



HERALD *of* HOPE

CHRISTIAN CARE CENTERS

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HERALD OF HOPE: "2005 TAHSA 'Newsletter of the Year' Award Recipient"



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2006 THE YEAR OF COMMITMENT

"Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun." Psalm 37:5-6

A committed workforce offers tangible, measurable and far-reaching benefits to an organization. It means much lower recruitment, training, and development costs. Further, it means the organization tends to retain the intellectual properties, skills and abilities critical to its long-term success. Life-long loyalty to a single employer is a rare commodity in today's dynamic market, yet Christian Care Centers has developed and maintained a dedicated workforce with extremely low turnover. We count on our employees who are immersed into our mission to demonstrate their commitment by providing quality care and services to the seniors within our communities. This year, we re-commit ourselves to carrying on that mission set forth by those before us, and will continue to seek to find ways to effectively serve those yet to come.

Our history also shows that the trust and faith shown by our residents, families, and friends have had a positive influence on our ability to carry out our mission. These relationships enhance the organization's profile within the wider community, and allow us to have a greater chance to impact those in need. I am asking that you join us in this re-commitment to Christian Care Centers. You are an important part of our ministry, and through your trust in us to care for a loved one, your kind words offered to a staff member, your volunteer time, and even your financial support will help ensure that this ministry will continue to thrive and grow.

We know there is a strong link between the dedication and commitment of our employees and residents, families, and friends to the success of Christian Care Centers. I am challenging each of you to share our pride and spirit as we, together, confidently commit to the future of Christian Care Centers.

In Christ's love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Phil Elmore". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Phil Elmore
President and CEO
Christian Care Centers

LINDA MORRISON

THE PICTURE OF COMMITMENT

With COMMITMENT as the 2006 Theme for Christian Care Centers, the first person who comes to mind, as the very essence of commitment, is Linda Morrison, Senior Vice President of Operations. 2006 marks Ms. Morrison's 40th year in long-term care, having worked for CCC longer than any other employee. Her loving concern and care of seniors, particularly those suffering from Alzheimer's disease, have earned her both state and national recognition. Linda's name conjures up ideals of excellence in senior care, and her association with Christian Care Center has greatly enhanced our reputation for quality care.

In her own words, Linda explains the genesis and continuity of her commitment: "To me, being committed to anything requires doing whatever it takes to make it successful. I learned how to be committed to the success of this ministry when I was about eleven years old. If I did all my chores and school work, my reward was to go volunteer at Hilltop Haven where my Aunt worked as a nurse. In those early developmental days of Hilltop Haven, there were very few paid staff members. The volunteers did a lot of the work. We passed out the song books for the devotionals, sorted through the items brought in by Odell Lowe, the truck route driver, from the various Churches of Christ throughout Texas, and delivered the items to the staff so that they could make sure the residents had what was needed to care for them. We also read the Bible to those who could no longer see to read, wrote letters to their families, and read their mail. It was then that I learned the value of commitment and the importance of sacrifice in helping others who could no longer help themselves. The little things I did on those visits and the time I took made the residents feel so special. The visits also served as a tremendous boost to my own self esteem. The residents always thought I was the prettiest, sweetest, and most wonderful person they knew just because I had taken time to notice them and spend quality time with them. I fell in love with this work then, and have never lost my love and passion for this mission until this very day.

Later in life, when I had the opportunity to work as a paid employee, serving in various roles throughout the years, I always considered myself so fortunate because the work has been such a blessing in my life. I believe we are placed on this earth to serve, and when you are given the opportunity to fulfill



that mission and are actually being paid to do so, I feel you are truly a blessed soul. I believe people who work in the service to the aging have no choice but to be truly dedicated. They are not there for the money, because almost all of them could make more money working in some other field, but they consider the work a calling and are committed in the sharing of their "servant hearts."

I am often asked by younger professionals why I have stayed in this field so long. My consistent reply has been, "Because I never got caught up." And now, with the number of seniors needing a continuum of quality services and housing options increasing more rapidly than ever before in our history, I don't think we, in the health care industry, will EVER get caught up. Dedicated, caring people are urgently needed to move this great mission forward. NO one can do EVERYthing, but everyONE can do SOMETHING to ensure the successful future of Christian Care Centers.

"I will always treasure the privilege of having been able to touch so many lives, and will always be thankful for the rewards I have gained from being touched by them."



Being an excellent Life Enrichment Director for an Alzheimer's Nursing Unit could be the end of the story; and for sixteen years, Susie has done just that - but there is so much more. Her strong work ethic, plus her compassion and love motivates her to expand the life experiences for the residents. Over the years, Susie has designed and expanded the program to include children and pets, gardening and music, laughter and celebrations, and family and friends. She has made life for the residents the best it can be, which is a definition of enrichment. At Christmastime, Susie makes sure the residents get to participate in the festivities by planning many holiday events. She arranges special transportation to see the Christmas lights, and accompanies the residents on these trips of awe.. On Christmas morning, she comes in and helps the staff groom and dress the residents so they will look especially nice for their families and guests. She has an outstanding relationship with the residents, families, and the staff.

Over the years, Susie Jones has done much to promote the need for Alzheimer's Units in nursing facilities and to raise public awareness. Many organizations, administrators, activity directors, and social workers seek her advice and visit Hilltop's Alzheimer's Unit to see how the residents live an enriched life. She is considered an expert in her field and has trained employees and volunteers. She is frequently asked to speak on the subject.

Susie's desire to help those suffering from dementia inspired her work with the Grayson County Alzheimer's Association to raise money for research and assistance for families. She has, for the last eleven years, organized the Gunter Memory Walk, which is the most successful Walk in the country. This year's two-mile walk in the small town of Gunter raised \$18,400, more than 50% raised in the entire county. She also serves on the Alzheimer's Association Board.

Well, that's the rest of the story. Susie Jones has met the challenge of enriching the lives of Hilltop's Alzheimer's residents. She has an innate love and respect for them. She has gained knowledge and understanding, which she freely shares with others. She demonstrates in her voice and touch, her patience; and in her programming, her creativity. Congratulations, Susie, on being awarded the TAHSAs Life Enrichment "Employee of the Year."

STATE'S OUTSTANDING LIFE ENRICHMENT "EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR" AWARDED TO HILLTOP'S SUSIE JONES

Enriching the lives of elderly Alzheimer's residents is definitely a challenge--a challenge that requires knowledge, understanding, patience, creativity, and most of all, respect and love of older adults. Susie Jones was recently selected as the Texas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (TAHSA) Life Enrichment "Employee of the Year."

Susie was raised in a home that included her grandfather. She learned early, the young and the old can enrich each others' lives. Her grandfather, who enjoyed good health, encouraged her to work at Hilltop Haven as a nurse aide while she was in high school. She later worked in the housekeeping department and while cleaning the residents' rooms, she took time to "get to know them," by talking and writing letters for them, and even shopping for the residents while shopping for her own family. In 1989, while planning the opening of the first certified Alzheimer's unit in North Texas, Susie was the perfect choice as the Activity Director for this new unit at Hilltop. She was already volunteering in the Activity Department and demonstrated her gentle, patient manner and ease with the dementia residents.



ASSURING THE FUTURE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

The "Assuring the Future" Campaign was formally launched on January 31 during a dinner at the Westin Hotel in Dallas. Almost 700 people were in attendance for the event, which honored many who have played vital roles in the Christian Care Centers family, and who have given a significant part of their lives to the mission of Christian Care Centers and the Lord's work.

In "Honoring the Past," 32 couples and/or individuals were honored for their varied services and commitment of time and resources to CCC. These couples and individuals are charter inductees onto the "Wall of Honor," located on the Mesquite campus, adjacent to Memorial Auditorium. They are: Robert & Myrle Bankes, George & Ela Beth Bailey, Virgil & Ann Bentley, Jo Barnes, Mattie Buckelew, Dr. Richard & Jan Burt, Eddie & Grace Couch, Michael & Kaye Cummings, C. L. & Mabel Davis, John & Betty Garretson, Ralph & Ruth Godfrey, William & Kathleen Gouger, C. L. & Eunice Green, James & Lois Green, J. C. & Lillie Hall, Clint & Mary Humphries, Dr. W. E. & Virginia Kirk, Joe & Glendelle Malone, John & Mit Mann, Joe & Nita Marsden, C. M. & Lois Miller, Leonard & Frances Mullens, James & Dr. Betty Muns, Dr. Ralph & Anne Poteet, Mike & Betty Reese, John &



Lois Roberts, Wyatt & Christine Sawyer, Paul & Frances Skelton, Sr., Boyd & Geneva Taylor, Tillet S Teddlie, Fred & Jettye Tidwell, Wally & Charlotte Wilkerson.

In "Celebrating the Present," Dr. John Losher, President of Christian Care Centers Foundation, announced that the former "Main Street" at 948 Wiggins Parkway was being re-named the Cox Hospitality Center in honor of Dr. Billy Ray and Pat Cox. Dr. Cox is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Christian Care Centers, Inc. and the Christian Care Centers Foundation. As partners in this ministry for over 30 years, Dr. and Mrs. Cox have been involved in many volunteer and leadership roles. A portrait, unveiled that evening, will be placed in the entrance of the Cox Hospitality Center. Dr. Cox reminded the audience that, "Christians of North Texas have always come through to meet the needs of the past," and encouraged those in attendance to, "emulate these past efforts in the future." Mr. and Mrs. Don Crisp, members of the Assuring the Future Leadership Committee, shared the importance of CCC's ministry in the lives of four members of their family, and stressed the critical role the Assuring the Future Campaign will play in guaranteeing the future ministry of Christian Care Centers.

Dr. Carl Couch, son of honorees Eddie and Grace Couch, extended his appreciation to all those associated with CCC for the loving care given to his parents. Addressing the dramatic increase in future needs, Dr. Couch encouraged everyone associated with Christian Care Centers to take an active role in 'assuring its future.'

Mr. Phil Elmore, President and CEO of Christian Care Centers, shared the "Vision of the Future" – sharing plans for expansion and renovation of CCC's ministry and service. (*next page*)





With the goal of \$12 million, the Assuring the Future Campaign will address short- and long-term goals, including assistance with the \$4 million annual charitable assistance to Christian seniors, renovation and expansion projects, and the building of a permanent endowment. to help guarantee the future ministry of Christian Care Centers.

To become a part of “Assuring the Future” of Christian Care Centers, you may either call the Foundation office at 972-698-2618 or 2620, email us at jlusher@cccinc.net, or write us at 948 Wiggins Parkway, Mesquite, Texas 75150.

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Christian Care Centers, Inc., a ministry of churches of Christ, is committed to providing housing and healthcare services for senior adults and others with special needs in a loving and compassionate environment which encourages relationships, independence and dignity through spiritual, physical, social and recreational programs.

Christian Care Centers provides long-term care, assisted living, and retirement living at its three communities: Christian Care Center, Mesquite; Hilltop Haven, Gunter; and Lakewood Village, Fort Worth. Christian Care Home Health is available for seniors living in Dallas and Tarrant Counties.

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If you do not want to receive this publication in the future, please notify Julia Jordan at 972-686-3754 or JJJordan@cccinc.net.



“VISITORS FROM ALL OVER NORTH TEXAS TOUR HILLSIDE REHAB’S GRAND OPENING.”

This excerpt from a front-page news story in The Celina Star recounts the successful Grand Opening Celebration of Hillside Rehab at Hilltop Haven in Gunter. Over 100 visitors toured Hillside Rehab, enjoying a delicious brunch, participating in complimentary health screenings, and visiting with staff, residents, and friends.

Hillside Rehab at Hilltop Haven is a newly-renovated wing with 14 private, deluxe suites, private dining room and day room. The intent of Hillside Rehab is to ‘fill the gap between hospital and home’. It offers geriatric-focused Medicare rehabilitation and/or skilled nursing after a hospital stay or severe illness. At Hillside Rehab, **YOU ARE NEVER JUST A NUMBER**, because Hillside’s licensed therapists, experienced geriatric nurses, and direct-care staff have as their primary goal **PERSONALIZED** and **INDIVIDUALIZED** one-on-one care that ensures each patient a fast recovery to return home stronger and healthier.

Hillside Rehab is now taking reservations for both Private-Pay and Medicare Rehab residents. Call Linda Turner at 903-433-2415 or visit www.hillsiderehab.org for more information.



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