

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

ORCA Annual Dance

It was a little bit rock and roll, a little bit county and a whole lot of generosity at the ORCA Annual Dinner Dance for Charity held on May 19, 2018.

To learn more about the three charities, please visit their respective websites –

⇒ www.BrunswickHomeless.com

⇒ www.bcstreetreach.org

⇒ <http://veteranswelcomehomeandresourcecenter.org/>



Submitted by Laura Wheaton



Guests Donna and Gary Phelps, ministers of Brunswick County StreetReach, Inc.

Guests Donna and Gary Phelps, ministers of **Brunswick County StreetReach, Inc.** took the microphone for a few minutes and shared the startling facts surrounding the homelessness and the many people who are being strangled by the powerful tentacles of opioid addiction right here at our back door. The numbers are staggering – individuals, families, children.



This event was organized for two-fold purposes - to educate and raise awareness about poverty-related problems in Brunswick County and to provide a community-wide social activity for all to enjoy. Well, thanks to our very own **Opportunity Rocks** band, the dance flooring was hopping all night, to Dickies of North Myrtle Beach who catered the event and, most



Opportunity Rocks band entertained the guests.



importantly, to the residents who attended and helped ORCA to raise almost **\$3400** for the three charities of the night - **StreetReach, Brunswick Homeless Coalition** and the **Veterans Welcome Home**. The night was a huge success on all fronts!



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ORCA...continued

M.A.D.D.**ORCA 2018 Make A Difference Day – Helping Hands for the Homeless.**

With this new-found awareness, the ORCA M.A.D.D. committee is going to continue their outreach to the charities who work with aiding the homeless and disadvantaged children. So be sure to check out the ORCA website for detailed information regarding the items being collected and also keep an eye out for ORCA online emails.

Submitted by Laura Wheaton

DID YOU KNOW....that last Autumn's MADD (Make a Difference Day) sponsored by ORCA (Ocean Ridge Charities Association) would not have gotten off the ground without two families (non-ORCA Members) stepping forward to support the program.

The program raised nearly **\$20,000 worth of golf balls, clothing and equipment** presented to 6 different thrift shops and earned the organization a \$10,000 award. It was an amazing tribute to our community as many of our neighbors stepped forward giving their time and assets to make this program such a great success.

MADD is a nation-wide program sponsored by three foundations - **Tegna**, a subsidiary of Comcast

TEGNA (formerly Gannett Newspapers), **Arby's Foundation** and **George H. W. Bush's Points of Light** campaign. They award \$10,000 to each



organization that comes up with unique programs to help the needy. Last year, our MADD effort was one of 13 National \$10,000 prize winners from over 800 programs considered. Members of ORCA discussed various ideas to engage the community in a day of service. One was collecting used golf balls from the community and donating them to charity thrift stores in the area. The team thought that maybe they might collect as many as 10,000 used

golf balls, although some thought that was a stretch. To test the possibility they sent out a few e-mails to people they thought might have extra golf balls stashed away. The email explained the idea and asked 3 questions: 1) Do you think this is a good idea? 2) Would you be prepared to donate golf balls? 3) If so how many?

Two gentlemen responded – Carl Schuster with 1500 balls and Glenn Hess with 500. They delivered them, cleaned and bagged, thanks to the help of their brides. Glenn even had his sorted and bagged in dozens! 2000 balls from two respondents—ORCA was astounded and decided to push forward with the program. The program was expanded to include golfing attire and equipment. Eventually the event amassed over 26,000 golf balls and heaps other golf equipment donated from the community.

It took a full day (The Make A Difference Day of Service) with over 100 Ocean Ridge volunteers needed to sort, grade and bag them for easy sale. It proved a fantastic success but one that would have not occurred if Carl and Glenn had not responded so positively. Thank you Carl and Glenn!

ORCA is planning its second MADD on the October 27, 2018 with a different theme (we've thinned out or depleted our garages of used golf equipment). This year the theme is Helping Hands for the Homeless and collection of needed items has already started. Do watch for the announcements and if you can contribute and help, please do so that Make A Difference Day will be another special and successful event for our caring Ocean Ridge community.

Submitted by Bob Houser

Learn more about program and sponsors:

- ⇒ 2018 MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY - HELPING HANDS 4 THE HOMELESS is located on the internet - <http://www.orcharities.org/m-a-d-d>.
- ⇒ BHC - <http://brunswickhomeless.com>
- ⇒ POINTS OF LIGHT - <http://www.pointsoflight.org>.