



Ocean RidgeSM Charities Association Inc.

PO Box 6879 Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina 28469-0879

orcharities@gmail.com www.orcharities.org

SERVING THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY COMMUNITY

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OCEAN RIDGE DONATES OVER \$85,000 TO LOCAL CHARITIES

The Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) recently achieved another major fundraising milestone---reaching a mark of having contributed over \$85,000 to local charities and non-profits since it began its charitable support efforts in 2010.

“Last year was our best year yet” said Mike Gildea, ORCA’s founding president. “We raised over \$30,000 and we’re on pace in 2014 to do even better” he stated. ORCA Treasurer Claudia Piccarelli added that “ORCA’s success is all due to the extraordinary generosity of Ocean Ridge residents as well as our local small business sponsors who financially support our work.”

In just the last six months ORCA has contributed \$7,300 to the Little River Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center, \$ 4,300 to the Brunswick County Homeless Coalition and \$ 4,000 to Brunswick County Streetreach to help homeless veterans. Kris Tourtellotte of the Veteran’s Center, Donna Phelps of Streetreach and Barbara Serafin of the Homeless Coalition said that ORCA’s donations to their organizations were the largest single donation that they had ever received.

Overall, since 2011 ORCA has donated to some 25 local non-profits. ORCA’s largest contributions went to:

- Brunswick Community College--over \$20,000 for the Ocean Ridge/David Kelly Nursing Endowment;
- SECU Hospice House--nearly \$16,000 to for both initial construction as well as ongoing services;
- New Hope Clinic--over \$10,000 to the to support health care services for needy patients, and;
- Non-profits helping kids--Over \$12,000 divided among six charities—Communities in Schools, Matthews’ Ministry, Boys and Girls Home at Lake Waccamaw, Providence Home, Waves4kids and Wings Ministry.

“Ocean Ridge is a truly remarkable and giving community” said Mike Gildea, “Ocean Ridge has a long history of local philanthropy and volunteering and ORCA is just trying to build on that record and add value to that tradition” he noted.

“ORCA is an impressive example of how effective a neighborhood-based charity can be. They’re generous, quick to respond and making a meaningful impact here in Brunswick County...We need more of them” remarked John Ingraham Chairman of the Board of Directors at Brunswick Senior Resources.

Shelia Roberts, Executive Director of the New Hope Clinic added. “Without community support, we couldn’t survive” she said. “We are so grateful to ORCA and all of the donors in Ocean Ridge. I hope we see more neighborhood charities like ORCA coming to life in the near future.”

ORCA is a tax exempt, non-profit corporation situated within the Ocean Ridge Plantation community in southeast Brunswick County. Ocean Ridge is home to over 600 full and part-time households with nearly 1,200 residents who are predominantly retirees. ORCA was organized in 2010 for the purpose of identifying and supporting those Brunswick County charities and non-profits that assist disadvantaged citizens. It is only one of only four, broad-based neighborhood charities that exist in all of Brunswick County.

To learn more about ORCA or to get information about starting a neighborhood charity, go to ORCA’s website at www.orcharities.org or contact the organization at orcharities@gmail.com

For more information, contact:

Mike Gildea at 575-4563; gildeamw@yahoo.com