



ORCA CLOSES OUT RECORD YEAR

The Ocean RidgeSM Charities Association (ORCA) recently awarded over \$3,000 in small charitable grants to a number of Brunswick County non-profits to close out another record year of charitable fundraising within the Plantation. The awards were divided up among eight county non-profits: Providence Home; Wave 4 Kids, Boys & Girls Homes of NC, Habitat for Humanity, Museum of Coastal Carolina, NC Coastal Land Trust, Cape Fear Red Cross and Streetreach.

In addition to these contributions, ORCA donated another \$24,000 in 2012 to other county charities including:

- \$10,000 for the construction of the new SECU Hospice House;
- \$8,550 to the New Hope Clinic for medical equipment, upgraded computer technology and medications;
- \$4,000 for the Community In Schools drop-out prevention program at Shallotte Middle School, and;
- \$1,800 to Brunswick Senior Resources for a cold storage trailer for their Meals-on-Wheels program.

In all, ORCA raised over \$26,000 last year from the Ocean Ridge community. "It's is a remarkably generous community" said Mike Gildea, President and founding member of the ORCA. "Ocean Ridge has a long history of giving and volunteering and ORCA is just trying to build on that record and add value to that tradition" he noted.

Only in its second year, ORCA is the county's newest, neighborhood-based charity. Over that time it has donated over \$41,000 for county charities and non-profits.

"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. Last Fall ORCA had responded to an emergency public appeal by Ingraham for funds to purchase cold storage trailers for BSRI's meals-on-wheels program. ORCA responded with a donation in less than 24 hours.

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