

OCEAN RIDGE CHARITIES ASSOCIATION, INC.

The Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc. (ORCA) is a tax exempt, non-profit corporation situated within the Ocean Ridge Plantation development in southeast Brunswick County, a community that is home to nearly 700 full and part-time households with nearly 1,300 residents. ORCA was organized in 2010 for the purpose of identifying and supporting those Brunswick County charities and non-profits that assist disadvantaged citizens. To find out more about ORCA and its activities go to www.orcharities.org or contact the organization at orcharities@gmail.com.

For more information, contact ORCA Board Member Laura Wheaton at laurawheaton86@yahoo.com



A New ORCA Challenge... Grant Writing

Have you ever written one before?

The Brunswick County charities, with the help of your dollars, do a great job of caring for the less fortunate. Whether it's the homeless, the hungry, battered women or any other group in need, the funds they receive are used effectively, and most often go out the door as quickly as they come in. That often leaves the charities scrambling to deal with the ever-occurring problems and concerns that are routine for managing their cause... everything from outdated computers to leaking roofs to daily supplies. Ordinary operating needs can either go unattended or can divert funds from their primary mission.

Ocean Ridge Charities has initiated a new project to help with those day-to-day or long-term programs, projects or operational needs. We are moving into Grant Writing. The number of philanthropic foundations, both locally and nationally, and the amount of money they make available for Health and Human Services is amazing. It is a highly competitive field. However, a well-written grant proposal gains access. As novices in the field, we have submitted 5 grant applications with one success to date... a \$3000 Home Depot grant to install new roofing at the Brunswick Christian Recovery Center. We have had one grant request rejected and 3 are still awaiting a decision.

Grant writing isn't for everyone, but we know there are some here in Ocean Ridge that have that talent, and we can use your help which may be by sharing your experience to help us refine the process or, better yet, as a writer. If there are residents who

have writing skills and would like to try grant writing, we will soon have a training program in place. ORCA liaisons are contacting their respective charities to gather critical information and define projects that need funding. This can develop into a great resource to help our local charities. If interested, please contact Ron Sorice at 575-4075 or rgsorice@gmail.com.

Ocean Ridge 2018 Make a Difference Day Project - Helping Hands for the Homeless

On October 27, 2018 Ocean Ridge Charities will hold our second Make A Difference Day (M.A.D.D) event at the Pavilion and will focus on the needs of the homeless and disadvantaged children in Brunswick County. We chose to support seven charities that serve the needs of these unfortunate individuals. Their needs are high and the list is long – and that's where you can help:

- Review the website [HERE](#) of our M.A.D.D. participating charities and specific items that support homeless or disadvantaged children and babies, household and lawn care items, clothing, homeless camp items, cleaning supplies, and appliances, furniture, etc.
- Clean out your attic, garage and spare room of items that are itemized on our website.
- Donate (products or cash) during your cooking groups, bunco or card games, or exercise, golfing, pickle ball or bowling groups or when meeting at the garden. Even, the literary groups could donate books.

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- Generate ideas with other members of clubs/exercise/sports groups you frequent:
 - The Hospice Dolls Volunteers are supporting StreetReach, Homeless Coalition, and Building Hope's request by making additional dolls and redesigned angels for children; and agreed to increase their efforts of helping from home. Your help would also be appreciated. For further info contact Peggy Burris at peggyb@atmc.net.
 - * Idea: the dollar stores sell at drastic discount stuffed dolls and animals when it's less likely to unload holiday-specific toys after the holiday.
 - ORLGA has donated diapers and other baby items for several identified charities' needs.
 - While mentoring, our volunteers at schools could supervise a project where the students create cards or other items with their own sincere comments to a child being taken from their home, i.e. You are loved, You are important, You are special.
- Deliver your donations. Sometime soon we will announce various distribution sites in our neighborhood where your donations may be deposited in advance of M.A.D.D. day. Otherwise, you may deliver during the day of our M.A.D.D. event on October 27, 2018 at the Pavilion. Times to be determined.

Help us make Helping Hands for the Homeless an amazing community-wide day of service!!

ORCA WINS \$10,000 GRANT

2017 Make A Difference Day Award Winner. TEGNA Inc., together with its Make A Difference Day partners Arby's Foundation and Points of Light, announced on Monday, April 15 the National and All-Star award winners from across the country who are

being honored for fostering local volunteerism and having a positive impact in their communities. Thirteen National award winners each received a \$10,000 grant from Arby's Foundation. And guess what? We won!!

Ocean Ridge Plantation's winning endeavor was selected from nearly 800 projects that took place on Make A Difference Day, Saturday, October 28, 2017. This day is one of the largest annual single days of service nationwide and the residents of the Ocean Ridge Plantation were amongst the many volunteers across the country giving of their time to help make an impact on their community. ORCA's intent with this first-time endeavor was to inspire the residents of our community to work together for one day, for one cause. Under the direction of committee members George Briggs, Laura Wheaton, Corinne Eisenstein, Kath Larson, Pris Lovell and Beth Naylor, their objective was to engage over 100 resident volunteers in a hands-on charitable activity – Ocean Ridge Goes M.A.D.D. Chipping in for Charity– and by day's end, they surpassed that goal.

Crazy idea, right? Collect used golf balls and golf merchandise from our Ocean Ridge neighbors, then ask those same neighbors to volunteer to organize and package it all for charity! By the end of the day, this crazy idea came to fruition and, due to the efforts of this incredible community; the ORCA Make A Difference service activity raised about \$20,000 in resale merchandise for six charitable thrift stores. Wow!

When you ask people why this community is so special, most often you will hear, "Because of the people who live here." The involvement of over 100 volunteers coupled with the donations of 120+ people demonstrated hands down the truth of that statement.

Whether it's starting a project that helps one person or working on one that benefits a whole community, every contribution makes a difference. The Ocean Ridge Charities Association Inc. is a non-profit, tax exempt corporation established within the

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community of Ocean Ridge Plantation to identify charitable needs within Brunswick County and to support them through increased fundraising and volunteer participation. ORCA President Mike Gildea shared, "We were so proud to be a part of Make A Difference Day by successfully leading our own community service activity. I know the committee is already planning to exceed this undertaking with an even greater effort this year."

Ocean Ridge's Video is available on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmC4ih8r44&feature=youtu.be>

Videos celebrating the MDDAY winners are available on www.MakeADifferenceDay.com and on www.Facebook.com/HeartThreadsVideos



ORCA Make A Difference Day activity organizers.

Pictured left to right:
 Laura Wheaton, George Briggs,
 Pris Lovell, Beth Naylor,
 Corinne Eisenstein, and Kath Larson.

ORCA Donates \$6500 to Support The Carousel Center

Ocean Ridge Charities Association, Inc. (ORCA) is proud to support The Carousel Center in an effort to raise awareness about sexual assault upon our children and to help them to provide the necessary tools to service child victims of Brunswick County. In 2000, local emergency room personnel established The Carousel Center, a place where sexually abused children are welcomed and cared for by professionals extensively trained and certified to deal with these delicate circumstances. The goal is for each child to share what he/she can share at one time, in one place.

The Center uses a multidisciplinary interagency team of individuals working collaboratively to provide services for the community to better hold child abuse perpetrators accountable by collecting evidence from children who have reportedly experienced sexual/physical abuse and/or neglect through initial forensic interviews and medical evaluations. In the past 5 years, The Carousel Center has seen more than 1,100 children between the ages of birth and 17 from New Hanover, Brunswick, and Pender counties. They have seen a 48% REDUCTION in trauma symptoms from children who have done therapy with them.



Pictured left to right: ORCA Board Members Mike Lynch, Beth Naylor, Laura Wheaton, The Carousel Center Exec Director Amy Feath, ORCA Board Members Maggy Schlink and Claudia Piccarelli.