



FOSTERING INDEPENDENT LIVING  
FOR ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES



Fall 2020



## WORDS FROM SUSAN DiSTEFANO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I know “community” means different things to different people. I speak of it often. Clearly, at Hosanna, we equate community with family.

During the Pandemic, we are truly learning what that means for us. Residents have been in social isolation for over 8 months. The good news is we are Covid free. Our residents are doing amazingly well with their positive attitudes and few complaints. I am thankful for that....but it actually goes much deeper.

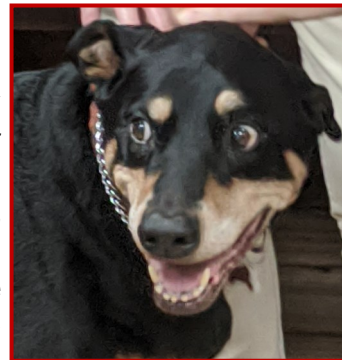
I am on my 11<sup>th</sup> year as director here, and I am always learning and observing new things. This past week was a perfect example. We had a VERY difficult week. One of our residents had an emotional support dog who was very sick. Jett had become a part of our Hosanna family and the residents were struggling with his end-of-life issues. It was amazing to watch them volunteer to help take care of the dog, to walk him, to spend personal time with him, and to clean up after him when he was sick.

Honestly, I watched in wonder as they came together to help in any way possible. It was inevitable that after multiple trips to the vet that Jett, our sweet Hosanna dog, was reaching the end of his life. One morning when I came in, Kendall, the dog's owner, with tears in her eyes, told me it was time. She called and made an appointment with the vet for that afternoon. I walked the dog and then took him to “work out” class, and I then told the residents what was going to happen. I wanted them to have some closure and be able to say goodbye, hug him one last time and even get a picture with him.

No doubt, they were upset, but here is the amazing thing I observed. They supported and comforted each other. With no staff involvement, they had conversations amongst themselves, comforting each other and giving words of encouragement. Comments were made such as, “He won't suffer any more” or “I know we all will miss him, but that is the circle of life”.

I guess in most families, we take grieving for granted, but watching it play out with the residents, some of whom have difficulty with connections, just warmed my heart and continues to reinforce in me that whatever we are doing, we are doing it well. THAT is not just community. That is also family. I continue to be thankful that I am able to serve because I have learned so much.

Susan



### **You Are Amazing!**

We continue to be impressed by our Hosanna families and our supporters. Paper towel, toilet paper, hand sanitizer, donations of meals and so much more have kept our "Stay Well. Stay Safe" pantry shelves stocked. Often items simply "show up" in the tote at the Hope House door. What a nice surprise, although we don't always know who left items or when! If we fail to properly thank you, please forgive us. But please know we are grateful that you thought of Hosanna. It has been a blessing!

- Paula Thompson - canned goods and pantry supplies
- Steve Sherman - paper towels, toilet paper
- Pam and Gary Helton - paper towels, toilet paper
- Nan and Kris Riefler - digital thermometers
- Bill and Gail Chapman - prizes for games and activities
- Gearhiser, Peters, Elliott & Cannon, PLLC - lots and lots of ink and copier cartridges
- Kim Hixson—toilet paper and art supplies
- Carol and Bruce Bishop - meals
- Theresa Trantham - hand sanitizer
- Jennifer and Joe Mingola - meals



**David Wells Crippen**  
**May 13, 1936 - September 26, 2020**

David Crippen, 84, Hosanna's first executive director and ardent supporter its mission since its beginnings, passed away Saturday, Sept. 26, in Florence, CO.

The Rev. Crippen was introduced to the idea of Hosanna in 1992 by Catherine Brown and Molly Miles, both of whom had dreams of establishing an independent living facility for people who have disabilities. By 1995, when construction on Hosanna's Hope House was completed, the Rev. Crippen said, "We have no idea if this is going to work - it's an act of faith." And apparently that was how he lived much of his life.

Mr. Crippen's faith showed strongly in his life, said Molly Miles. "He was a remarkable man, and he really trusted God. One big thing I learned from him was that when you trust in God that things happen in the right time and right place."

Along with siblings, his children and grandchildren and many beloved dogs, he is survived by his wife, Karen, who worked alongside Mr. Crippen as Hosanna's first administrative assistant.



Many thanks as always to the Solo Ladies from Hixson United Methodist Church. Even throughout the Hosanna "lockdown," these generous ladies have faithfully delivered meals - safely and socially distanced, of course - to Hope House on the second Monday of each and every month.

Their thoughtfulness is so appreciated. The dinners are always delicious. And the residents miss you and look forward to your in-person, face-to-face return!

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

## General Operating Support:

Michelle Brown, Susan and Jo Colemore, Mary Pat and Blaine Haywood, Dawn Hewkin, Marion Huffaker, Cherrie Roberts, Jim and Linda Sattler, William Russell Scott, John and Ann Woody

## Harvest Supporters, Sept. 2020:

Michelle Brown, Susan and Jo Colemore, Alice Cote, Mary P. Haywood, Dawn Hewkin, Hunter and Prestine Huckabay, John and Laura Niemeyer, John Rich, Sandra Richard, Quincy and Beth Simon, Marvin Stuart, William and Margaret White, Everett and Nancy Winters and more to come!!

## In Memory Of:

**Jerry Ross**

By Penny Ross

**Dennis Stohler**

by Carlton Lee Thomas

**Beth and Tad Williams**

by Rod & Karen Williams

## Wish List

Used ink/toner cartridges  
Rubbing Alcohol to Make Hand Sanitizer  
Paper Towels and napkins  
Toilet Paper  
Canned vegetables  
Fresh fruits and vegetables  
Kitchen Trash bags (13 gal. size)  
Hand dishwashing liquid  
Dishwasher and laundry pods  
Liquid hand soap  
Scrub sponges  
Outdoor "camp" chairs

## Special Needs, Grants, Foundations :

**Bobby & Beverly Merritt:** Food/ resident needs

**Gary & Charlotte Critser:** Resident needs

**Bishop Brian Cole:** Discretionary Fund

**St. Paul's Episcopal:** 2020 Outreach Grant

**Fairview United Methodist:** Resident needs

**Hutcheson Foundation:** Resident needs

**Shannon Mowrer:** Resident support



## Legacy Society

Please consider our invitation for you to include Hosanna Community in your estate planning. Money left to us through estates will automatically go into our endowment fund unless otherwise specified. We work hard to ensure the future growth and continuity of Hosanna. Legacy gifts are so important in allowing us to continue to maintain and preserve our homes for future generations of adults who live with disabilities. We would love for you to be a part of our Legacy Society, and I would welcome the chance to talk with you about this opportunity.

Call me and let's set up a time to meet and talk about options. I can be reached at 423-314-6921 or at the office at 423-870-6880.

## Legacy Society

**Suzanne and Ed Barels**

**Gail and Bill Chapman**

**Robert Crates**

**Susan and David DiStefano**

**Margaret Hubbuch**

**Molly Miles**

**Carolyn and Jeff Rice**

**Elizabeth Williams**





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*Hosanna Community is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization and relies on support of foundations, churches, businesses and individuals to fulfill its mission. We hold ourselves accountable to them and to God for stewardship of funds entrusted to us. All contributions are tax deductible.*

### An Autumn Outing at Chester Frost Park

