

RHF[®] Today

A Retirement Housing Foundation Publication

Crenshaw Villas (Los Angeles, CA) -
story on back page.

The Mustard Seed

Over the weekend I was thinking about what to write for this RHF Today article. Then on Sunday at worship Pastor Libby Tigner based her sermon on the parable of the mustard seed which is found 3 times in the New Testament: Matthew 13:31-32, Luke 13:18-19 and Mark 4:30-32 where Jesus said, "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest seed you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade."



I thought, "That describes RHF!" Seven thousand dollars is not a large amount but it was the beginning of a mission in 1961, which today provides housing and services to thousands of older adults, persons with disabilities and health care needs.

As I write this we have 21,651 residents. But we also have 37,190 persons on our waiting lists, which says something about the need especially for affordable housing. Some of you may have heard me say that we have two tax credit communities under construction in Los Angeles—Crenshaw Villas, which will have 50 apartments for older adults, and Crenshaw Gardens, which will have 49 apartments for families. Both will open later this year. For the older adult apartments we have had over 750 applications, and for the family apartments more than 3000.

Every week I read multiple articles about the rise in the number of homeless persons. Today there was an email article about how since 2013 the number of older adult bankruptcies has tripled, often because of an unexpected health issue. And every day I receive numerous emails about affordable properties for sale which include a line about how much longer they are required to stay affordable.

I also get inquiries about whether RHF would consider selling its entire organization to for profit companies. And today I saw an email from the National Low Income Housing Coalition showing that there is a shortage of 7.4 million affordable units in our nation.

We are determined to address that need, and that's why we need everyone in the Senior Action Network advocacy program. The mustard seed crop needs to keep growing because the health of persons and our nation depends on it!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to Rev. Laverne R. Joseph, D.D., the President and Chief Executive Officer of RHF. The signature is stylized and appears to be "L. 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. We are a member of the Council for Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ, and also co-sponsor 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 and Rev. Dr. Misi Tagaloa.

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

RHF National Board of Directors Visits Houston Communities

Like many non-profit organization, Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF) is governed by a National Board of Directors. This group of **volunteers** brings a significant amount of experience in a wide range of professions that helps them oversee the efforts of RHF to fulfill its Mission.

Ray East, living in Charlottesville, Virginia, has been on RHF's Board for more than 20 years and is currently serving as its Chair. Serving as Co-Chairs on the Board; Christina Potter (Wheelock, VT) with 25 years and Dr. Darryl Sexton (Long Beach, CA) with 20 years. The Board's Treasurer, Frank Jahrling, (Honolulu, HI) has been on the Board for 10 years.

Serving as Directors: Dr. John Bauman (Southport, ME) 5 years; Catherine Collinson (Los Angeles, CA) 1 year; Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher (Chula Vista, CA) 5 years; David Ethington (La Palma, CA) 3 years; Rev. Dr. David Moyer (Waunakee, WI) 4 years; Jeffrey Pollock (Cleveland, OH) 1 year; and Rev. Dr. Misi Tagaloa (Long Beach, CA) 1 year.

Like most non-profit organizations, RHF's day-to-day operations are run by its President and CEO (Rev. Dr. Laverne Joseph) who oversees a staff of more than 100 at the national headquarters and an additional 2800 team members who work at the individual RHF communities throughout the country.



Creekbend Gardens



Dr. Joseph reports to the Board.

The Role of the Board

The Board's responsibilities are pretty clear. While they are not involved in the day-to-day operations of RHF, their responsibilities include: determining RHF's mission and purpose; selecting the chief executive, supporting the chief executive and assessing his/her performance; ensuring effective organizational planning; ensuring adequate resources and managing them effectively; monitoring RHF's programs and services; enhancing RHF's public image; ensuring legal and ethical integrity and maintaining accountability; recruiting new board members; and assessing the board's own performance.

While this group meets four times a year to conduct the business of running a large organization, it is during one of those meetings that they tour a group of RHF communities to meet with residents and see the mission in action.

This year the Board visited four of RHF's communities in Houston, Texas; Creekbend Gardens, Cornerstone Gardens, Northvale Village and Sagetree Terrace.



Cornerstone Village

The 55th Anniversary



Plymouth Place

Central California

Several staff members from RHF's National Office traveled to Central California in late April to celebrate our 55th anniversary with the residents and staff of Escalon Heritage House, Marple Manor, Ralston Tower, Plymouth Square, and Plymouth Place. Guest speakers included representatives from the offices of U.S. Congressman Jerry McNerney and U.S. Representative Jeff Denham.

The festivities at Plymouth Square included a ribbon cutting for newly renovated units, which you can see pictured to the left.

Pacific Beach Shores

We welcomed RHF Pacific Beach Shores, formerly Luther View Apartments, to the RHF family of communities with a celebration at Christ Lutheran Pacific Beach on May 30th. Guest speakers at

this event included San Diego County Supervisor Ron Roberts and representatives from the offices of U.S. Congressman Scott Peters and California State Senator Toni G. Atkins.

Christ Lutheran Church operated Luther View Apartments as an affordable housing community for nearly 40 years before deciding it was time to pass the torch. Late last year, RHF was chosen to continue the community's original mission of providing affordable housing to the older adults in Pacific Beach, California.

Arizona

In late May, Winslow Manor, Verde View, Casa de Pinos, and Stone Creek Village, all in Arizona, celebrated RHF's 55th anniversary with events at their communities. The Mayors of both Camp Verde and Winslow joined us for the events.

For the Verde View event, the Camp Verde Veterans of Foreign Wars joined us to present a flag ceremony.



Dr. Joseph with Michelle Barth, Regional Director for U. S. Senator Bill Nelson

Florida

The celebration of RHF's 55 Years of Changing Lives continued in Florida in mid June with events at Lake Ella Manor in Tallahassee and Towers of Jacksonville. The event at Towers of Jacksonville was also held to celebrate the recently completed rehab of the community, which RHF acquired in 2015.

Speakers at these events included representatives from the offices of Senator Marco Rubio, Senator Bill Nelson, Tallahassee's Mayor, Jacksonville's Mayor and LeadingAge Florida.



Dr. Joseph with Christ Lutheran Pastor David Nagler



Verde View

Celebrations Continue

Missouri

All five of RHF's communities in Missouri, Wm J. Barnwell Apartments, DeSmet Retirement Community, Mount Beulah Terrace, Prairie Grove, and St. Catherine, rolled out the red carpet for visiting National Office staff with the parties they hosted in mid June.

RHF just recently acquired Wm J. Barnwell Apartments, an affordable senior community in Perryville, MO, from the Perryville Knights of Columbus so their event also served to welcome residents and staff to the RHF family of communities.



Wm. J. Barnwell Apartments

Below: Sun City Gardens' Marketing Director, Edoardo Estrada, addresses attendees

Sun City, California

We made the short drive from Long Beach to Sun City (Menifee) in mid July to celebrate RHF's 55th anniversary with the residents and staff of Sun City Gardens and members of the Menifee, California community. Speakers at this event included Lesa Sobek, Menifee's Mayor Pro Tem, Greg August, a member of Menifee's City Council (City of Menifee-City Hall), and a representative from the office of California State Senator Mike Morrell.



Normandie Terrace

Los Angeles, California

On the evening of July 27th, members of the RHF National Office staff and the RHF Advisory Commission visited Normandie Terrace, an RHF affordable family community in Los Angeles, to celebrate RHF's 55th anniversary and to meet with the residents of the community. RHF acquired Normandie Terrace last year from American Communities along with ten other tax credit communities in Los Angeles.

This event also celebrated the dedication of RHF Charitable Foundation's Community Library and Resource Center for Normandie Terrace, which contains books, games, and other educational materials for children of all ages.



Madison Avenue

Colorado

We ended July and started August celebrating our anniversary with the residents and staff of Anciano Tower, Guadalupe Senior Apartments, Harvest Pointe, and Madison Avenue, our four communities in Colorado. Speakers included several local mayors and other city and county representatives.

The event at Madison Avenue, which is an affordable community for families, also celebrated the groundbreaking of a new outdoor play and BBQ area made possible by a grant from RHF Charitable Foundation.

Community News



Getting Informed on the Issues Southpointe Villa - Rialto, California

The Rialto, California Fire and Police Departments visited Southpointe Villa recently and with them they brought supplies to prepare a delicious lunch for all of the residents.

The primary reason for their visit, besides getting to know the residents and community a bit better, was to inform the residents of a local measure that will be

voted on soon. The Fire and Police departments wanted to make sure the residents were given the facts and were aware of possible negative community impacts it could have if it doesn't pass.



Dancing the Night Away at Bishop's Glen

Bishop's Glen - Holly Hill, Florida

The Assisted Living residents and Staff of Bishop's Glen in Holly Hill, Florida hosted a Senior Prom in late June and invited their neighbors in Independent Living and the Bishop's Glen Health Care Center to join in on the fun! The Assisted Living residents put together tickets, crowns and centerpieces, while the activities staff worked on budget and planning. Lenny and Co., a local band, came to serenade the group. Salon Revive from nearby Palm Coast helped with hair and makeup, and the Bishop's Glen culinary staff whipped up an array of delicious goodies.

Four sets of Kings and Queens were crowned that night and Gabe, an Independent Living resident, took prom-style photos to capture all the special moments.



Jeff and Jani Allen volunteer at Los Arcos throughout the year, here they are hosting the 4th of July luau.

The Power of Community Los Arcos - Poway, California

The residents and staff of Los Arcos are counting their blessings and feeling very thankful to the many businesses and individuals from the surrounding community who have recently donated time, food and materials to help make Los Arcos a wonderful place to live.

A neighbor who has befriended several residents now donates a very special cake for the monthly community birthday celebration, while another person brings in karaoke equipment to liven up the party even more.

Children of one resident often host Bingo games and meals for the residents. For the 4th of July party, these generous individuals prepared chicken kebabs, pulled pork, and several side dishes.

The residents of Los Arcos are also lucky enough to have a group called the Good Simoleons stop by their community quite often to donate fresh organic produce. This group even works with a local children's sports team to deliver full bags of groceries to some of the residents.

Celebrating the Red, White and Blue

Charles Major Manor - Shelbyville, Indiana

The staff of Charles Major Manor, with the assistance of several generous local businesses, were able to host a spectacular 4th of July cookout for their residents.



Dale Rush, Charles Major Manor's Maintenance Director, spent his own time at home smoking chicken to make a large and very delicious batch of BBQ pulled chicken. The meal also included hot dogs cooked on the community's grill and some delicious side dishes.

The intense heat kept everybody inside that day, but it didn't keep them from declaring that this was the best cookout the community has ever had.



Born to Ride

The Carolinian - Florence, South Carolina

Since she was 12 years old, Gerry Bauer, a resident of The Carolinian, has had a passion to ride motorcycles. Thanks to a fellow resident with an idea, some determined members of staff, and a compelling Facebook post, Gerry got the ride of her life.

On Monday, June 18, 2018, The Carolinian celebrated Ms. Gerry Bauer's 93rd birthday. A man from Hemingway, South Carolina had found out about Gerry's love for motorcycles and drove his own motorcycle and sidecar about 40 miles to The Carolinian to surprise Gerry with a birthday ride around Downtown Florence. She was accompanied by her family members, friends, and a local news station.

The ride was followed by a joyous birthday celebration at the community.



Esperanza Gets the Gold!

Esperanza Apartments - Seattle, Washington

Pictured here is Howard Salisbury, a resident of RHF's Esperanza Apartments since 2011. He recently participated in the Special Olympics USA Games, held in Seattle this year, and won the gold medal in tennis for his age bracket!

Howard also participates in Esperanza's Resident Council and Seattle Public Schools' Intergenerational Group. Members of Esperanza's staff tell us he is a great neighbor with a big heart.

Congratulations, Howard!



Community News



Having the Farm Come to Them Independence Square - Evansville, Indiana

Seton Harvest, a community-supported agriculture initiative sponsored by the Daughters of Charity Province of St. Louise, has started visiting Independence Square once a month to provide residents with fresh produce at a fraction of the cost of grocery stores. We are told that residents and staff pretty much purchased all of the delicious inventory at the first visit.

The certified Naturally Grown farm uses the land in a just and environmentally conscious way by sharing locally grown food with shareholders and persons who are financially poor and hungry in the community.

Getting Paid to Participate Towne Creek - McKinney, Texas

Towne Creek Apartments was featured in McKinney Online for a recently implemented community program called TC BUCKS. Residents can earn TC BUCKS by participating in activities that are made available in the building, which range from education programs to social activities to special events.

To reward those residents who have earned their TC BUCKS, an auction will be held on September 5th and residents will be able to bid on and purchase items with their TC BUCKS.

Towne Creek's Service Coordinator Christy Sadler hopes this will encourage socialization of residents, prevent isolation, and encourage interaction with others.



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 November 15th will be wrapped for holiday gift-giving!

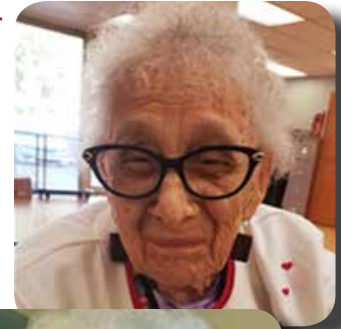


Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You. . .

Pioneer House - Sacramento, California

Florence Palmer was born in July of 1918 in Ogden, Utah. She grew up in the city taking care of her father. Married at the age of seventeen, she has one son John, and a stepdaughter. She has five grandchildren, but prefers all staff to call her grandma. Florence moved into Pioneer House in June of 2014. In her spare time she reads the Bible, enjoys having visitors, making jokes, and loves cats, jewelry and music. Ms. Palmer has always stated that Pioneer House is her second home and thanks God for placing her here. Florence is a most generous and kind person. She always has a big smile on her face.

Florence
Palmer



DeSmet - Florissant, Missouri

Caroline Laska turned 100 in August and has been at DeSmet's independent living community for more than 4 years. She was married to her soul mate for a blessed 55 years and loved being a homemaker and raising wonderful children. She has 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild on the way. She loves to watch the Cardinals (baseball) and the Blues (hockey) - whatever you do, you best not interrupt her when she's rooting for them on the TV! She thanks God for each and every day given her!

Caroline
Laska



The Cloisters - DeLand, Florida

Dorothy Foster is 101 this July and has lived at The Cloisters for 11 years. Before moving to The Cloisters she enjoyed volunteering for various organizations, reading and helping others. Dorothy worked in the retail industry during the war. After the war she became a stay at home mom and full time volunteer. She has 3 daughters, 7 grandchildren, 9 great grandchildren and 4 great great grandchildren. Dorothy contributes her longevity of 101 years to good genes and staying involved. Dorothy stated, "I have had a very blessed life. "

Dorothy
Foster



Park Place - Seattle, Washington

Geneva Willins celebrated her 101st Birthday at Park Place in June. Mrs. Willins was born in St. Louis, Missouri and moved to Tacoma, Washington in 1942 with her late husband Eddie, who was an Army cook stationed at Ft. Lewis. Mrs. Willins served as a Nanny for an affluent Seattle family for nearly twenty years, helping to raise their five wonderful children. Geneva claims that her secret to longevity is staying active in her church and avoiding the night life....she never drank alcohol nor smoked cigarettes.

Mrs. Willins has resided at Park Place since 2016, where she truly enjoys all the nice people, the food, and the cleanliness of the community. At her Birthday celebration Geneva showed everybody in attendance that she still has some pretty darn good dance moves.

Geneva
Willins



Pilgrim Tower East - Pasadena, California

Bao Zhong Zhang will be celebrating his 101st birthday in September, which makes him the oldest resident at Pilgrim Tower East (PTE). He lives independently and still loves to cook, shop and socialize with others just to stay active. Mr. Zhang has been with PTE for 15 years. Mr. Zhang has four sons, two daughters, five grandsons, and one granddaughter. Mr. Zhang said he is very lucky and happy that he found PTE.



Bao Zhong Zhang

Milestones

Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You . . .

Rafael
Fuentes



Fajardo Housing for the Elderly - Fajardo, Puerto Rico

Rafael Fuentes, a resident of Fajardo for nine years, will be 106 years old this year. He is from a town in Puerto Rico called Rio Grande, which means Big River. A lover of nature and gardening, Rafael does not enjoy television and does not have one in his apartment. He puts great emphasis on eating well and staying healthy.

Plymouth Square - Stockton, California

Harriet Judson, who turns 101 this year, was born in the home her father built. Coincidentally, the house used to sit on the very same grounds that Plymouth Square sits on now.

Harriet's lifelong connection with Plymouth Square runs deep as she worked there as receptionist and administrative assistant for 14 years. Harriet's mother also lived at the community for several years.

Harriet
Judson



Douglas House - Brockton, Massachusetts

Domingas Dias is 102 years old. She was born on the Cape Verde islands in July of 1914. She has eight children, five of which she has outlived.

While growing up in Cape Verde she was a maid. She said it was her favorite thing to do because she loves to clean. "I love living at Douglas House and I love America."

Gold Country Retirement Center - Placerville, California

Bill Hartman was born in September of 1916. He was born in McKinney, Texas and after his early education there he worked for the Texas Forest Service in Resource Management where he was a crew foreman.

He also taught night classes in math and drafting to the Civilian Conservation Corps. He later served as a Fire Detection Pilot, after only six hours of flight instruction, and logged many accident free hours in the air.

Bill relocated his family to California and, after getting his masters degree from the University of California, Berkeley, he spent the next twenty-eight years as Land Management Superintendent for East Bay Mud (Municipal Utility District). After retiring he enjoyed spending time in Alaska and has a plaque signed by members of the Alaska Legislature thanking him for 45 years of volunteer service.

Towers of Jacksonville - Jacksonville, Florida

Lucille was born in January of 1918 in Pennsylvania. She grew up in New York as the eldest of 9 children.

She moved to Jacksonville, FL when she was 28 years old, worked as a bookkeeper and lived in a boarding house. After selling her home she moved to the Baptist Towers (now The Towers of Jacksonville) in 1990 and worked as a receptionist in The Towers until she broke her arm in 2014 and was unable to write. Lucille lives alone and takes care of herself and friends who need help.

Lucille has lived through 28 Presidents, cars with rumble seats, and the explosion of the technology industry. She does have a cell phone and iPad. Lucille has 3 daughters, 7 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and 8 great, great - grandchildren.

Domingas
Dias



Bill
Hartman



Lucille
Nagy



Courtenay Springs Village - Merritt Island, Florida

Mary Bold was born in July of 1917 in Pennsylvania and has two children. Mary has had many jobs in her life from yard work to working in a restaurant. She stated, "if you can think of it, I've done it." Mary enjoys bingo, socializing, and regular visits from friends and family.



Mary
Bold

Doris Woolard is one of Courtenay Springs' newest centenarians. She was born in July of 1915. She was married for 48 years, and has 2 children, 2 grandchildren and one great grandchild. Doris worked for a publisher and later became editor of the Arkansas Weekly. She was very active in her church playing organ and holding different positions in her church. She enjoys spending time with family and reading her Bible.



Doris
Woolard

Carroll (Pat) Eddie was born in July of 1918 on a farm in Indiana. He grew up in Louisville, Kentucky where he raised and trained horses. He was in his second year of college when he was called to serve his country in the Army in 1940. He served in the Army until WWII was over leaving the Army as a Colonel. Pat enjoys walking, socializing, and listening to music.



Carroll
(Pat) Eddy

Martha Eastep was born in Altoona, PA. on September 26, 1914. She was a 1st grade school teacher for 25 years. She and her husband enjoyed traveling all around the world. Martha is still very active and enjoys dancing at parties, bingo, playing LRC game, socializing, listening to music, spending time outside, and going out to lunch with friends.



Martha
Eastep

Auburn Ravine Terrace - Auburn, California

Myrta Schiebelhut was born in June of 1918 in Fresno CA. She was married to John and they were married nearly 60 years. Together they raised 3 daughters. She now has several grandkids and great -grandkids. They lived in California except for the '70's and '80s, when they moved to Maui.

On being 100, she said "I feel no different, I just ask myself 'How did I get here?'" She is involved in Auburn Ravine Project H.A.N.D.S. ® and is always up for doing almost anything.



Myrta
Schiebelhut

Colonial Heights - Florence, Kentucky

For the last two years **Jerry Guenther** has lived independently at Colonial Heights and will turn 100 in September. Jerry has had a wonderful life and has two sons who appreciate their delightful mother. She loves the activities and all of the friends she has made at the community.

Jerry
Guenther

Gateway Gardens - Poway, California

Martha Parry turned 100 in July. She has lived at Gateway Gardens for the past four years. She remains very active in the community, playing Canasta with a group of eight residents and friends, can be talked into playing Rummikub (she's been playing it for decades!) and vows she can beat all opponents in a game of Scrabble.



Martha
Parry

Milestones

Happy Birthday To You, Happy Birthday To You . . .



Jannelle
Booth

Bixby Knolls Towers

Jannelle Booth was born in August of 1917 in Haswell, Colorado. She loved to play the violin and in 1935, she played in the World's Fair in San Diego. Later on she played in the Long Beach Women's Symphony and the Long Beach Philharmonic. For over 30 years, she did secretarial and bookkeeping work for the First Baptist Church. She likes to be called "Pinky".



Gladys
Steelman

Gladys Steelman was born in 1918, in Hardin County Iowa. She has two children, Judge Judith Ryan and son Ken Steelman Attorney at Law. She was married for 45 years, and worked in banking. She is a long time member of the Eastern Star. The pride of her life are her two children and 10 grandchildren. Her favorite song is Blue Eyes Crying In The Rain by Elvis Presley. She moved to Bixby Knolls Towers in 2009 to be with her sister who had lived there since 1998.



Watch 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!**

Follow Us On Facebook

Do you want to hear what is happening in RHF communities? Go to 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
Colonial Heights and Gardens
DeSmet Retirement
Gold Country Retirement and Healthcare
Mayflower Gardens Retirement Community
Plymouth Square
Sun City Gardens
The Gateway
Pioneer House

Angelus Plaza
Bishop's Glen Retirement Community
Cloisters of Deland (The Cloisters)
Courtenay Springs Village
Gaslight Apartments
LaFontaine Center Apartments
Park Place Assisted Living
St. Catherine Retirement Community
The Carolinian
Westminster Village
Farrfield Manor



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.

300 Main residents with their creations

For The Greater Good

Project H.A.N.D.S.® (Helping Angels National Donated Support) is the award-winning brainchild of Judy Shaw, RHF's Director of Service Coordination. It is created on a very basic premise that everyone has the ability to contribute to the betterment of their community if they want to. In 2017, 1,367 residents made more than 20,000 items which were distributed to homeless shelters, shelters for the abused, children's hospitals, and other non-profit organizations.



If you're interested in learning more or becoming involved with Project H.A.N.D.S.®, please visit the RHF website at www.rhf.org. When you place your cursor over the "Charitable Foundation" tab at the top of the page, a drop-down menu should appear with a link to the Project H.A.N.D.S.® page.

New Project H.A.N.D.S.® Groups Are Starting Off Strong

A new Project H.A.N.D.S.® group has formed at Camelot Village in Council Bluffs, Iowa. This group has been working hard to put together picture books and laminated place mats for the patients at the local children's hospital. They have collected everything from old calendars to greeting cards to magazines and are cutting out the pictures to use as decoration for their projects. This group also makes fleece hats, scarves and lap blankets for patients going through chemotherapy at Heartland Oncology in Council Bluffs, Iowa. They have even made patchwork square blankets from fleece which are very colorful and cheerful. We are told that these residents have enjoyed the opportunity to reach out to their community. They are proud of their handiwork.



(Above) Camelot Village residents.

Park Place's Project H.A.N.D.S.® group, which also recently formed, has chosen to work with the Othello Village tiny house community, which provides transitional housing to approximately 48 adults and children in the local community. This group plans to put together special gift boxes that contain an array of personal hygiene supplies that were identified as a high level need for the residents of Othello Village. The group has also been working with other local charitable organizations to identify areas of need that can be tapped into as they work to grow this program within Park Place.

Sun City Gardens Aims to Inspire

Some of the Assisted Living residents of Sun City Gardens in Menifee, California have been working together to create bracelets to donate to a nonprofit local group that assists in placing foster children into loving homes. The bracelets each have an inspirational saying. The children often arrive in these homes with nothing but the clothes on their backs and they really appreciate the lovingly hand crafted pieces of jewelry.



(Right) The group of volunteers from Sun City Gardens.



"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Winston Churchill

We are grateful to the following people and agencies that have volunteered, donated or participated in our Project H.A.N.D.S.[®] program from 7/1/17 to 6/30/18. Though we strive to list every person involved, this list may not be all-inclusive:

**300 Main
Estacada, OR**

Nona Amack
JoAnn Headrick
Christy Jensen
Susan Rickett
Toni Snyder
Carol Zeller

**Abbey Apts
Indianapolis, IN**

Mavis Baxter
Augustus McCullough

**Adam & Bruce Apts.
Fort Wayne, IN**

Geraldine Bard
Mabel Clark
Randy & Shirley
Clarkston
Janice Davis
Robert and Tina Gill
Michelle (Croc) Henry
Jean Matty
Lillian Mooney
Berdia O' Quinn
Ethel Royal

**Anciano Tower
Montrose, CO**

Robin Cockerham
Sharon Dikeman
Donna Diaz
Pat Easton
Don Fleming
Pat Gauthreaux
Louella Golden
Lorraine Gonzales
Diane Hadley
Carol Harris
Ruth McMullen

**Angelus Plaza
Los Angeles, CA**

Kwok Yuk Chan
Jeannette Chiang
Ok Ja Han
Choi Hung
Silvia Hur
Kyung Soon Kim
Younghee Koo
Xi Yuan Liu
Lai Tim Lo
Tsin Hsia Pu
Carmen Rodriguez
Kwai Mui
Chan Tsang
Elba Valdez

**Auburn Ravine
Terrace
Auburn, CA**

Maxine Babel
Ellen Bradley
Joyce Buck
Diana Davis
Dorothy Elliott
Gloria Flores
Norma Garfield
Marie Green
Bonnie Lang
Robert Mello
Roslyn Nehls
Teddy Osterella
Grace Raigosa
Mary Sanchez
Myrta Schiebelhut
Mary Spurgeon

**Barringer Gardens
Charlotte, NC**

Agnes Belton
Bessie Belton

**Barringer Gardens
Charlotte, NC**

Virginia McCullough
Johnnie Mae Harris
Hallie Hinson
Mary Person
Katherine Thompson
Ann Williams
Daisy Withers

**Benson Manor
Smyrna, GA**

Lucinda Afolabi
Christine Brown
Judith Correa
Theresa Hall
Mikini Harvey
Ethel "Pepi" Mosher
Carmen Rodriguez
Patricia Ross

**Binnall House
Gardner, MA**

Mary Perkins

**Bishop's Glen
Holly Hill, FL**

Ruth Carmack
Phyllis Coiner
Margaret Frost
Joan Hahn
Neva Hill
Charlotte Keenen
Joyce Twardowski
Iris Tyler
Mary Wagenschnur

**Camelot Village
Council Bluffs, IA**

Irene Bell

**Camelot Village
Council Bluffs, IA**

Crystal Brashears
Ellen DeWit
Rita Edgar
Caroline Lee
Helen McKeon
Michelle Reed
Judy Small

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Hartford, CT**

Luz Alicea
Juana Arroyo
Carmen Castillo
Awilda Castro
Josefa Feliciano
Evangelista Maldonado
Ellen Traut

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Arlington, VA**

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Edith Braxtonseth
Alease Brooks
Dutchess Donaldson
Charlotte Hill
Joanne Johnson
Andrea Lara
Leila Laura
Ines Lima
Brenda Moore
Olga Rosa
Joyce Snyder
Marian Tsipsis

**The Carolinian
Florence, SC**

Madeleine Breazeale
Doris Burke

**The Carolinian
Florence, SC**

Myrtle Cagle
Ruth Cousins
Alma Cox
Lou Davis
Elizabeth Evans
Lois Gainey
Sue Hamilton
Jackie Johnson
Ed Krajack
Connie Richardson
Ellen Taylor
Vivian Thomas
Dottie Watkins
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Sue Daubin
Linda Lambert
Dena Maiolo
Marti Markley
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Patricia Naretto
Kelly Stiltz
Jennifer Taylor
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Shelbyville, IN**

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Brenda Harrison
Joan Hogan
Ella Mae Pittman
Shirley Plymate

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Cleo Driewer
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Lois Dill
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Vivienne Garapic
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Reah Guerro
Betsy Henneberger
Betsy Hindermann
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Sarah Klein
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Verona Paul
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Donna Starr

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Aurelia Fitzpatrick
Betty Garrison
Jane Gillem
Mary Ann Heiman

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Florence, KY**

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Teddie Jones
Mary Lou Mercer
Mary Nicholl
Almeda Rea
Ruth Schweitzer
JoAnn Stephenson
Shirley Wilmhoff
Theda Wilson

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Betty Blanks
Nathadine Blanks
Mary Lou Browne
Emma Butler
Vern Cason
Lorane Drews
Dao Duong
Eugenia Flanery
Kimberly Fulgham
Susana Guerra
Minerva Hernandez
Elizabeth Jaeger
Leonor Jimenez
Lorenzo Johnson
Alberta Jones
Mei Lang Lee
Pearlie Love
Irma McCall
Rose Pepp
Kiet Phan
Lois Thomson
Catharine Urban
Myriam Westrick
Shirley Williams
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Village
Merritt Island, FL**

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Ruth Houts
Ruth Martin
Lorraine Specha
Jean Whitfield
Eunice Zelle

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Mesquite, TX**

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Lubell Ashton
Nellie Coleman
Ida Escochea
Brenda Eubank
Michael Fisher
Kathy Fulps
Ruby Golden
Eva Sue Gorrell
Carmenza Grosso
Evelyn Hale
Louise Hanes
Ann Margaret Helton
Claire Hill
Margaret Hogan
Judy Johnson
Wanda Jones
Walter Kennard
Betty Little
Mary Lucas
Gloria Maldonado
Ronda Mangham
Bessie Marshall
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Debi Meck
Mimosa Lane Baptist
Church Senior
Adult Class
Carol Monroe
Darlene Paul
Leonard Paul
Deloris Penny
Richard Rice
Jo Russell
Daniel Samuel
Mary Samuel
Barbara Shelton
Hollye West

**The Tower at
Crooked Creek
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Merita Kurll Smith



The Carolinian



Olson Rotary Village

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Cleveland, OH**

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Sandra Raycraft
Darleen (Nelson) Strid
Donnena Vandecar

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Milledgeville, GA**

Linda Arnold
Barnell Davis
Mildred Teague
Elaine Tucker
Loretta Vilaire MO

**Escalon Heritage
House
Escalon, CA**

Joaquin Cortez
Basilisa Perez
Brenda Mancebo

Project H.A.N.D.S.®

The group of volunteers from Harvest Pointe chose to donate to their local Humane Society location as part of their Project H.A.N.D.S.® efforts. Thanks to a donation of fabric pieces from a resident name Chloie, the group was able to create a large number of colorful pads to be placed in the animals' pens to help them be comfortable while they wait to be placed in their new homes.



Harvest Pointe

Fajardo Housing for the Elderly Fajardo, Puerto Rico

Sylvia Aguiar
Guillermina Burgos
Cenaida Charria
Juana Jurado
Jenara Martínez
Sonia Martínez
Cecilia Osorio
Georgina Rosario
Zaida Rosario

Guadalupe Sr. Apartments Denver, CO

Margaret Bates

Grace Place Norfolk, VA

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Phyllis Gregory
Altoria Holley
Brenda Johnson
Deborah Jones
Agnas Liles
Mildred Pickett
Jacqueline Uzzle

Hamilton Wade/ Douglas House Brockton, MA

Geraldine Barros
Maria Barros
Brenda Bubeck
Carmen Colon
Bonnie Matta
Terry Otts
Ruth Rowe
Judith Smith

Harshfield Terrace Quartz Hill, CA

Coral Brow
Michele Cameron
Peggy Campbell
Sharon Hayes
Janet Knoblock
Antoinette Pappas

Harvest Pointe Loveland, CO

Tedi Boro
Verdelle Kruger
Chloie Moore
Mavis Seter
Sam Smith
Betty Tri

The Heartland Peoria, IL

Carol Bryant
Shirley Roberts

Independence Square Evansville, IN

Pat Bogard
Donna Carrico
Charles Folsom
Vera Gilbert
Peggy Johnson
June Kellough
Margie Spruell
Pat Tapp

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Mary Brown
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Lakeview Manor Storm Lake, IA

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Margarita Elizondo
Luz Hernandez
Joann Fabric and
Craft Store – Dallas,
TX

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Cora Reedy

MacArthur Park Tower Los Angeles, CA

Gyo Saeng Kim
Young Sook Lee
Chang Sin



Courtenay Springs Village

Project H.A.N.D.S.[®]

The Project H.A.N.D.S.[®] volunteers from Courtenay Springs Village meet every Monday to make crocheted blankets and crocheted toys along with other crafts. The ladies donate some of these items to local shelters and hospitals and even to friends and family when they hear of someone in need. The group receives donated yarn from many people and local church groups, but they also often purchase their own supplies.

Maple City Square La Porte, IN

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Diana Horvath
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Norma Morley

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Suzanne Hakanson

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Mesquite Gardens Mesquite, TX

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Rosa Ayala
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Georgia Scott
Harriett Taylor
Carol Theisen
Darlene Tolbert
Lidia Turcas
Vickie Vakidis
Jane White
Hazel Wilkins
Delores Wood
Jack Wood

Miracle Manor Edna, TX

Viola Mendiola

Monona Meadows Monona, WI

Jane Baum
Ann Fanton
Betty Sellner
Janet Shaboz

North Capitol at Plymouth Washington, DC

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Lucille Copeland
Patricia Davis
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Park Place Seattle, WA

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David Fann
Elsie Hayes
Larraine Hubbard
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Luvevee Jacobs
Doreen Mathis
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Faith Ore Baugh
Florence Palmer
Pam Robertson
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Project H.A.N.D.S.®



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Vistas



(R) Auburn
Ravine Terrace

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Minjin Chen
Carolyn Graffious
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Yi Qing Sun

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Marjorie Jobin
Rosalie Taylor
Margie Thomas
Joan Thomason
Ruth Truex
Richard Wallace
Viola Washington
Sarah Williams

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Marcia Huffman
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María Raquel Jiménez
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Katharine
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Cancer Center

The Towers at Southdale Anderson, IN

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The Stearns Boston, MA

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Pik K Ho
Wan Thoi-Li
Ying Tswang



(L) Pioneer House

(R) Independence Square



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Yek Yee
Rui Zhu

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Ramona Costa
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Robert Yen

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Leaves
Vacaville, CA**

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Deanna Morgan
Wendy Nelson
Roger Phelps
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Van Nuys, CA**

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Jessie Azali
Byung Cho
Josefina Deleon
Bo Ko
Ke Kim
In Lee
Myong Lee
Young Lee
Domina Mun
Sun Oh
Teresita San Diego
Soon Shin

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Kentuckiana
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Algene Busse
Kim Condra
Mary Sue Fisher
Myrtle Grant
Sigrid Haertel
Evelyn Hire
Lenora Kepfer
Christine Leach
Elisabeth Loehrlein
Marilyn Mc Donald
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Celita Rodriguez
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Dyanna Conner
Penny Fisher
Sharon Jessen
Brad Jones
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Towers
Van Nuys, CA**

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Maria Barajas
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Haksook Kim
Carmen Parensuela
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**Winslow Manor
Winslow, AZ**

Frances Bard
Bettie Hagon
Ruth James



Aging Services Scholarship

Congratulations Ms. Diana Parra! Diana is the recipient of RHF Charitable Foundation's Aging Services scholarship, a youth education fund award designed for young adults living in RHF's family communities who are pursuing a career in aging services.

Diana is a third year student at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) studying Rehabilitation Services. A long-time resident at Rio Vista Village, Diana is a caring young woman who enjoys helping other people.

Diana is a regular volunteer at Rosewood Library of Commerce where she has planned the book festival for the past 2 years, helps with their children's programs, and recently started a book club. She also teaches English to several seniors at Colonia Jess Lopez Apartments, an RHF senior community adjacent to Rio Vista Village. This past spring, she even assisted with a modern and creative mural in the community room at Rio Vista Village.

Diana is the first in her family to pursue a college degree. She plans to use her scholarship award to cover the costs of tuition and books for her junior year at CSULA and hopefully attend a mental health conference this fall as part of her studies. Upon graduation, Diana hopes to pursue a master's degree in counseling.



Community Library and Resource Center Initiative Launches

On June 27, 2018, RHF Charitable Foundation (RHFCF) presented a new Community Library and Resource Center to the families living at RHF The Whittier. It is the first of several to be unveiled in the coming months at RHF family communities in the Los Angeles area thanks to in-kind donations and grants from First Book National Book Bank, Kidsguide Magazine, and JetBlue.



Alice Sexton, Chair of RHF's Advisory Commission, is the driving force behind this new program. She has been an educator for more than 30 years, teaching elementary and adult education students. Alice is an advocate of lifelong learning and is passionate about sharing her love for reading and writing with children and their families.



RHFCF is committed to being a positive presence in the communities we serve and hopes that the Community Library and Resource

Center initiative will provide additional access to age appropriate children's books to help develop reading skills and increase the number of early childhood literacy experiences.

National Headquarters Donors

The following donors made monetary or in-kind donations to RHF Charitable Foundation designated funds through the national headquarters office from April 1 to July 31, 2018.

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In Memory of . . .

... Robert Chick
David & Margie Chick
... Pedro A. Moreno
Paula Suchy

... William L. Warrick
& Jean Moore Warrick
Linda Heid & William G. Warrick

A Special Tribute to the Youth Education Fund

Robert Chick, a special member of the RHF family at the national office, passed away on April 5th and a memorial service for him was held at the national office on June 28th. Robert was respected among his colleagues for his willingness to help those around him. He is missed and remembered by his RHF family. Robert's parents, David and Margie Chick, made a generous gift to RHFCF's Youth Education Fund in his memory. This charitable fund invests in scholarships and programs to assist our young RHF residents in pursuing their educational dreams, and is a fitting tribute for someone who dedicated his career at RHF to helping others.

Robert was born in December 1971. While in high school, he played lacrosse and enjoyed art classes. He attended Loyola University Chicago, majoring in finance and graduating with a Business Degree in 1995.

Before joining Retirement Housing Foundation, Robert worked for the Chicago Commodities exchange, Rotary International, and managed a family-owned TOGO's restaurant. Robert joined RHF's budget department in August 2007 as a Budget Analyst and was promoted to Senior Budget Analyst in August 2015. His work behind the scenes in preparing and reviewing many of the budgets for our HUD-subsidized affordable communities benefitted countless seniors, families, and persons with disabilities who call an RHF community "home".



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.

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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:

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(*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.

In Honor of . . .

... James H. Freeman
Barbara L. Freeman

... Rev. Dr. Laverne R. Joseph
Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Misi Tagaloa

... Celia & James Parker
Geraldine Goodin



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The Affordable Housing Crisis In America



Crenshaw Gardens

RHF is always advocating for the need of affordable housing in our country. There is no better example to illustrate that need than the upcoming opening of RHF's two tax credit communities in Los Angeles, California.

Tax Credit communities offer rents that are approximately 30 – 60% of what is available in the areas where they are located. There are income limitations for those who apply but there are no federal subsidies involved (like the HUD 202 program).

As Dr. Joseph mentioned in his article, Crenshaw Villas (pictured on the front cover of this RHF Today) is an affordable tax credit community for persons over the age of 62. This 50-unit community offers 1 and 2

bedroom apartments. We announced that we would be accepting applications on RHF's website (this was the ONLY advertising we ran) and received more than 750 applications during a 30 day period.

Crenshaw Gardens is an affordable tax credit community for families whose head of household must be 18 years of age or older. This 49-unit community offers 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments. We announced that we would be accepting applications on RHF's website (not advertised anywhere else) and received more than 3,000 applications during a 30 day period.

Funding for construction of new tax credit communities is in jeopardy due to the new tax laws in place for 2018. Proposed funding levels in the 2019 federal budget for new construction in the HUD 202 program is \$52 million a 50% cut from the 2018 budget. 300,000 individuals are turning 65 every month in the United States, the need for affordable housing is critical and we continue to need your voice to let our elected officials know they need to make affordable housing a priority in Congress!