

connections

BEACON HILL FOUNDATION • CULTIVATING CARE AND COMMUNITY

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BEACONHILL

Foundation

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Dear Friends of the Beacon Hill Foundation,

Wow! A year ago we welcomed 85 new residents AND a full Board of Trustees to the Foundation. 2017 was a good year of growth and learning for everyone. Thank you for showing your support and interest in the Foundation activities and for financially supporting our initiatives. Many of you helped to introduce new ideas and shared in the success of new events or programs. *Thank you to those who pop in and visit with me! I have enjoyed getting to know you better; my door is open so stop in to visit.*

We have been blessed by the growth of our Legacy Society, the successful conclusion of the Linking Lives Bridge Campaign, and the end of year annual appeal for Benevolent Care (over \$32,000). That is not all! Beacon Hill Foundation's membership with the Barnabas Foundation has increased our ability to provide to you planned giving assistance and guidance on giving benefits. Membership in the Beacon Hill at Eastgate's Mary and Martha Guild membership has continued to grow in numbers and in support for our residential community.

The Calvin Center for Social Research has completed the information gathering phase of the Eastgate Engaged initiative. The goal of Eastgate Engaged is to foster collaboration and a vibrant community in the Eastgate neighborhood. Thank you for your participation in the surveys last fall. We will be providing feedback after analysis in an upcoming Community Forum.

Beacon Hill at Eastgate's fine arts programs have really taken off with the opening of the Community House. We are presenting several new music and lecture events and will be looking for ways to increase our programming and quality arts through underwriting opportunities. We will keep you posted on ways you will be able to engage in these efforts.

Thank you again! Together we can **Cultivate Care and Community** for this family we call Beacon Hill.

Mission: Cultivating Care and Community

Ensuring that Beacon Hill at Eastgate continues to meet the physical and spiritual needs of its residents, has adequate resources for development of its campus and facilities, and remains an integral part of the Eastgate neighborhood.



Andi Allen

Andi Allen
Foundation President



A Legacy of Love *by Jennifer Olsson*

Beacon Hill at Eastgate has been blessed with many benefactors over the years, some who have been a part of our story since we opened as Michigan Christian Home in 1959. Ed and Marge Daverman were 2 of our earliest supporters—in fact they were among the original founders—and faithfully continued to support what would become Beacon Hill at Eastgate all of their lives.

Ed was born in Grand Rapids and graduated from the University of Michigan as a Civil Engineer. He then began a tour of duty as a Navy Lieutenant Commander serving in the New York Navy Yard. It was during his time in New York that he met and married Marjorie DeWolfe of Englewood, New Jersey. They had 2 children, and upon returning to Grand Rapids, Ed joined the staff of the Daverman Architectural Firm and became a partner of Daverman Associates, Inc.

As sincere followers of Jesus Christ, Ed and Marge's continual desire was to put their faith in to action, which they did by blessing many with their time, service and financial generosity. Ed served on the Board of Trustees of Michigan Christian Home for more than 30 years, and for 28 years he provided key leadership as Chairman of the Board. In his years on the board he had a vision for expanding the facilities so that today there exists the full continuum of care

as we know it. Marge volunteered at MCH for many years, and both Davermans were known for their warmth and genuine love for others.

Ed passed away in 2002, and Marge continued to be a gracious supporter until her own recent passing in November of 2017. In fact, as her trustee Carl Dufendach relates, she called him less than 3 days before she died at the age of 97, and asked him to send a generous check to a ministry she and Ed had long supported—one of the “extra” gifts she often gave outside of her yearly planned giving.

The Davermans were major donors to Beacon Hill initiatives, but were quiet about it. Marge made our beautiful indoor pool and wellness center a possibility, contributed a major gift to the Linking Lives bridge which begins construction soon, and was one of the first members of the Beacon Hill Legacy Society. Carl Dufendach shared that in her later years, “Marge’s mind was always on who she could bless financially”. As a member of the Legacy Society, Marge (and Ed) are blessing others even after their own lives here on earth are finished and we are grateful for their leadership and legacy which honored their faith and our community.



Ed and Marge Daverman

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sponsored by the Beacon Hill Foundation

MSU Music Series, Music on the Road
Sundays; February 25, April 8 & May 6, 2 p.m.

BINGO with Mary and Martha Guild
Wednesday, February 28, 7:30 pm

Grand Rapids Symphonette
Wednesday, March 14, 7:30 p.m.

“What is Philanthropy?” Film & Discussion
Friday, March 16, 2:30 p.m.

Beacon Hill Foundation Open House
Thursday, April 12, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Better Living Through Music As We Age Discussion
Wednesday, April 25, 1 p.m.

Celebrating the Arts Evening
Thursday, May 3

Mary and Martha Guild Membership Tea
Thursday, May 10, 2 p.m.

West Michigan New Horizons performance
Saturday, March 24, 2 p.m.

Summer Concerts on the Green
Wednesdays; June 13, July 11 & August 8, 7 p.m.

15th Annual Golf Classic, Thousand Oaks
Monday, June 18

Ice Cream Social
Wednesday, June 20, 1:30 p.m.

Remembering Patsy Cline
Saturday, June 23



Cultivating Care through Community *by Andi Allen*

When I first joined the service team at Beacon Hill in 2015, it was suggested that I get to know about the Mary and Martha Guild. I scheduled time with resident JoAnn Donnelly who was the current leader of the guild. I had heard that JoAnn was the mastermind behind the formation of the Guild in 2014.

JoAnn told me that she had always been an active volunteer and wanted to continue volunteering once she had moved to Beacon Hill. Where ever JoAnn lived, she had been an active participant in a 'Christ the Child Society' chapter. The mission of that organization is building community projects for needy children, reading enrichment, tutoring, parent education and skills training.

Creation of the Mary and Martha Guild would be an avenue for investing in the lives of residents of Beacon Hill who may not have the benefit of visitors or the ability to get out to enjoy activities in the community. The Guild started by building a prayer partner program, a greeting card ministry and enabling independent living residents to provide additional entertainment for Mary and Martha Center residents.

Residents Carol Hagadorn and Phyllis Hoffman have co-chaired the Guild since 2016. The spring membership drives have increased enrollment and the board continues to pursue ways to provide opportunities to bring the Beacon Hill at Eastgate campuses together as one community through service and support. In addition to volunteering and resident connections, equipment for the music

therapy programs, outside entertainment programs and reading programs have been acquired. Recently, the guild approved monies for the purchase of 'orientation clocks' that have day, date and time for the new skilled nursing rooms.



Co-Chairs Phyllis Hoffman and Carol Hagadorn

The next event hosted by the Guild will be a BINGO night to be held on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:30 in the Community Room. This event will enable the activities team at the Mary and Martha Center to acquire "Sensory Pets", which are robotic dogs and cats for use in their programming efforts. These are unique 'cats and dogs' in that they have built-in sensors that respond to motion and touch such as turning its' head when you pet them, barking and with hearts beating. The benefits of these pets include increased alertness, focus and communication for residents. Thanks to the Mary and Martha Guild for making these tools available!



A resident holds a Sensory Pet

CHOCOLATE ECLAIR DESERT *Carol Hagadorn*

Ingredients:

- 1 box of graham crackers
- 2 boxes of White Chocolate instant pudding
- 3 cups of milk
(skim milk works fine)
- 1 8oz container of Cool Whip
(light works fine)
- 1 can of chocolate frosting

Preparation:

Beat pudding and milk together. Stir in Cool Whip. Cover the bottom of an 8 1/2-inch pan with graham cracker squares. Pour half of the pudding, milk, and Cool Whip mixture over the graham crackers. Place another layer of graham crackers over the mix. Pour the remaining mixture over the graham crackers layer. Finally, place another layer of graham crackers over the last layer of the mix. Uncover the frosting and warm in microwave until it's pourable. Spread the frosting over the top of the graham cracker layer and put it into refrigerator. Cool before serving.



Care and Community Through Tributes

Many residents and families seek ways to memorialize and honor loved ones through the Beacon Hill Foundation. The Foundation's primary mission is to provide benevolent care for residents whose financial resources are exhausted. This is a beautiful way to pay tribute to a former Beacon Hill resident since the funds are used to help fellow residents receive care and support. We would like to remember the following people who were recognized through tributes in 2017:

Mr. Bob Flink

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dole
Mr. and Mrs. William Korfker
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mrs. Ruth Stephens
Mrs. Marilyn Moore

Mrs. Bonnie Munger

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mr. Chuck Sedam

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mr. David Carpenter

Mr. David Stader
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lyman
Ms. Jennifer Szeezil
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dole
Dr. and Mrs. Charles Winslow

Mr. Donald McCurdy

Mr. Charles VanderMeer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mr. E. Lawrence Kiel

Mrs. Jean Kiel

Ms. Isobel Matson

Mrs. Harriet Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dole
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mrs. Ruth Stephens
Ms. Joanne Woods
Mrs. Marilyn Moore

Mr. James A. Rousseau

Mr. and Mrs. James Hagadorn

Ms. Joanne Woods

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mr. John Hulbert

Ms. Kay Winberg
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mrs. Ruth Stephens
Somerset Gynecology and Obstetrics
Mary Lou Hibbard Trust
Ms. Doris Plescher
Ms. Wendy Wells
Mr. Steve Hulbert

Mr. John Morrow

(Linking Lives Tributes)

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Groggel
Ms. Joan DeMarce
Mrs. Ruth Stephens
Mrs. Marilyn Moore
Mr. and Mrs. William Korfker
Mr. Timothy Morrow
Mr. Leo Nauer
Mr. and Mrs. William Green
Mrs. Yole Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson
Mr. and Mrs. James Hagadorn
Mr. and Mrs. James Vaughan
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gootjes
Mr. and Mrs. Erich Pugh
Ms. Ellen Connolly-Eckhoff
Ms. Yvonne Connolly
Mr. and Mrs. William Simpson
Ms. Margaret Demarce
Mrs. Ruth Penning
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Visner
Mrs. Mary Lou Morrow

Mrs. Kathleen Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kroes

Ms. Linda De Jong

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Tributes *continued*

Mrs. Marjorie Daverman

Mrs. Marian DeVries
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mrs. Mavis Thill

Ms. Kay Winberg
Mr. and Mrs. James Hagadorn

Mr. Robert Huebner

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Ms. Rosaline Coon

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Koster
Mrs. Susan Henry

Ms. Rose Marie Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Schuck

Mrs. Shirley Kirk

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Dole
Ms. Marion Kuntzman
Mr. and Mrs. James Hagadorn

Mrs. Shirley Van Noord

Ms. Barbara Pierce

Mr. Vernon Ehlers

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Christenson

Mr. Wayne Warner

Ms. Susan Hemmes

Do you have an interest in joining the Mary and Martha Center Volunteer Team?

Currently seeking:

- Thursday receptionist, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- Activity Assistant
- Host/Hostess, Second Sunday 1-4 p.m.
- Dining Assistant, various days and times

How I Support Our Community

“I have chosen to give to the Foundation because I believe in and support the overall Vision and Mission of Beacon Hill and know that the Foundation is the hands and feet and boots on the ground that will take that money and put it where Beacon Hill residents and longtime supporters needs it. Being part of a neighborhood, a community, a family called Beacon Hill makes coming to work each and every day a blessing.”

Michelle Dubridge, Staff member



Beacon Hill residents Dr. and Mrs. Webb welcome MSU musicians from the Music on the Road series

“Living at Beacon Hill is like living with an extended family. Although I live alone, I never feel alone.”

Ruth Froot, Resident

“This is the most rewarding job I’ve EVER had. I have the biggest family anyone could have. I have a few who prank me, I’ve had a marriage proposal but these are wonderful people that I serve. I give to the Beacon Hill Foundation because these family members want to be cared for and feel valuable; I give what I can because I love them.”

Jon Kohler, Staff member

Meet Beacon Hill Foundation Board Trustee

Cheryl Blair



Cheryl is married to Dr. David Blair, head of the Mercy Health Physician Network and practicing family doctor. They have three grown children; Rachel is a teacher at Kent Innovations High, Jonathan is an architect in Washington D.C. and Lindsey is a Psychotherapist at Spectrum Health; and two grandchildren.

Cheryl has been the Health Education Coordinator for the Kent Intermediate School District for 23 years. In this capacity, Cheryl trains teachers, provides technical assistance and manages the grants which direct the health education programs for 50 school districts. Examples of these programs include drug prevention strategies, nutrition education, and sex education curriculums for special education secondary age students. Cheryl's career began as a classroom teacher. Then she became a Nutrition Education Consultant for the Dairy Council of Michigan where she conducted teacher education and consumer programs in general nutrition for a 9 county region in West Michigan. We asked Cheryl a few questions to get to know her better.

What was the best advice that you ever received?

My dad always told me that enjoying what you do is important and a career is a long time, so think wisely about how you want your life to look and follow that path.

Tell us about your first job.

As a babysitter, but I moved on quickly to being a waitress! I would have loved to have studied "Hospitality Management" if it had been available when I was in school. I have always been interested in food management and nutrition.

What is the last book that you read?

Uncommon Type: Some Stories by Tom Hanks. I enjoy intriguing reads and murder mysteries which capture my attention and allow me to relax.

If you could break any habit, what would it be?

I am easily distracted and want to move on to the next interesting project. I would rather put all the papers in a drawer "to be filed later" and move on to the next exciting activity!

How do you like to unwind?

I used to love riding horses. Now, my husband and I love to hike and walk.

What is your favorite food?

Chocolate!

If you were President for a day, you would...

Create an opportunity for our 'dream children' to stay here to dream. It bothers me that a young child who came here as a baby is now at risk. We have invested in them, trained them from PreK to 12th grade; many are outstanding students and have ways to contribute. They can't easily apply for college and face deportation to a country where they do not speak the language and are often in dangerous situations.

Why are you interested in BHE and the Foundation?

Because BH provides wonderful service to people at a stage in life where they want to have comfort in knowing that intervention is available when needed. I think that the high quality service, activities, location and people are excellent!

What other organizations are you passionate about?

I was one of the first 65 members of Kentwood Community church. We are diverse church now with a large refugee ministry and great leadership. It is an interesting and engaging place. I helped form the Women's Ministries programs and stay involved. It is a large church with many opportunities.