

OCEAN RIDGE CARES

The Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) recently made the first delivery of their new, hand made *Hospice Angels* to the Lower Cape Fear Hospice LifeCareCenter at the new in-patient facility in Bolivia, NC.

The newest Ocean Ridge creation, the *Hospice Angels*, provide patient's families with a simple yet elegant remembrances of their loved one recently cared for at the new hospice care facility. Peggy Burris, the ORCA-Hospice liaison, said it best when she recalled recent encounter about the Angels. "When I went to purchase of more angel gown material, I was asked by the young lady at the counter what I was going to make. Upon showing her a prototype angel I noticed her tearing up. Alarmed that I had somehow hurt her feelings, I asked what was the matter. She pointed at me and the doll and tearfully thanked me for the angel that her family had been given after her elderly grandmother passed away at hospice. She said she and her mother treasure the angel because it reminds them of her grandma and how wonderful the Hospice people were to her and the entire family."

Earlier this year, the ladies from Ocean Ridge began making their first creation--*Hospice Dolls*--for patients, family members and especially young children. According to Becky Long, Hospice Outreach coordinator, the *Hospice Dolls* "...help lift the spirits of children but as well are therapeutic for some patients" and that "our social workers are using the dolls during their home visits and they were made available at Hospice's Summer Sunshine Camp where counselors provide bereavement therapy to youngsters."

In addition to Hospice and Angel Dolls, ORCA volunteers are also crafting rice-filled, mini-heating bags for use by our hospice patients at the LifeCareCenter to be used in care situations when large heating pads would be unnecessary. According to Maggy Schlink, another ORCA board member "I asked our Ocean Ridge quilting group to take on this project and they stepped up offering their time, labor, sewing machines and materials to get the job done—and they did by making 50 pads in one day!" Meanwhile Burris coaxed both Lowes Food and Food Lion to give her gift cards to pay for the 50 pounds of rice needed. "We really do owe both Lowes and Food Lion a debt of thanks" she said.

For Becky Long, Ocean Ridge has been a stalwart from the very beginning. "From ORCA's \$10,000 donation for hospice construction to the Hospice Dolls, Hospice angels and now the heating pads. It's a community that is truly the gift that keeps on giving."

Photo caption:

Becky Long, Hospice Outreach Coordinator accepts the hand made Ocean Ridge crafts from Maggy Schlink, ORCA Board Member, Mary Pat Lynch and Peggy Burris, ORCA-Hospice liaison.