable gifts. They even set up a trust that will provide substantial funds for a number of years.

Each year, a different project is chosen, and this year's gift went to the renovation of an assisted living dining room. It has been transformed and even has a new name – the Willoughby Eatery.

“I think Bill and Ann's giving comes from a sense of thankfulness,” said Gift Planning Director Jim Hickey. “They greatly appreciated the care given to one of their relatives at Breckenridge.”

This space had previously been used to serve meals that had been kept warm after being cooked in another building and brought over.

Thanks to the Willoughbys, the area was gutted and in went an industrial stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and other top-of-the-line appliances and surfaces.

The new eatery has its own chef. In addition to fresh cuisine for each meal, this kitchen can also produce special foods for individual dietary needs right on the spot.

“It's so much nicer,” Jim said. Ann and Jim Willoughby live about 20 minutes away and have been coming to



Breckenridge for many years, sometimes weekly, sometimes more frequently. Ann's mother lived there briefly before passing away and Bill's mother's cousin, Jane, is now a resident. They pick Jane up on Sundays for dinner, usually followed by a seriously competitive Scrabble game.

Bill said his decisions about giving come from what he knows and has learned. “We all have our personal experiences,” he said.

He encouraged anyone considering becoming a donor to do their research so they can be confident of how their donation will be used.

As far as the new eatery goes, Bill and Ann are pleased to have provided this improvement for the assisted living residents. “It's beautiful,” Bill stated. ■

ABOVE: *The Willoughby Eatery, the latest upgrade to the Breckenridge campus done with proceeds from the Willoughby Family Trust. Thanks to this gift, an assisted living dining room was converted to an "eatery" with top-of-the-line equipment and its own chef who can make cooked-to-order meals.*

CARE FOR LIFE

Historic program benefits from donor generosity

Leslie Belfance, executive director of **Westminster-Thurber Community** in Columbus, remembers the day a couple came into her office. They had been happy residents for 10 years.

But on this day, the woman had been crying. The husband and wife, in their 80s, had something to tell her. Due to bad financial advice, they had lost the income that was to pay for their needs for the rest of their lives.

The woman said she had been selling her jewelry to try to raise money but it wasn't enough. They couldn't afford to live at Westminster-Thurber anymore.

But they didn't move out. They lived out their lives at Westminster-Thurber, all because of a program called Life Care.

Since 1922, the Life Care Commitment, backed by OPRS with the help of charitable support, has been helping residents stay in

their homes, even if – in good faith – they have run out of the funds meant to see them through.

Sometimes residents need full support. Many times, they just need partial help because they can no longer cover the full cost of housing or care.

Perhaps most importantly, Life Care is a completely confidential program; those who rely on its support receive the same quality of care and services as their neighbors, regardless of their ability to pay.

In this particular case, Leslie worked out a budget for the husband and wife who had come to her office expecting to be told they would have to leave.

This enabled them to stay at Westminster-Thurber and they were able to keep their car, something important for their independence and self-esteem.

Westminster-Thurber even adjusted the couple's budget

to allow them to make modest weekly donations at church, which was very meaningful to them.

And none of their neighbors knew anything about their changed financial circumstances. Thanks to the anonymity of Life Care, their dignity remained intact.

This couple, who had come to Leslie's office expecting the worst, knew about Life Care but didn't think it was something that could help them. They had always had a good income before their financial crisis. But they did qualify.

Leslie said that, for her, one of the best parts of this OPRS commitment is that she gets to tell people they can stay, that they will not be asked to leave, because Life Care is there for them.

"It's a blessing to see the relief. They are so grateful," she said.

The members of the Westminster-Thurber

Residents Association know the importance of charitably supporting this commitment. Each time one of their members passes away, they donate \$40 to Life Care, according to Leslie.

“They know that it helps, that it’s helping their neighbors,” she said.

Many donors believe strongly in Life Care and make regular donations to OPRS for this reason.

“Donors who know us, and even the friends and family of those here – it’s easy for them [to give],” said Leslie. “They want to say they’re giving money to help people stay in their homes.” ■

You can help extend the promise of Life Care to those in need, making sure no OPRS resident is ever asked to leave his or her home.

Simply send your Life Care gift today in the enclosed reply envelope. Thanks for your support!

Quick Facts About Life Care

- Since OPRS was founded in 1922, no residents have been asked to leave if they, through no fault of their own, ran out of the funds meant to see them through.
- Although the concept has been around for 94 years, the Life Care Commitment didn't get its name until 1976. So Happy 40th Anniversary, Life Care!
- Life Care is confidential. The residents who rely on its support are able to maintain their dignity without their neighbors knowing anything about their financial circumstances.
- Last fiscal year (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015), residents benefited from more than \$3.5 million in Life Care assistance from OPRS.
- Donor support typically covers the majority of the uncompensated* Life Care need for OPRS throughout the state.

**Uncompensated Life Care need refers to the needs of residents in independent or assisted living where there is no other source of support. This does not include losses from government contracts or negotiated insurance plan payments for skilled nursing or assisted living waivers. Gift support toward the uncompensated need includes outright gifts, revenue from endowment earnings, trust income and matured deferred gifts.*



Where Donors Make A Lasting Impact



Our mission is to partner with donors to provide charitable support for the people, projects and programs of OPRS.

Please contact me if you have any questions about charitable giving to OPRS.

1-800-686-7800

www.oprsfoundation.org

BOARD BIO: Get to know who's representing you

name: Robert H. (Bob) Fischer

board position: I serve on the Fundraising Advisory Committee of the OPRS Foundation Board.

hometown: I've lived in Akron, OH for my entire life.

career: I spent 30 years with company-owned Goodyear stores and independent dealers, 10 years with IBM, and most recently have worked for Edward Jones for nine years.

education: I attended Concordia College in Bronxville, NY.

hobbies & interests: Hiking, biking, antique postcards and building miniatures.

But most important to me is being a father to four happily-married kids, granddad to 11 and great-granddad of one.

relationship with OPRS: I've been volunteering with Rockynol since 1995 and have been on their Board since 1999. I also served on the OPRS Communities Board before joining the OPRS Foundation Board.



my message to donors: Non-profits and faith-based organizations like OPRS make an amazing difference in the lives of their residents. I have experienced this personally with my mother, who lived at Rockynol for 10 years. OPRS is a valued resource for your donations! ■

www.oprsfoundation.org