



Independent living for adults with physical disabilities  
and traumatic brain injuries



December 2016



### Words from Susan DiStefano, Executive Director

I have been at Hosanna for almost seven years and I still learn things from the residents. Most recently, we had a conversation in our van that I want to share. The residents and I attended a fundraiser for the Chattanooga Brain Injury Association. One of the speakers was our own Kathy Wilder talking about her experiences in dealing with her son's brain injury. It was so interesting hearing about what families go through from a mom's perspective. But what started the conversation in the van was a story by Amy Boulware about her experience with her daughter who has a brain injury. One day, Amy's daughter said to her "Mom, do you have any idea how many steps it takes to brush my teeth? Think about it, you have to get your tooth brush, turn on the water, pick up the tooth paste, unscrew the top, squeeze the toothpaste on the brush, brush your teeth, rinse out your mouth, put the cap on the tooth paste, turn off the water, and put away the brush and tooth paste." WOW. Most of us never think about what we do to brush our teeth. We are just on "auto pilot". But, what was the most interesting to me is that this is what generated the conversation with the Hosanna residents. They were all commenting that they remembered those days right after their brain injuries and thinking about every step they had to take to do everyday tasks. Think how overwhelming that must be to have to consider every step you take in completing an everyday task. I had never thought about it, but for individuals with brain injuries this was/is an everyday reality. I am sure re-learning things that you used to do with ease is very frustrating. We continue to learn from each other and it is wonderful to live at Hosanna where shared experiences can be understood, especially by those who have experienced the same issues.



### From Judy Barker, board chair

Hosanna means to praise. We at Hosanna are here to sing the praises of the Clarence E. Harris Foundation, a longtime generous donor of the Hosanna Community. It is with much pride we announce that the Clarence E. Harris Foundation, Hosanna's nominee for Chattanooga's *2016 Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year*, was deservedly awarded this top honor from among many other nominees during the 2016 National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon at the Chattanooga Convention Center, Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

For over 22 years, the Clarence E. Harris Foundation based in Atlanta, has given discretely to support the missions of numerous educational and charitable organizations in Chattanooga and the greater metropolitan region without any expectation of being in the spotlight. Since Mr. Harris's death in 1994, Bobbye Harris has carried forward their philanthropic legacy.

The Foundation has been instrumental in helping provide vital resources for educational, cultural, healthcare and community organizations, including our Hosanna Community. For example, the Clarence E. Harris Foundation grants have expanded services for disabled residents of the Hosanna Community. We are so blessed!





ST. FRANCIS  
MEDITATION  
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OCT. 16, 2016



Below: residents promote the Hart Gallery in advance of **Giving Tuesday**. Thanks to all of you who gave to your favorite non-profits (including Hosanna!) on this special day!





# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

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**Mike Berry**—Mark Brock  
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## Special Needs:

**Carol Green**—providing wonderful entertainment at our annual Christmas Party with singer Michelle Young; **Sherman-Hsu Family Foundation**—funding for our new picnic pavilion; **St. Paul’s Episcopal Church**—staff training funding; **St. Peter’s Episcopal Church**—assistance with resident’s rent; **St. Thaddaeus Episcopal Church**—funding for our new picnic pavilion

## In honor of:

**David DiStefano**—Assoc. of Gov. Accountants  
**Joan Frierson**—Jean Richardson  
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**Carol & Dick Lewallen’s 50th Wedding Anniversary**—James & Marion Kimball  
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## Providing a Merry Christmas!:

Suzanne Barels, Judy Barker, Bruce & Carol Bishop, Steve Coulter, Fairview United Methodist Church, David Hackett, Hixson First Baptist Sunday School, Hixson United Methodist Solo Ladies, Margaret Hubbuch, Molly Miles, Sherry Paty, Carolyn Rice, Frances Roberts, Steve Sherman, St. Thaddaeus Episcopal Church craft group, Paula Thompson, Beth Williams



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