



THE OCEAN RIDGE CHARITIES ASSOCIATION: A DECADE OF SERVICE AND SUCCESS

“....to identify charitable organizations and efforts within Brunswick County and to support them through increased fundraising and volunteer participation”

ORCA Mission Statement, June 16, 2010

Beginning its charitable fundraising work in 2010, within short order the Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) evolved into a major philanthropic dynamo in Brunswick County, North Carolina. Each year following its creation, this award-winning organization has raised tens of thousands of dollars in charitable donations, grants, commodities and other proceeds, donating them to many of the over 40 major local and regional non-profits that serve the county and that have become ORCA partners. By the end of the decade, its fundraising ability was widely recognized not only throughout Brunswick County, but as well nationally acclaimed among small philanthropic organizations.

Literally thousands of needy Brunswick County citizens have been helped by ORCA's efforts. Through its fundraising, ORCA has assisted dozens of charitable efforts, including helping to: finance the county's only local in-patient hospice facility; feed undernourished school children; provide care for veterans in need; find shelter for the homeless; fund Meals-on-Wheels for seniors; underwrite health care services for the indigent; create scholarships at the local community college for prospective nursing students; provide food for the hungry through local food banks; assist teens in distress and the victims of domestic abuse by underwriting sanctuary shelters; and support the victims of Hurricane Florence.

What began as a notion, evolved into a concept, morphed into a structure and became a monumentally successful neighborhood charitable fundraising organization. By all quantifiable metrics, Ocean Ridge Charities Association has far exceeded the expectations of its founders and the community of Ocean Ridge. Overall, since ORCA began its charitable fundraising in 2010, it has raised over \$835,000 in donations, including over \$215,000 in various grants and over \$86,000 in commodities. These resources were allocated to over 40 local and regional charities that provide help and assistance to the neediest in Brunswick County.

Yet ORCA's development and its myriad accomplishments could not have been achieved without the extraordinary support of three groups.

First, the residents of Ocean Ridge. Every year since ORCA was launched, 300 to 400 of them have given generously of their time and money. Our neighbors have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars in donations to help ORCA achieve its fundraising goals and hundreds of hours of volunteer time staffing our events and other charitable activities. Without the encouragement and financial support of the families of Ocean Ridge, there simply would be no ORCA.

Second, the patronage of the local business community. Over the years, nearly 200 of them have supported ORCA either through the corporate sponsorship program or by sponsoring point-of-sale, countertop donations boxes at their place of business. Taken together, these two business assistance programs provided to ORCA its largest element of outside monetary support.

Finally, the ORCA Board of Directors: over the last decade, thirty five Ocean Ridge super volunteers came together as a team, took leadership positions in the organization, and provided the time and talent to guide the work of ORCA and make it the phenomenon that it is.

The ORCA success story is tale of the determination, vision and creativity that it took to build from scratch a charitable fundraising powerhouse whose work has affected the lives of literally thousands of disadvantaged Brunswick County residents. If its future is anything like its past, ORCA will be making a big impact for years to come.

The following are testimonials from some of the local Brunswick County charities who have been the recipients of ORCA contributions.



“The Ocean Ridge Charities Association has been a special friend to the children at Boys and Girls Homes since day 1! Former B&GH Board member Maggie Edwards created this partnership for children when the Association began. Since that time, ORCA has had a direct impact by providing for the needs of children who have experienced the pain of abuse and neglect, allowing them to begin to heal. In addition to this care, ORCA has had a significant impact on the technology needs of our campus – providing computers, laptops, projectors and curriculum resources to enhance the learning experience at Thomas Academy, the B&GH on-campus Charter School. The children at B&GH have great friends in Ocean Ridge! Thank you!!”



“After finishing the BCRC recovery program, many individuals have a difficult time assimilating back into the workforce and unfortunately some individuals who undergo treatment can often experience discrimination. To better serve our graduates and their future employers, BCRC recently implemented the Workforce Redevelopment Program (WRP) to assist every graduate to attain and ultimately retain meaningful employment and deal with the challenges to sobriety certain to arise on reentering society. The monies contributed by ORCA go a long way toward administering this program.”



“Brunswick Community College Foundation - The Ocean Ridge-David Kelly Nursing Scholarship Endowment has had an incredible impact by providing financial support to ten individual Brunswick Community College (BCC) nursing students over the past ten years. The life-changing impact is best expressed by the students themselves, such as 2019-2020 Nursing Scholarship recipient, Emily, as she shares ‘I have always dreamed of becoming a nurse... your generosity has opened the door to the prospect of a brighter future. Your generous support will see me achieve my dreams. Thank you.’ ”



“The dedication and commitment the members of the Ocean Ridge community have shown, and continue to show, to local non-profits through the Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) is making a measurable difference in the lives of local youth and their families. Communities In Schools of Brunswick County (CIS) is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year of providing dropout prevention services to local students and other support services to students and their families aimed at promoting overall well being and educational success. The dropout rate for Brunswick County Schools continues to drop and CIS is proud to be part of that trajectory for students. ORCA has been instrumental in supporting our work. Happy 10th Anniversary ORCA!”



“The Brunswick County Homeless Coalition appreciates ORCA's support--as our largest single donor, ORCA has made it possible for us to better help our clients find and maintain safe, stable permanent housing by providing emergency shelter, utility assistance, and assistance with immediate expenses during housing crisis.”



Brunswick County Streetreach

“There are not enough words to express the love and appreciation we have for all the hardworking ORCA members. Because of your gracious and overwhelming support, we have been able to inspire hope for the depressed and weary, to meet the needs of the poor and oppressed, and to transform thousands of lives over the many years of sponsorship. It is an honor to know there are still caring and compassionate people willing to help, and not to ask anything in return.”



“ORCA has been a generous partner through the years with numerous donations to these programs: housing and utility assistance, food pantry, hurricane Florence disaster assistance, and the Christmas program. BFA greatly appreciates the years of partnership with ORCA and looks forward to many more as it helps to enable BFA to continue the level of support that our community desperately depends on.”



Brunswick Senior Resources, Inc.
Making a Difference

“Brunswick Senior Resources Inc. is grateful for the contributions provided by Ocean Ridge Charities Association. Your support contributes to our ability to provide comfortable gathering locations and social programs for our seniors and maintain our much needed programs, such as meals-on-wheels.”



“Habitat is able to exist in this community because of the generosity of organizations like ORCA. In the past ten years, we have humbly accepted over \$25,000 in cash and commodities from ORCA. In those same ten years, Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity has built 41 homes, in part because of those funds. That means that 41 families that were struggling with substandard housing are now in homes and giving back to the community. The existence and partnership with ORCA has made a permanent mark on our community for which we are deeply grateful. HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ORCA!”



“Putting into words just how much ORCA has impacted Hope Harbor Home is no easy task. The many ways that they have supported us throughout the last 10 years goes far past financial and directly into crucial, keeping us afloat during times of government shutdown, to simply stepping up and asking, “What do you need?” We have always felt good knowing we have their support. It’s amazing to know that a club, made up of community members, has our back. We appreciate them more than they will ever know. Thank you.”



“Lower Cape Fear LifeCare (LCFL) (formerly Cape Fear Hospice) is incredibly grateful for Ocean Ridge Charities Association’s (ORCA) support of our Pathways to Care and Grief Care programs through its 2017 pledge. Last year, LCFL covered over \$94,500 in care to nine Brunswick County patients in need through Pathways to Care and we served 228 grieving adults and nine children with our grief care programs. Ongoing support from ORCA will ensure we continue to provide equal access to quality end-of-life care.”



“For the last 10 years, ORCA has partnered with Matthew’s Ministry in their fight against childhood food insecurity in Brunswick County. Their generous donations have been used to provide food for the 550 children that Matthew’s Ministry serves at 16 area schools during the school year. They have blessed the children of Brunswick County by meeting the most basic need of our most vulnerable population.”



“The support of ORCA is so critical to local charities. At New Hope Clinic, we maximize our resources through volunteers and stretch every penny we receive so that 94 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to providing quality health care for low income, uninsured Brunswick County residents. But our capacity to serve those in need relies on donations from community

organizations like ORCA. ORCA's financial contributions to New Hope Clinic have allowed us to expand our programs so that we now operate out of two clinic locations and provide pharmacy services, dental care, eye care, care management and health education, as well as continuing to provide primary care and specialty referrals."

Providence Home - The Family Emergency Teen Shelter

"Over the last decade the Ocean Ridge Charities Association has been a source of support for many non-profits and individuals within our community and beyond. Because of ORCA's faithful support, Providence Home has been able to maintain Brunswick County's only Emergency Shelter for youth and offer counseling services to residents and their families free of cost. On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff and children, we thank you for your presence in our community and wish you a Very Happy 10th Birthday!"



"SBIC, also known as the Lord's Pantry, has been extremely grateful to ORCA for the generous donations over the years."



"The Carousel Center (TCC) is a child advocacy center that serves children who have been traumatized by physical and/or sexual abuse. TCC assists community partners to hold child abuse perpetrators accountable, while simultaneously assisting child survivors and their families to do the hard work of healing and get back to simply being children. ORCA's most impactful donation to the Brunswick County satellite office was the assistance with the purchase of the Cortexflo equipment which enables them to meet the requirements of forensic medical documentation that may be used in prosecution of perpetrators."



Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center

“Over the years, Ocean Ridge Charities Association has donated thousands of dollars to the Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center, which has allowed us to assist hundreds of honorably discharged veterans. We rely a great deal on ORCA and hope to continue our relationship in order to do our best to complete our mission.”



“Covid-19 comes on the heels of three hurricanes in the Cape Fear Region, beginning with Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. This is the fourth disaster our community has faced in less than four years! With every disaster, ORCA has come to the rescue providing support to WARM that is so needed to help the most vulnerable survive. The staff and homeowners are grateful for ORCA’s commitment to low-income homeowners.”



“Children under the care of the Department of Social Services in Brunswick County have benefited in more ways than I can put into a few sentences. Some of the long list of specific support from ORCA includes funding for the Holiday Party multiple times, pick up truck loads of diapers, beds for children without a bed to sleep in, money from your Murder Mystery Fund Raiser, funding for items that social workers take to K.I.D.S. from our KIDS Closet, and money donated to us multiple other times. The foster families in Brunswick County have benefited greatly over the years from ORCA's generosity.”