

**OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd****ORCA—HOSPICE DOLLS DONATE TO  
HOPE HARBOR HOME**

BY: MARY PERNO,  
KATHY SANCHEZ &  
DENISE RHEA-MCKENZIE

Working together to cut fabric, sew, and stuff the most adorable dolls, the Ocean Ridge Hospice Dolls Group donated 30 dolls to Hope Harbor Home for the Christmas holiday. The dolls were each uniquely developed with faces, hair, features, and clothing depicting various cultures and genders. The Hospice Dolls Group presented the dolls, along with Christmas Cards from the Cards for a Cause Group to Karmen Smith, Executive Director of Hope Harbor Home on December 11, 2024.

The ORP Groups reached out to Hope Harbor Home to find out the total number of families on the HHH Christmas “list” and the preferred genders for each doll. Upon creation of the dolls Hospice Dolls and Cards for a Cause Groups invited Karmen to meet the members of these truly creative and generous OR Groups.

Both Hospice Dolls and Cards for a Cause are supported and sponsored by the Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc. (ORCA). ORCA is a long-time and ardent supporter of the events, activities, mission, and goals of Hope Harbor Home.

During the presentation Karmen shared the vision, mission, and objectives of Hope Harbor Home. She let the members of the Hospice Dolls and Cards for a Cause Groups know how much their donations mean to the clients in the Hope Harbor shelter during the holiday season. Karmen also provided some insight and information about the services Hope Harbor Home offers to Brunswick (and surrounding counties) residents. As the only domestic violence shelter in Brunswick county, Hope Harbor strives to break the cycle of domestic violence by providing safe shelter, support groups, court advocacy assistance, and community outreach service



## OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd



### ORCA'S ANNUAL APPEAL RAISES NEARLY \$35,000

By: MARY PERNO & KATHY SANCHEZ

Ocean Ridge residents again responded very generously to the annual appeal mailed this past fall.

This year end undertaking is historically our largest fundraiser – and 2024 did not disappoint as it was the most successful campaign in ORCA's history!

Under the banner of “**Brightening Futures, One Step at a Time**”, Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) sought to support four local charities with pressing needs.

Thanks to the generosity of the Ocean Ridge community, **\$34,920** was raised to provide assistance to these organizations:

**Brunswick Community College Foundation:** Tuition & books for students in summer nursing classes which are not otherwise eligible for aid

**Matthews Ministry:** Food for the 16 Brunswick county schools participating in the school yearlong weekend food program

**New Hope Clinic:** Medical equipment for the new mobile health program

**Warm NC:** Purchase of tools needed to complete critical home repairs

Together, ORCA and the owners/residents of Ocean Ridge have had a large impact in Brunswick County.

Thank you for your support!

## OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd



### ORCA'S RAISES MORE THAN \$100,000 IN 2024!

BY: MARY PERNO & KATHY SANCHEZ

Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) is thankful for the support of so many throughout 2024.

**We appreciate your participation in our fundraising events, which included:**

- ✓ Trivia Night
- ✓ Sale of Patriotic Bows, Luminaries, and Dining Club Cards
- ✓ Ice Cream Socials at 'Tunes at the Pool' *(in collaboration with the Social Activities Committee & Men's Grilled Dinner Group)*
- ✓ Weekend Food Backpack collection for Matthew's Ministry *(in collaboration with the Old Dominion Dames)*
- ✓ Knife Sharpening Events
- ✓ Quilt Raffle
- ✓ Annual Arts & Crafts Fair
- ✓ Holiday Marketplace Raffle
- ✓ Holiday Open House Tours
- ✓ Hospice Dolls *(in collaboration with Cards 4 a Cause)*
- ✓ Change 4 Charities
- ✓ Annual Appeal
- ✓ Gift Giving & Memorial Fund Donations



**ORCA is also privileged to have the support of eighty (80) small, local businesses who purchase a Corporate Sponsorship** (levels range from \$100-\$500), thus adding to funds available to support our charities. We encourage you to support these businesses. A list is available on our website: [www.orcharities.org](http://www.orcharities.org).

**Thanks to everyone's generosity, ORCA provided nearly \$97,400 in cash and \$3,400 in commodities (food & backpacks) to our charities in 2024.**

And finally – a **BIG** shout out to our service club volunteers who help setup, run and breakdown many of these events. Kudos also to the numerous bakers who donated goods for sale during Tunes at the Pool. We couldn't do it without all of you!

**Photos from the Q4 events (the Annual Art & Crafts Fair, the Holiday Marketplace Raffle, and the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Holiday Open House Tours) are included in the Changing Tides Photo Album.**