The grounds of RHF’s Casa de Piños community in Prescott, AZ
From The President

The Season of Giving

From the multiple envelopes that arrive via the postal service and solicitations by e-mail plus the ads on TV, it is apparent that in the USA this is the Season of Giving. But for RHF every day is a season of giving. Our mission seeks to provide affordable housing and quality care for 21,500 persons in our 191 communities and the numbers are growing each year.

Our Resident Benevolence Fund provides assistance to those whose funds have reached a point that without assistance they could not remain in an RHF community. Our Student Scholarship Fund provides assistance for persons seeking a career in long-term care.

Our Residents, Team members, Board and Advisory Commission members as well as United Church of Christ congregations and conferences respond to disasters such as the recent hurricanes. (See the article on page 16)

Through our Annual Toy Drive we provide toys and gift cards to children and teens living in our affordable family communities, this year numbering nearly 1,600 youth.

We also advocate strongly to restore the funding for affordable housing and services that Scrooge-like actions and non-actions have taken or would take away or reduce in spite of the growing number of persons who need affordable housing and in spite of the fact that the affordable housing programs save government health care expenses. I am grateful to our Residents, Staff, National and Local Board Members who give their time to write letters to restore the HUD 202 program and preserve the tax credit programs. That work is not done.

I am grateful to all of the above and to our many friends who give time, talents, and treasure to provide a better life for thousands of persons. “Am I my brother’s keeper?” is the age old question. We have answered that ancient question with a resounding, “Yes! We are all part of the human family and want to do our part so that all brothers and sisters can enjoy a good life.”

Thank you for what you do and contribute! I hope that you have a wonderful holiday season and a great 2018! And together let us resolve to keep up the good work!

Dr. Laverne R. Joseph

RHF Today is published periodically for residents, families of residents, the United Church of Christ and sponsoring congregations, staff, local board members, and friends of Retirement Housing Foundation, 911 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-4900. Telephone (562) 257-5100/FAX (562) 257-5200, TDD (800) 545-1833, ext. 359. www.rhf.org - e-mail: info@rhf.org.

Retirement Housing Foundation is a nonprofit California corporation dedicated to planning, sponsoring, building, preserving and managing housing for older adults, low-income families, and persons with disabilities. It is a member of the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ, and also co-sponsors housing communities with other denominational, civic and community organizations. RHF is a member of LeadingAge and its state affiliates. RHF serves and employs without regard to race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, ancestry, marital status, physical disability, age, medical condition (including pregnancy), or familial status.

President and Chief Executive Officer: Rev. Laverne R. Joseph, D.D.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Raymond E. East  Vice Chairpersons: Christina E. Potter, Dr. Darryl M. Sexton  Treasurer: Frank Jahrling

Directors:  Dr. John Bauman, Catherine Collinson, David Ethington, Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher, Rev. David Moyer, Jeffrey Pollock, Stewart M. Simington and Rev. Dr. Misi Tagaloa.

RHF Foundation, Inc. provides financial resources through gifts and managed funds that assist the mission of Retirement Housing Foundation.
Welcome to the Family!

RHF has nearly doubled its portfolio of affordable family communities in Los Angeles, with the acquisition of nine tax credit communities from American Communities based in California.

Acquiring these additional 410 units now increases the number of RHF’s affordable family apartments to 1,570 units in four states and the number of people living in our family communities to 4,502 (1,572 of those are children, 17 years of age or younger.)

RHF has also worked with this developer in building Sonata at Riverpark (Oxnard, CA) and is currently working with them on two tax credit projects in Los Angeles; Crenshaw Gardens (49 unit family community) and Crenshaw Villas (50 unit community for seniors over the age of 62).

RHF continues to expand its mission of serving seniors, low-income families and persons with disabilities with this acquisition and continues to seek new opportunities throughout the United States.

“This was a unique opportunity to purchase a portfolio of properties from a profit-motivated owner,” said Dr. Joseph, “ensuring that those communities will remain affordable for decades to come.”
Anniversary Events

55th Anniversary Celebrations

Oregon and Idaho

In August of this year, our communities in Oregon and Idaho, which included 300 Main, Centennial Manor, Desert Sage and Providence Place, played host to RHF 55th anniversary events. Some of the many speakers were members of state and local government, including Bill Kennemer and Greg Barreto of the Oregon House of Representatives.

Community centers, local board members, local restaurants and shops, residents and staff helped make these events possible with their donated materials and time.

Pasadena, California

Pilgrim Tower North and Pilgrim Tower East, two neighboring affordable communities for older adults, kicked off the 55th anniversary celebrations in Pasadena with back to back events in late September. Pasadena Vice Mayor John Kennedy and representatives from California Assemblymember Chris Holden’s office, the Pasadena Police Department, Hillsides Education Center, the Pasadena Housing Authority, and the San Gabriel Valley Literacy Council joined in at the celebration and brought greetings. Presented as gifts to Dr. Joseph were written resident stories, with Pilgrim Tower North’s in the form of a hardcover book and Pilgrim Tower East’s hung as decorations on a small tree.

The Pasadena party continued with a luncheon at The Concord in early October. Dr. Joseph provided his opening remarks and presented staff and resident service awards. Other speakers included David Ethington from the RHF Board of Directors and a representative from the office of California Senator Anthony Portantino.

RHF is on Twitter!

Make sure to follow @RHFoundation on Twitter! Our Tweets cover everything from news within our communities and our organization to news from our affiliates to advocacy and calls to action.
La Mirada, California

La Mirada Vistas, RHF’s affordable community for older adults in La Mirada, California celebrated RHF’s 55 Years of Changing Lives with an event in mid October. The opening presentation was given by Dr. Joseph and Rev. Dr. Misi Tagaloa, a member of RHF’s National Board of Directors. Speakers included La Mirada Mayor Ed Eng, Michael Readinger, President and CEO of the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries, UCC, and a representative from the office of California Assemblymember Ian Calderon. La Mirada Councilmember John Lewis and La Mirada City Council Member Lee Olsen were also there to celebrate with us. We would like to thank Pioneer Paint Company and Albertson’s Market for providing donations which helped make this event possible.

Hollywood, California

Hollyview Apartments’ event encouraged the many resident cooks to spring into action and provide their best dish for a spectacular potluck luncheon. Dr. Darryl Sexton, Vice Chair of RHF’s National Board of Directors, George Hakopiants, Field Deputy for L.A. Councilmember Mitch O’Farrell, and Armen Sevdalian, Senior Lead Officer for LAPD’s Hollywood division, joined in on the fun and brought greetings during the ceremony. The residents also surprised Dr. Joseph with the gift of a very special book, which happened to contain a photo and article about him and Hollyview.

Need to Come Up With a Great Gift This Year For The Holidays???

In the Kitchen with RHF, a collection of time-tested recipes from RHF communities all over the country, is available to order. This book contains over 80 recipes ranging from tempting appetizers to scrumptious main dishes to delectable desserts that have all been submitted by residents of RHF communities. While sampling these tried-and-true recipes, the reader can also learn a little about each resident and the RHF community that they call “home.”

This book is offered for $10 for residents of RHF communities and $15 for non-residents. You can order your very own copy by visiting the RHF website (www.rhf.org) and clicking on the Spotlight section.

Residents can also speak to the Executive Director or Manager of their community to order their copy.

Are you looking for a great gift? You’re in luck! All orders received between September 1st and December 31st, 2017 will be wrapped for holiday gift-giving!
Community News

Spooky Celebrations

Trick or Treating at The Whittier

The Whittier, one of RHF’s affordable communities for families in Los Angeles, held a Halloween party which included a variety of food, prizes, candies, music and special characters. This event gave residents of The Whittier’s 60 units, many of whom are children, a chance to socialize and get to know each other.

The music was provided for free from a local DJ and the food was donated by residents and local vendors. Each participant also went home with a goody bag.

RHF National Office Costume Contest

At the RHF National Office, staff members were invited to come to work in their most creative costumes. A costume parade was held in the morning where those who dressed up debuted their costumes and all staff members were urged to vote for their favorites.

At the office lunch later that day, El Pollo Loco food was enjoyed and the winners of the costume contest were announced. Lance Transfiguracion, a member of RHF’s Housing Accounting Department, took home the first prize for his hilarious costume and inspired performance as an inflatable waving “tube man.”

Sun City Spooktacular

Sun City Gardens’ Halloween bash was a swinging event with a delicious spread of food and lively music. Edoardo, Sun City’s Marketing Director, joined the residents on the dance floor and a first place prize was awarded in the fierce costume competition.
We are proud to have more than 1,000 of this nation’s veterans as residents of our communities throughout the country. The staff of these communities knows how important it is to honor and celebrate these resident veterans and many hold annual events to do just that.

Southpointe Villa, RHF’s affordable older adult community in Rialto, California, decided to honor their resident veterans with a “small, but great” luncheon event, which included attendees from the Rialto Police Department and the local Neighborhood Watch. Innovage, which has an office in nearby San Bernardino, provided pizzas and Anthem Blue Cross kindly brought in gift baskets for the attendees.

Southpointe Villa’s manager tells us that it was very apparent that the veterans enjoyed their lunch and appreciated the chance to share some of their stories.

Mayflower Gardens in Lancaster, California held their annual Veterans Day celebration on November 10th, which included a patriotic spread provided by the on site Mayflower Café and served by resident volunteers. Patriotic songs and lively entertainment were provided by local artist, Joey Aaron. Mayflower’s 14 resident veterans, one of whom served in World War II, and two staff veterans were sent home with framed and decorated “thank you” cards.

Follow Us On YouTube
Visit Retirement Housing Foundation’s YouTube channel for a chance to get to know some of our residents and hear their stories.

Like Us On Facebook
Do you want to hear the latest on what is happening at RHF? Interested in knowing what is going on at a number of RHF’s communities? Check out these community Facebook pages to keep in touch with the latest that is going on at RHF:

- Retirement Housing Foundation
- Auburn Ravine Terrace
- Bixby Knolls Towers
- Courtenay Springs Village
- Farrfield Manor
- Gold Country Retirement and Healthcare
- Mayflower Gardens Retirement Community
- Pioneer House
- St. Catherine Retirement Community
- The Carolinian
- The Gateway
- Angelus Plaza
- Bishop’s Glen Retirement Community
- Colonial Heights and Gardens
- DeSmet Retirement
- Gaslight Apartments
- LaFontaine Center Apartments
- Park Place Assisted Living
- Plymouth Square
- Sun City Gardens
- The Cloisters
- Westminster Village
Community News

Towne Creek Hosts a Health Fair

Towne Creek presented its 10th Annual Health Fair in early September, which was Oktoberfest themed. Kelly Presley, manager of Towne Creek, stated that this was their best health fair yet. Businesses and organizations from all around the community, including Community Lifeline Center, the McKinney Fire Department, North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging and North Texas Food Bank, joined in on the fun with their own manned booths. Grace Home Health provided balance testing and blood pressure checks, Hearing Services of McKinney provided hearing screenings and Tom Thumb Pharmacy provided flu and pneumonia shots. Residents were also given the opportunity to win door prizes which were provided by Grace Home Health and Guardian Hospice.

Indianapolis Residents Read to their Community

Three of RHF’s Indianapolis, Indiana communities were chosen to participate in CBS4 Reads, a community reading program created by CBS affiliate WTTV-4. The station brought a video crew to Villa at Sacred Heart, The Towers at Crooked Creek, and University Center, and resident volunteers were filmed reading a children’s book. Before full versions of these videos were posted to the station’s website in late October for anyone to view, 30 second promos of each one were run with footage of the resident introducing themselves and the community they live in.

The managers of these three communities tell us that residents jumped at the chance to participate, especially since many of them have grandchildren. These residents also greatly enjoy any opportunity to give back to their local communities in some way.

Thanksgiving with the Councilman

Los Angeles City Councilman Curren Price took part in this year’s Thanksgiving celebration at Broadwood Terrace in South L.A. The Councilman visited with the residents and even helped serve the meal, which was provided in part by Stella Insurance. Broadwood residents and staff all pitched in to provide other dishes. Stella Insurance also provided musical entertainment for the event.

Shortly after visiting the community, the Councilman further contributed to this happy Thanksgiving by donating turkeys and gift cards to the residents.
National Night Out in Mesquite

In order to avoid some of the intense summertime heat, Mesquite, Texas hosted its annual National Night Out in early October of this year. With the support from the local police department, transportation was provided for the residents of Crescent Manor and Mesquite Gardens to take part in the neighborhood block party. The residents munched on hotdogs, popcorn, drinks, and “lots of candy” while playing games, visiting exhibits, and taking part in safety demonstrations and many other activities.

National Night Out is a country-wide campaign that promotes police-citizen partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie in an effort to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. These widespread events are seen as invaluable for their ability to enhance relationships between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.

Bonding over Bingo

Ardys Eserhut, one of the newest residents at Pinehurst Apartments in Palestine, Texas, decided that the best way to meet her new neighbors was to host a community event which included ice cream and many rounds of bingo. Pinehurst’s Manager, Rachel Menjivar, said, “It was a great time for our residents to get to know some of the new faces, and they had a blast doing so.”

Ardys, who is an avid community volunteer for several other non-profits in the area, stated that she feels so blessed to be in an RHF community that she felt the need to pay that kindness forward and share in it with her fellow residents in her new home.

Angelus Plaza Honors its Volunteers

Angelus Plaza honored its valued volunteers with their annual Volunteer Recognition event in November. Those who attended were treated to a delicious lunch and soulful entertainment by world-class guitarist, Daryl Darden. After some of the tables and chairs were cleared away, the volunteers danced the day away. The invitation-only luncheon was a real team effort with staff members from administration, housekeeping, maintenance, the Senior Activity Center and social service coordination working tirelessly to make the event such a huge success.

This event was simply meant to be an expression of gratitude to the volunteers for their stellar service to others. Thanks to all for caring and sharing throughout the year!
Holiday Greetings

National Headquarters’ Team Members

Wishing You A Wonderful Holiday!

As the holidays approach, we are all reminded of what we have to be thankful for. Whether it is a loving family, good friends, a roof over our heads or food on our table - we all have something in our lives to be grateful for.

Whatever your faith tradition might be, know that all 2,900 RHF team members wish you a wonderful holiday and Happy New Year!


7) **Healthcare Operations** Gloria Galeano, Peter Peabody and Jenny Adams. (Absent: Gus Azero and Bill Meert)

8) **Financial Services** (L to R) Back Row: Frank Rosello, Chris Purcell and Mike Vukovich. Front Row: Cynthia Lyons, Vina Dao, and Lori Phelps.

9) **Administrative Services** (L to R) Back Row: Alyssa Gauss, Dr. Laverne Joseph and Joshua Garza. Front Row: Chris Ragon, SeeSee Young, Alexis Vasilchak and Cheryl Howell. (Absent: Kim Zazueta)

10) **Philanthropy** (L to R) Stephanie Titus, Alexis Vasilchak, and Rachel Gould. (Absent: Stephanie Milano)

11) **Occupancy** (L to R) Back Row: Crystal Torres, Ryder Jajko and Sary Chan. Front Row: Joanne Silva, Aurelia Ramirez, Maria Guerrero, Martha Palafox, and Loren Perrigo. (Absent: Belen Manfredi)

12) **Healthcare Accounting** (L to R) Back Row: Tess Liwanag and Peggy Ricano. Front Row: Elsie Tec and Jackie Dizon-Ng.

Colonial Gardens (Florence, KY)

Anna Rabidoux was the second youngest of 8 children (4 girls, 4 boys). She was born in Winooski, Vermont, and turned 103 in October. She married Wilfred “Peter” Rabidoux who died in 1968. They had one son, Michael, who lives close to Colonial Gardens with his wife Debbie.

Anna was a caregiver to her mother who lived with her until her death at the age of 95. She was an avid gardener who gave away most of what she grew to neighbors or anyone in need.

She enjoys the social interaction at Colonial Gardens, especially Bingo and the exercise facility, and she is happy and thankful for the wonderful care she receives from the staff.

Auburn Ravine Terrace (Auburn, CA)

Carl Flournoy has lived at Auburn Ravine Terrace since February of 2012. He will be 102 in January. He has 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren. He was born in Healdsburg, California, and lived there his whole life. He worked delivering the Examiner, Chronicle, and Call Bulletin for 30 years. He also worked at the local drug store during that time where he met his wife.

He loves to watch sports on T.V. He has a very good sense of humor and loves to tease everybody.

Evelyn Tietsort was born on Halloween in 1914 at Two Harbors, MN on the shores of Lake Superior. She married Tim Lukonen June 19, 1936. They had two children, Mary Ann and John, and have 5 grandchildren. She later married Charles Tietsort. After retiring, she pursued a degree in Political Science and graduated in 1989 from Long Beach City College at the age of 75. She has been happy to have made wonderful friends at Auburn Ravine Terrace.

Mary Sanchez is a very active resident in our Skilled Nursing and she celebrated her 100th birthday in November. She is very sociable, outgoing and loved by all. Mary likes going to the many programs, but especially loves Bingo, the Reading Club and almost any music program. Mary has always been the adventurous lady.

When she was 53 she decided it was time for her to learn to drive. When Mary was 80 she went white water rafting for the first time. Mary has a large family who adore her and are very involved with her life.

Martha Roesner has lived at Auburn Ravine Terrace since August of 2013. Born in Brookeville, Pennsylvania in January of 1915, she briefly worked in Washington, D.C. after high school and then followed her older sister to California in search of work.

Martha became an adept bookkeeper working in small businesses and the Placer Water Agency before retiring. Martha met her husband, Robert, in Grass Valley and was married to him for 62 years. She has 2 children (a daughter and son) and 5 grandchildren.
Harvest Pointe (Loveland, CO)

Chloie Moore, a resident of Harvest Pointe since 2009, will be turning 101 years old in December. Born in Kansas and raised on a ranch, Chloie is known for her exceptional sewing skills, which she uses to contribute to Harvest Pointe’s yearly craft sale, and her sharp sense of humor.

Courtenay Springs Village (Merritt Island, FL)

Martha Eastep turned 103 in September. She was born in Pennsylvania. She married her husband in 1942 and had two sons. Martha taught the 1st grade for 25 years while her husband was the Dean at Shippensburg University. They enjoyed traveling around the world together.

She is very active at Courtenay Springs, playing Bridge three times a week, and attends most of the activities at the community.

Guadalupe Senior Apartments (Denver, CO)

Maria Sierra turns 100 in December. She moved to Guadalupe Senior Apartments in 2013. She always has a smile on her face and is kind to everyone.

Sun City Gardens (Menifee, CA)

Frank Ferriaiolo was born in Brooklyn, New York and will turn 100 years old in January.

He was a Crew Chief on a B-17 in the Air Force, and later worked as a bridge operator for 32 years in New York City. He has three wonderful daughters.

Frank is a very active resident at Sun City Gardens. He loves coming to their live musical entertainment and social hour, and consistently wins our group Trivia activity. He is the Assisted Living community’s President of the Resident Council and is revered by many of the residents for his knowledge and compassion.

His advice for staying young: “Everything in moderation.”

Binnall House (Gardner, MA)

Helen Frenney will be 102 in January. She was born in Gardner (MA) and has lived there her entire life. She was married to the late Albert Frenney.

She has two daughters, one grandson and four great-grandchildren.

Helen enjoys watching TV, going out to church and going out to eat with her friends. She can often be found in the lobby sitting by the window enjoying the outside.
The Cloisters (Deland, FL)

Madeline Cooper joined the Cloisters Family February 1, 2012. She turned 101 years old this past September.

Gwendolyn Sanz joined the Cloisters Family November 10, 2004. She will be 102 years old, in January of 2017.

Bishop’s Glen Retirement Community (Holly Hill, FL)

Mae Cromartie is touted by her friends as a “southern lady” using descriptions such as sweet, very social, very kind. She turned 100 in November.

She was born and moved from North Carolina to Florida with her husband Sam. Mae loves to read and walk. Bishop’s Glen is perfect for her because of the wonderful lakes and wildlife, as well as the fantastic library that allows her to read daily and exchange her books often. She wants everyone to know, yes, she is getting older, but she’s still going strong!

Thelma Jones is originally from Utica, NY. Thelma turns 100 in December. She married, raised three children and worked in the banking industry in New York before moving to Florida in 1980.

She and her husband, LeRoy, immediately jumped into volunteer work choosing the local library as their mission of choice. She learned so much it was natural for her to take on the role of librarian for Bishop’s Glen, repairing, cataloguing, shelving and recommending books for all 375 residents and their families.

When asked what she liked about Bishop’s Glen she replied “I like to be involved in things and there is so much opportunity here.”

Gold Country Retirement Community (Placerville, CA)

Nona Bliss was born in Duncan, Oklahoma. She found the love of her life when she was 28 years old and has two children and a large family. She states, “I have lived a very interesting long life. I’m grateful for every bit of it. The good and the bad. The bad parts, I endured those and I was encouraged.” She loves getting hugs from the right people, reading, eating hamburgers, and she remembers her husband fondly. She turned 105 this year.

Violet Marie Thayer was born in Portland in 1917. Her younger years were spent being raised by an aunt and uncle.

Violet traveled all over the world with her aunt and uncle as a child and young woman. She attended many schools, but in high school she met Raymond Thayer. Raymond didn’t play any musical instruments, but Violet played the violin, so he took up the clarinet and joined the high school orchestra to be near her.

They eventually married and had two daughters. They were married for 52 years. Violet has many grandchildren and 38 great-grandchildren.
Any non-profit organization worth its salt will tell you that it handles the funds it is entrusted with in a prudent and responsible manner – in other words, we watch our pennies and make good decisions when spending the money we have.

Within the for-profit business world, RHF has developed a reputation of being a fiscally sound non-profit organization to partner with and, because of that, we have banks and funding sources who partner with us on the many projects we undertake.

It was nice to see that our financial strength as an organization was recognized by Fitch Ratings Inc. when they rated RHF as “A-stable” when we sought bond funding when we re-financed a large portion of our market rate portfolio, which we refer to as the RHF Obligated Group. Only approximately 5% of the non-profit organizations in the country get this rating.

Fitch Ratings Inc. is one of the largest credit rating agencies, with two being Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s. It is one of the three nationally recognized statistical rating organizations (NRSRO) designated by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in 1975.

The RHF Obligated Group refinancing (literally all entities are obligated to repay the debt as a group together) is a 15-year fixed rate bond deal at 2.84% which is considered a favorable interest rate. Most of the bonds are tax-exempt for federal tax purposes. The benefits of this bond arrangement is that it locks the interest rate and reduces risk to RHF and the underlying market rate properties.

RHF has a good reputation and the bonds were oversubscribed (demand far exceeded our bond offering amount) by more than six times. The multiple bond investors are familiar names such as Vanguard, T. Rowe Price, Blackrock, Columbia Funds, Franklin Funds, Capital Research Group, Waddell and Reed, Western Capital Management, Mackay Shields (a money manager for insurance companies), and Wells Capital Management.

The RHF Obligated Group is comprised of 10 properties: Bishop’s Glen (near Daytona, FL), Bixby Knolls Tower (Long Beach, CA), Colonial Heights and Gardens (Florence, KY), Courtenay Springs Village (Merritt Island, FL), DeSmet (St. Louis, MO area), Gold Country (Placerville, CA), Mayflower Gardens (Lancaster, CA), St. Catherine (St. Louis, MO area), Sun City Gardens (Menifee, CA) and Westminster Village (Clarksville, IN).

There are 1,750 independent apartments, 465 assisted living units, 26 memory-care units and 401 skilled nursing beds in the RHF Obligated Group. These properties rely on revenues from resident rents as well as skilled nursing services to meet debt service requirements as well as maintain a pleasant home for our market rate residents.
This article, written Nov. 16 by Connie Larkman and reprinted with permission of UCNews, was featured in KYP, the United Church of Christ weekly e-zine. We thank the UCC for allowing us to reprint it in our newsletter.

The United Church of Christ’s 2017 Hurricane Relief Fund has received a generous gift from the residents, team members and friends of Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF), more than $100,000, which helped push UCC disaster donations earmarked to assist people affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria over the $2 million mark.

RHF, a member of the Council for Health and Human Services Ministries of the United Church of Christ (CHHSM), is a non-profit provider of housing and services for older adults, with 191 communities in 29 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Rev. Laverne Joseph, RHF President and CEO, stopped by to visit with UCC Global Sharing of Resources representatives at the Church House Nov. 14. Joseph, in Cleveland, Ohio for the CHHSM board meeting, presented a check for $106,652.93 to Phyllis Richards, Global Sharing of Resources, UCC President the Rev. John Dorhauer, and other members of the Wider Church and Financial Services ministry teams.

During a matching gift campaign for hurricane relief in the month of September, RHF pledged to match up to $50,000 donated by residents, employees, congregations and conferences. The organization collected $56,652.93, to which it contributed $50,000 - sending $106,652.93 to UCC Disaster Ministries to support on-the-ground hurricane relief efforts in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico.

"It broke my heart to see a whole island leveled overnight and people without food, water, and relief from the heat,” said Donna Bunkhong, senior accountant at RHF’s Long Beach, Calif., headquarters. "Even though we were not the ones suffering, everyone deserves a helping hand."

"I supported the campaign because of the severity of the disaster along with the matching funds provided by RHF,” said Frank Rossello, RHF’s chief financial officer. "The matching gift program was a great way to provide motivation to donors to maximize our impact on this critical need.”

Longfellow Plaza

Longfellow Plaza (Anderson, IN) residents collected various hygiene kit items and non-perishable food during the first weeks of September. On September 19th, residents loaded those items up and delivered them to the Midwest Food Bank. The food bank then transported the items they collected from the entire area to those affected by hurricanes in the south-eastern United States and the Caribbean.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

-16-
Many of the RHF residents are elderly or of limited income, but they came through for their neighbors in need.

This was the most successful matching gift campaign we’ve ever run,” said Rev. Joseph. "What put us over the top was a gift from the Illinois Conference.” This was the eighth RHF matching gift campaign, with the first launched for a disaster in 2008.

This campaign also enabled RHF employees, residents, and supporters to be personally involved in disaster relief. A few RHF communities had power outages in the areas hit by Harvey, Irma and Maria, so hurricane recovery became personal. It empowered people to be able to reach out and give to others in such significant ways.

"The residents of Crescent Manor and Mesquite Gardens (in Mesquite, Texas) sprang to action when Hurricane Harvey hit and people began to flood into shelters in the Dallas area,” said Debbie Brown, the community’s service coordinator. "With the help of one of our local firemen, we sent blankets and pillows to the Samuel Grand Community Center, which was one of the first stopping places for the survivors displaced by Hurricane Harvey.”

In addition to RHF’s Disaster Relief matching campaign, the RHF Charitable Foundation provided almost $25,000 in aid to residents and team members directly impacted by these storms. For example, in one Florida community without power for a few days, Joseph said, each resident was given a $75 gift card. Joseph added that he’s thankful to all of those who chose to donate to this cause. "I am grateful for the generous spirit of our residents, team members, friends and United Church of Christ congregations and conferences, as together we continue to make a difference in people's lives.”

While the UCC is involved in long term recovery, it also tries to fill gaps. "We are working to empower local people to assist with support of the local economy in Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida; to provide support for people where they are,” said the Rev. Mary Schaller Blaufuss, UCC Global Sharing of Resources team leader.

The check from RHF pushed the UCC’s Relief Fund over the $2 million mark, with donations still coming in. Half of the gifts collected are designated for Harvey recovery and the rest will be used where the need is greatest.

"We tried to make life better for people,” Joseph said, "which is why we do this each time.”
Some time has passed since Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose, and Maria hit the southeastern United States and parts of the Caribbean. Thank you to those of you who gave to our Disaster Relief matching campaign. While many of our residents and team members have returned to their homes, others will be dealing with the storm’s devastating aftermath for many months.

Retirement Housing Foundation was pleased to partner with United Church of Christ’s Disaster Ministries, as we have for past disasters, with a pledge to match donor contributions dollar for dollar up to $50,000 for gifts received by September 30th to assist the victims of the 2017 Hurricanes.

A total of $56,652.93 was donated through RHF Charitable Foundation by individuals, RHF communities and our partner UCC conferences and congregations. A check for $106,652.93 was presented to United Church of Christ’s Disaster Ministries earlier this month and will provide ongoing assistance to the many people impacted by this summer’s storms.

This campaign is a wonderful illustration of what can happen when we come together as a community to help our neighbors. 100% of the funds donated will directly impact the ongoing efforts supporting essential on-the-ground relief efforts - no funds were kept for RHF’s administration costs associated with this effort.

Thank you to those who contributed and made this campaign so successful:

- Kathleen Breen
- Noella Brister
- Christine Brown
- Suzanne Bryant
- Joy Bullock
- Donna Bunkhong
- Humberto Burton
- Tammy Butts
- Patricia M. Cadden
- Gabby Cardenas
- Arcelis M. Castillo
- Maricruz Cauich
- Chong Soo Cha
- Soo Chul Cha
- Marilyn H. Chaffee
- Deanna Chambers
- John T. Chandler
- Cecilia S. Chang
- Chong Su Chang
- Chong Suk Char
- Catherine
- M. Cheatham
- Priscilla Lin Chen
- Jacqueline D. Chew
- O. Rang Chin
- In Jong Cho
- Veronica S. Cho
- Won Hee Cho
- Won J. Cho
- Mr. & Mrs. Angelo
- Chang Chon
- Peter & Unhee Choy
- Hi Y. Chung
- Church of the Foothills, Santa Ana
- Church of the Foothills, Ventura
- Women’s Fellowship
- Heather Cline
- John Clow
- Susan Cohenour
- Catherine Collinson
- Laura Contreras
- G. Weldon Cooper
- Christine
- Cordero-Baca
- Amber Cordts-Cole
- Leonardo Corpuz
- Vina Dao
- Barnell Davis
- Diana Davis
- Dekart Davtyan
- Alejandro de la Torre
- Josefina M. De Leon
- Ella L. Dean
- Ignacia
- Buena Dedios
- Elisa Del Rosario
- Monzon
- Janice Delano
- Pat Dempsey
- Rev. Dr. Norma & Col. John DeSaegher (USA Retired)
- Karen S. Detweiler
- Blanquita Dizon
- Jacqueline Dizon-Ng
- Thanh H. Do
- Patricia Dоеge
- Dogwood Residents & Staff
- Domino’s Club of Southpointe Villa
- Maxine Drusch
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- William & Anna
- Dvorak
- Mr. & Mrs. Raymond E. East
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- Deborah Grote
- Jose Guevara
- Kristen Guzman
- Yi Hyung Gwon
- Nelly Haddad
- Carmen Ham
- Jeung Dae Ham
- Sun Kum Ham
- Siamak Hamedi
- Sung S. Han
- Donald Hart
- Hawaii Kai UCC
- Linda Head
- Ahmad Hendessi
- Chun Heo
- Antonia De Jesus
- Hernandez

Helping Neighbors

Thanks To All Those Who Responded To The Need
Mary L. Hinzman
Henry Hoblin
Craig & Aimee
Hopkins
Susan Howard
Cheryl J. Howell
Candy K. Hubberd
Mary Huey
Debby Humphries
Alice Hurst
Robert Hurteau
Julia M. Huwe
Illinois
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Immanuel UCC
Violeta Inocencio
Mr. & Mrs. Frank
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Pey Rong Jiang
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Christine Kaldjian
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Ok Sook Kang
Sung K. Kang
Young Ja Kang
Larisa Karpeshova
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Betty Kelchner
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Adelina S. Lindo
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Matrena Radyonyuk
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Saturnina & Maria
Ramos
Virginia Renteria
Angela Rocha Reyes
Fatemah Haji Moradi
Karen M. Morgan
Kim Morrison
Robert Morrison
Domingo Sun Mun
Beth Murphy
Joyce A. Murray
Gadarina Najarian
Julia Naselli
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David Neubauer
Linda Newsome
Mansoureh Nikkhani
David &
Hakyun Noh
Elise Obergfurd
Pak Ba Ock
Betty Oeri
Sun Yang Oh
Myong Hui Pak
Pong Suk Pak
Ye Mei Pang
Jose Solis Paredes
Carmen Parenzuela
Kyung Hee Park
Seung Eun Park
Young Shin Park
YungSiik & Me Ja Park
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Pauahi Kupuna Hale
Residents & Staff
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Nadine Perkins
Pilgrim Tower
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& Mrs. Christina E.
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Dolores L. Quijano
Matrena Radyonyuk
Chris Ragon
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Richard & Lois
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Angela Rocha Reyes
Betty Joan Reynolds
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Soon N. Shin
Angela Shockley
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Peter Hyon Song
Sang K. & Sun
Yop Song
St. John’s UCC,
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Sue Stacey
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Edward Steadmon
Joanne Strange
Jasmine Su
Svetlana Sullo
Hui F. Sun
Karen Swift
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Misi
& Mareta Tagaloa
Myung W. Takasaki
Susana C. Tambagan
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Jeanette C. Taylor
John & Pamela Taylor
Mattice Mae Taylor
Willie Taylor
Gary Tebbenkamp
Eloisa Terc Jimenez
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Elpidia Verduzco
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Rev. Janet M. White
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Jae Ho Woo
Woodruff
Community
Church / Cross
Wood UCC
Zuriash Yazew
James Y. & Sunny
S. Yoo
Byung C. Yoon
Sharon L. Young
Hong Sik & Hwa
Ja Yu
Yong Jun Yu
Raisa Yudenko
Nadezda Yureskul
Annual Appeal

2017 Holiday Season

For almost 57 years, Retirement Housing Foundation has provided housing and services to seniors and families. We believe that everyone deserves a safe, secure, and affordable place to call home and invite you to join our work through a gift to RHF Charitable Foundation this holiday season.

As we approach the holiday season, I want to take a moment to highlight a few of the many lives your generous support has impacted this past year:

• Mr. Morris moved into one of our healthcare communities five years ago. As his retirement funds were impacted by the rising costs of his medications, he applied for and received support from the Resident Benevolence Fund to assist with his rent. He is so thankful to remain in his home, close to family and friends. The worry of outliving his savings no longer overshadows his days and his children know he is happy and safe in his RHF home.

• Seth, Ian and their parents live in an RHF family community in Colorado. Both boys received Youth Education Scholarships to attend summer enrichment programs. Seth was able to attend a 5-day Rocketry class and took a bike safety workshop where he received a helmet and learned to change a flat tire, feeding his interest in science and giving him a sense of independence. Ian, who has Autism, went horseback riding and took tennis lessons, providing self-confidence and improving his coordination and socialization skills.

• Mrs. Campbell stayed busy sewing and knitting as part of Project H.A.N.D.S. this past year. She looked forward to the social interaction with other residents in her community and enjoyed helping others by donating the group’s finished items to a local women’s shelter.

What better way to celebrate this holiday season than by sharing what we have with those in need?

Your gift will change lives by providing people with a home they can afford and a community they enjoy.

Please consider making a gift to RHF Charitable Foundation before December 31st. Simply use the enclosed envelope or donate online at www.rhf.org/donate-to-rhf. On behalf of the 21,500 residents and 190+ communities we serve, thank you for your donations to help make our work possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
RHF President & CEO

P.S. There can be substantial tax advantages to making a charitable gift of appreciated securities. For questions or information on making a gift to RHF Charitable Foundation, please contact our Philanthropy office at (562) 257-5141 or by email at philanthropy@rhf.org.
Charitable Giving

“It is my pleasure to give to our seniors. If my mother was still living I would want her to be well treated, well cared for, and not struggling to pay rent.”

~ Wendy Scott
Manager, Lomita Kiwanis Gardens

RHF Team Givers

Our staff members perform important daily duties to make shelter and service a reality for the people we serve. Staff members who additionally choose to voluntarily support RHF through monetary donations are contributing to the fiscal health of our mission. We are extremely grateful for their optional financial commitment as well as the investment they already have made with their hearts, lives and careers.

Carlos Adame
Collen Adams
Mario Alaniz
Maria Alvarado De Rubi
Bob Amberg
Shannon Ancira
Shana Anders-Hastings
Jonas Angeles
Anonymous Donors
Jessica Applegate
Jose Arroyo
Miracxia Augustin
Christine Baca
Christina Bagley
Karin Barrett
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Ginger Benson
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Stuart Hartman
Cassandra Harvey
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Emily Hidalgo
Alydia Highsmith
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Marco Lemus
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Cathy Levario
Dawn Lewis
Lynne Lichtenstern
Teresita Liwanag
David Lobmaster
Rafael Lopez
Keela-Jade Lujano
Rowena Lumada
Daniel Lumsden
Monica Maciel
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Ryder Majko
Genia Manapat
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Gregory Metoyer Jr.
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Delores Peters
Taylor Pierce
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Marivic Quinola
Josie Quintero
Chris Ragon
Rogelio Salgado
Rosemary Ramirez
Juanita Reyna
Samantha Robbins
Tina Robinson
Cindy Rodriguez
Gloria Ruiz
Jacqueline
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Ruth Satterfield
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Florence Webb
Deborah Whitehead
Joella Willey
Deborah Williams
Lati Jera Wilson
Taylor Wilson
Diane Wink
Jill Yamuta
Judith Yost
Sharon Young
Chelsea Zepeda
Teresita Zurbano

In Green = Sterling Club members - donation via payroll deductions
Help Us Unwrap a Smile

For two decades, RHF has been providing toys, clothing items, and gift cards to the children living in our affordable family communities during the holidays, a tradition started by RHF team member Judy Shaw.

The 2017 Toys for RHF Kids campaign has been kicked into high gear and is bigger than ever before! As you may have heard, RHF acquired ten additional family communities this past year, bringing our total number of family communities to 25.

RHF Charitable Foundation will be delivering gifts to all of these communities and the more than 1,500 children who call them “home.”

(Continue on page 23)

RHF Circle of Friends

The RHF Circle of Friends is our legacy society. There are many ways to qualify for membership, such as RHF gift annuities that provide lifetime income to the donor, life insurance, real estate gifts, charitable remainder trusts, and gifts from pension fund assets and/or simply including RHF in your Will or Trust. For more information in confidence and without obligation, contact our Philanthropy Department, at (562) 257-5141.

We are grateful for our RHF Circle of Friends members:

Jack Bauman
Lydia Cervany*
Jean G. Dremstedt
Bernice E. Elkin, M.D.
Robert Fliehmann*
Burton L. French
Richard Gondolf*
Wanda Haudek*
Rev. Dr. Teruo and Kiku Kawata
Catherine Mackeris*
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Eleanor J. West
Vera Wolpert*
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Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher
& Ret. Col. John DeSaegher
Raymond E. East
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Dolores Foga*
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Alice R. Good*
Rev. Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
Dr. Richard Lieboff
Evelth “Evie” Miller*
Major Fitzhugh L. O’Neill*
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Eric H. Pierson*
Barbara Gray Richley
Rev. Charles G. Schepel
Joan Sullivan*
Elsie Valek*
Anna Mae Wakefield*
William L. Warrick
Norman A. Whaley*

(*indicates members who have passed away)

If you have named Retirement Housing Foundation as a beneficiary of a planned gift, please allow us to honor you as a member of the RHF Circle of Friends. If you would like more information about how to include RHF or an RHF community in your will, or structure a life income gift that benefits you and your family, please call (562) 257-5141.
Children up to nine years old will receive a toy and children ages 10-17 will receive a gift card to Walmart or Target. The toys will be lovingly wrapped by dedicated volunteers who are senior residents from Klein Manor and Bixby Knolls Towers, and RHF Board of Directors, RHF Advisory Council, and RHF staff members.

This Holiday tradition would not be possible without the dedication and support of RHF staff, residents, donors and volunteers.

In Memory of . . .

…George Angel
Elizabeth Jean Angel

…Dr. Douglas Ward Chadwick
Retirement Housing Foundation

…Winslow G. Fox
Laurie Fox

…Billie J. Inman
Claudia Juarez

…Richard Koch, M.D.
Jean Koch

…Pedro A. Moreno
Paula Suchy

…Rev. Harold Schultz, Jr.
Melody Schultz

…Bernadette Wickershham
Retirement Housing Foundation

…Tom Yanagihara
Rev. Dr. Norma & Col. John
DeSaegher (USA Retired)

In Honor of . . .

… The Eaves Family
Cassandra E. Aguilar

…Dr. Sharon Graff
Betty Joan Reynolds

… Linda & Carol Grinaker
Millie Fife

… Laverne R. Joseph
Joe & Terri Krabill

National Headquarters Donors

The following donors made monetary or in-kind donations to RHF Charitable Foundation’s designated funds through the national headquarters office from 8/1/17 to 10/31/17:

Anonymous Donors
Yin Au-Yeung
Baja Sonora
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Bauman
California Pizza Kitchen
John Carro
Chaim E. Chung
Eugene & Mary Cunningham
Delightful Crepes Café
Carol Dobard
Fantastic Cafe
First Book
Barbara L. Freeman
Geraldine Goodin
Ronald Harada
Health & Human Services
Charities of America

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Jay Krause
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Yeun Yi Lee
Missouri State Employee
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Pacific Inn
Barbara Gray Richley
Rosie Robinson
Alice Rodgers
Donna Rudd
Dr. & Mrs. Darryl M. Sexton
Paula Suchy
The Pizza Place and Garden Cafe
United Way of Rhode Island
Francis Yee
On October 29th, Dr. Laverne Joseph was inducted into the Continuing Care Hall of Fame for the role he has played in creating and fostering the growth of the affordable housing and services industry in the United States.

Joanne Handy, Board Chair for Trinity Health Continuing Care, nominated Dr. Joseph for this award and stated, “Dr. Joseph is one of our country’s foremost advocates of affordable housing for seniors.”

Dr. Joseph has more than 50 years of experience in the area of affordable housing and senior care, beginning at Peace Memorial Church where he served as Senior Pastor for more than 20 years.

It was after he became President and CEO of RHF, that his role became national in scope. Under his leadership, RHF has more than tripled in size and its mission has expanded to include affordable housing for low-income families and persons with disabilities.

Ray East, Chair of RHF’s National Board of Directors, presented the award to Dr. Joseph during the ceremony in New Orleans. In his presentation, he stated in part, ”Laverne’s unwavering dedication, along with the board’s and the staff’s loyalty to the mission of affordable housing, together creates the environment for RHF to be so successful.”