

OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd



ORCA'S ANNUAL APPEAL RAISED MORE THAN \$30,000

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

THANK YOU Ocean Ridge Residents!

Again you responded very generously to the annual appeal mailed this past fall. This year end undertaking is historically our largest internal fundraiser – and it raised \$30,450.

Under the banner of “Transforming Lives Through Giving”, Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) sought to support the following six local charities with pressing needs.

1. **Brunswick County Homeless Coalition:** Provide eviction prevention, rental assistance, emergency shelter and utility assistance to help avoid homelessness for families or individuals, including veterans.
2. **Brunswick County Literacy Council:** Technology evolves quickly and is being introduced at a pace that can feel overwhelming for seniors. Educate and empower older adults to confidently use their smart phones, computers and tablets.
3. **Brunswick Senior Resources, Calabash:** Provide meals for adults at the Senior Center, as well as ‘Meals on Wheels’ delivered to those who are home bound.
4. **Communities in Schools of Brunswick County:** Support the ‘Show Up Show Out’ school attendance initiative to provide intervention and incentives for elementary and middle school students struggling to attend school regularly.
5. **Life Care Memory Partners:** Provide safety and activity supplies for Brunswick County residents living with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. This includes home cameras, door and chair alarms, activity monitors and non-slip mats and footwear.
6. **Samara’s Village:** Donations support pregnant and parenting youths through mentoring and evidence-based parenting education and career/educational counseling.

Together, we continue to have a large impact in Brunswick County.

Many of these organizations gratefully joined us at the January ORCA board meeting to receive their checks from their respective ORCA Board liaison and ORCA President Mary Perno. Photos included.

Thank you for your support!





OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS...cont'd

ORCA ANNUAL APPEAL...CONT'D





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ORCA; HABITAT FOR HUMANITY DEDICATION

BY: KATHY SANCHEZ

Representatives from the Ocean Ridge Ladies Golf Association and Ocean Ridge Charities Association attended a Habitat for Humanity Home Dedication ceremony for new homeowner Daniel Wright.

Daniel is an Ocean Ridge Golf maintenance worker. He completed all of the steps necessary to purchase his new home - including meeting all financial requirements, attending homeowner education and by building sweat equity working on his home as well as others.

He was joined on this happy occasion by many local organizations who gifted him housewarming items such as a quilt, flag, bible, book case, cleaning supplies, tree sapling and a gift card to the Habitat Re-Store. The Ocean Ridge team presented him with a gift basket of cookies and other goodies to enjoy in his new space. Local high school shop students even built him a picnic table and a mail box post.

Daniel thanked all those in attendance and was then joined by his extended family and his pastor as he cut the ribbon to his new home.

Guests were also treated to a tour of the house. Truly a special day for everyone.



OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd



ORCA RAISED MORE THAN \$113,000 IN 2025!

By: KATHY SANCHEZ

Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA) is thankful for the support of so many throughout 2025.

Total cash income was \$113,134, with more than \$30,000 donated during the Annual Fall Appeal.

ORCA fundraisers provided nearly \$20,900 in cash and \$4,185 in commodities (food/backpacks & other donations) to Brunswick county charities in 2025.

We appreciate your participation in our fundraising events, which included:

- Trivia Night
- Sale of Patriotic Bows & International Dining Club Cards
- Desserts during 'Tunes at the Pool'
- Weekend Food Backpack collection for Matthew's Ministry (in collaboration with the Old Dominion Dames)
- Knife Sharpening Events
- Quilt Raffle
- Annual Arts & Crafts Fair
- Holiday Marketplace Raffle
- Holiday Open House Tours
- and three truckloads of donations to Hope Harbor Home's Thrift Store which were not able to be monetized.

Additionally, ORCA was pleased to join with the:

- **Men's Grilled Dinner Group** in raising \$18,000 for the Veteran's Welcome Home Tiny Home project and
- **Ocean Ridge Men's and Ladies' Golf Leagues** in raising more than \$5,700 for Brunswick County Habitat for Humanity and Hope Harbor Home.

ORCA is also privileged to have the support of many small, local businesses who purchase a **Corporate Sponsorship** (levels range from \$100-\$500). This year they donated **\$7,200** to support our charities. We encourage you to support these businesses. A list is available on our website: www.orcharities.org.

And finally – a BIG shout out to our service club volunteers who help setup, run and breakdown many of these events. Kudos also to the numerous bakers who donated goods for sale during Tunes at the Pool. We couldn't do it without all of you!

Photos from the final two events in 2025... the Holiday Marketplace Raffle and the Holiday Open House Tours are included in the Changing Tides Photo Album. Check them out!

OR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS....cont'd



ORCA—WARM HOMES, WARM HEARTS

By: KATHY SANCHEZ

ORCA Donated \$13,100 to BEMC's Warm Homes, Warm Hearts Program!

Ocean Ridge Charities Association recently presented \$13,100 to Brunswick Electric in support of their Warm Homes, Warm Hearts program which assists neighbors in need with their utility bill to avoid disconnection. BEMC will match this donation.

These monies were the result of our fundraisers held this fall, which included the Annual Art & Crafts Show, the Holiday Marketplace Raffle and the Holiday Open House Tour.

The generosity of our neighbors made this possible!

Presenting the check to BEMC's Brookes Versaggi are Judy Cunningham and ORCA President Mary Perno.

