

Power Walking Ministries

Have you ever met a person who just exudes kindness? Wendy Jones, founder of Power Walking Ministries, is that lady. Wendy is a resident of Southport, NC and a member of Generations Church in Southport. She was called into the ministry in 2007 and founded Power Walking Ministries. This ministry has given hundreds of shoes, socks and Bibles to students in the Brunswick County school system. Wendy's motto is "Good shoes bring Good things in a child's life."

On January 10, Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) presented checks to four different local Brunswick County charities totaling about \$8400 and Power Walking Ministries was one of them. Though Wendy was aware that she was receiving a donation, she shed tears when she saw the amount on the check. "I thought I would be able to buy 2 or 3 more pairs of shoes thanks to your generosity. Now I can buy 50!"

As an educator in the Southport Elementary School for the last 24 years, Wendy has experienced first-hand the hardships many Brunswick County families are experiencing as they struggle to pay for some of their most basic needs. In her physical education classes, Wendy realized a way that she could help – provide shoes and socks for those children who would not have them unless someone intervened. Following a referral by teachers and counselors, the purchases are made to enable each child to fully participate in all school activities and sport programs.

Successful programs and initiatives for the needy are usually those that involve people who focus on real needs, treat everyone with respect, and provide ongoing support. Wendy Jones fits that bill. She is a powerful and persistent advocate and ORCA is pleased to be a part of helping her continue her mission.

Would you like to volunteer, send prayers or learn more about Power Walking Ministries? Visit her website at <http://powerwalkingministries.com/>

Laura Wheaton



Power Walking Ministries

ORCA Board Member Laura Wheaton, Founder Wendy Jones, ORCA Board Member Judy Cunningham, ORCA Board Member Kath Larson, ORCA Board President Mike Gildea, ORCA Board Member Pris Lovell.

Ocean Ridge Residents Participate in ORCA Campaign

Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) had a successful year implementing its Corporate Matching Gifts (CMG) program. These programs allow eligible donors to double the value of their donations to ORCA, at no additional cost, by signing up for their former or current employer's CMG program. Over 4000 companies have a CMG program, which matches retiree and employee charitable donations of \$25 or more. ORCA enabled easy access for residents to find their companies' CMG information by posting a link on its website, www.orcharities.org. Ocean Ridge residents who worked for such companies as Duke Energy, Energizer, Ericsson, Merck and Shell were able to double the value of their ORCA donation by filing for a matching gift from their companies....and raised a total of \$4,244 in 2016! Some companies even offer employees and retirees a Volunteer Matching Gift (VMG) program to encourage volunteerism. For example, according to DoubletheDonation.com, Exxon-Mobil provides \$500 to a charity such as ORCA for every 20 hours of volunteer time given, up to 4 times a year. If you are interested in learning more about how you can double your \$25, \$50, \$100 (or more!) donation to ORCA, contact CMG Program Manager, Kath Larson, at 910-575-8018, for more information.