

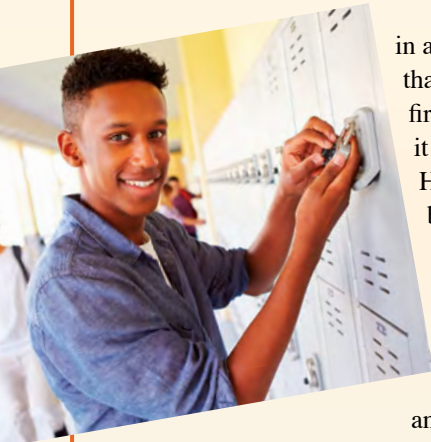
ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT REPORT

2014

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairman’s Message

As we begin another year at The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, we are caused to reflect on the past! The Masonic Home for Children has a storied history and now starts on its 142nd year in existence. It has not always been a perfect place, but has always tried to get better every year. This constant quality improvement over such a long period of time leaves us with a great children’s home that continues to do God’s work in a wonderful and unassuming way. The Home’s Alumni and staff are the first to sing the praises of this wonderful place and all the good work done over a very long time.



We continue to serve children in a much more complicated world than when the Home received the first children in 1873. Back then it was considered a success if the Home provided a safe place, a bed, and food. Today, we deal with children with complicated issues, many of which are a reflection of society’s problems in 2015. This requires a staff that is highly trained and capable of being firm and at

the same time loving the children unconditionally. The Home’s goal is to see that every child that comes to us educationally disadvantaged has as much tutoring help as is needed to help them improve as much as they can. Today, the Home offers every child financial help in furthering their education all the way through graduate school. We know that sometimes it is impossible for us to help a child, but when we find that the child needs more help than we can provide, we try and find a viable option of a higher level of care before the child is discharged. This is just part of our ongoing effort to provide the best care for children even if that means finding a different place better suited for their needs.

The future of the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is full of unknowns as we continue to adapt to changes in child care, society, and government. What we are certain of is

that we are in a very unique position to continue to help children and to continue to do God’s work. We have been pragmatic with our finances and at the present time the Home is in great financial shape and has no debt. We have more than 200 acres in downtown Oxford and with the campus’s proximity to UNC-CH, Duke University, NC State, and the Research Triangle, we have a lot of opportunity to collaborate and develop new programs in conjunction with our Children’s Home. We are beginning to explore possibilities of what we could do and the possibilities seem to be almost endless. The Board of Directors and the staff realize that we are at a unique time in the history of the Home. Change is always inevitable in all organizations and it is just a matter of how the changes are managed that determines the outcomes.

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford is blessed with a diversified board. This board brings expertise in many areas and has proven to be extremely capable in setting policy and dealing with any issues. We are also blessed to have a dedicated and competent staff that always makes the children their top priority.

The Masons continue to financially help in such a wonderful way. They raise money year after year to help us in Oxford. Words cannot express the gratitude that we feel toward the Masons and their families for their quiet generosity. We are also extremely grateful to the Alumni and those in the general public that help us so much year after year by providing financial assistance to care for the children.

Please consider this as a thank you to all who have supported us financially and as an invitation to join us in doing God’s work, if you have not helped previously. Take the time to visit our campus and get a tour and you will be taken by the beauty of this sacred place and the beautiful children we serve. ♦

Dan Rice
Chairman of the Board



MASONIC HOME FOR CHILDREN ADMINISTRATION

Administrator’s Message

The decision by the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina to begin operation of North Carolina’s first children’s home 142 years ago has been the answer for thousands of children in troubled times. Today the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford continues to provide children a safe and caring home; resources and guidance so that they may experience a rewarding childhood, learn how to be a responsible adult, and appreciate all that life has to offer. As the Home seeks to increase capacity and continues to strive for best practices, the goal is to enhance and expand programming in collaboration with community partners to provide our children with the best possible care and opportunity for continued success.

The life changing work being accomplished each and every day simply cannot be performed without all the people connected and committed to this storied and professional Home. The continued development extends from the skills, resources, and involvement of many groups and individuals dedicated to be in service of our children. The Masons, Alumni, Board, staff, children and their families, partner organizations, and community groups from across this great state and entire country bring the best intentions and sense of purpose toward improving the lives of as many children as possible.

We recognize the past year in this report by considering the teachable moments that occur through the professional care directly provided by our staff and family of support. Over the past year I have had the privilege of witnessing several examples of teachable moments. I have observed many times our older youth teaching and caring for their “younger brothers and sisters” as they learn about life. Alumni and Masons personally shared their wisdom and perspective to help guide our youth. Staff have assisted the children when they stumble to support them as they learn from their mistakes and empower them to make better decisions. Through all these teachable moments the children learn how to be responsible, respect their self and others, and develop a sense of appreciation.

In learning to appreciate all the rights and benefits they receive from living at your gracious Home, the children have several opportunities to give back and help others. In 2014 the children helped package over 20,000 meals for families in Haiti, washed vehicles to honor our public service providers, supported the Great Human Race, and went caroling at WhiteStone to help put everyone in the Christmas Spirit. In addition, two cottages regularly visit and play bingo with seniors living at Brantwood Home. Children of all ages help with the community garden whereby produce is gathered and given to ACIM to help feed families in our community. Individually, our older youth volunteer at the animal shelter

and Oxford Fire Department. Our children are learning that through the practice of giving, we in turn receive so much more.

Our children do not simply learn, for they too are teachers. Their youthful spirit and resilience are wonderful examples we in turn take from them and renew our efforts to continue to provide hope for a better tomorrow. I am humbled by the relationships, skills, sacrifices, and commitment that you and others provide so willingly to support our children. Words are inadequate to express all that you do and mean for our children and their futures. Thank you for teachable moments and ultimate hope you provide. ♦

Kevin Otis
Administrator



Life’s teachable moments . . .

We had a child in our cottage who was emotionally and mentally drained, looking defeated and upset about a class he was failing, saying to us, “It’s hopeless! I’m not going to pass ... I don’t know what to do anymore. I’ve done all I can do.”

I said to him, “Do you want to pass this class?” His response was a yes. I asked, “Do you need this class to graduate?” He replied with a yes. I said, “Well then, failure is not an option. If you are willing to fight to pass and willing to work, then I have no doubt that you will pass. But you have to make up your mind that no matter how frustrated or tired of studying you get that you will dig deep and keep going.”

He studied, went to tutoring, and occasionally I would ask him how he was doing and give him encouragement to keep working, studying, and we would tell him that we knew he could do it. We prayed for him.

At the end of the semester he found out that he had passed the class and we all were so excited and very happy for him. He thanked us for believing in him and we thanked him for believing in himself!

BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2015

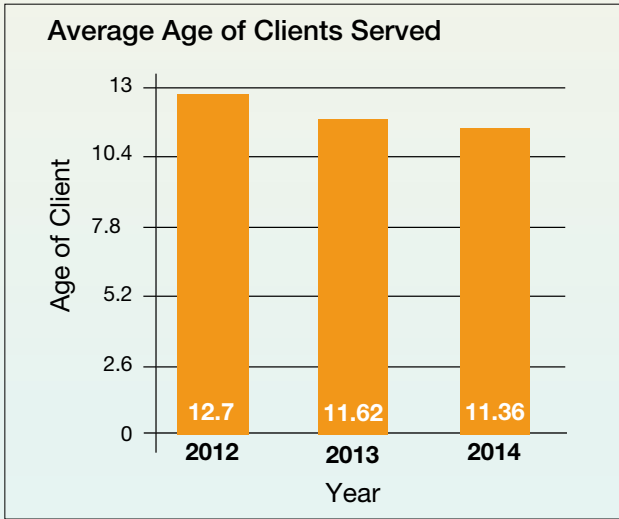
MR. DAN C. RICE – <i>Elon College</i>	MR. TRUETT CHADWICK – <i>Winston-Salem</i>	MRS. KATHY JOHNSON – <i>Garner</i>	MR. DON STEICHEN – <i>Raleigh</i>
MR. JOHNNY SURLS – <i>Pollocksville</i>	HON. A.B. SWINDELL – <i>Nashville</i>	MR. PHIL JOHNSON – <i>Hertford</i>	MRS. MELISSA HOGAN – <i>Mebane</i>
MR. DOUGLAS CAUDLE – <i>Statesville</i>	MR. LARRY HOLLOMAN – <i>Clemmons</i>	MR. BRYANT WEBSTER – <i>Black Mountain</i>	MR. CARLOS PERIERA, JR. – <i>Clemmons</i>
MR. THOMAS ELLER – <i>Salisbury</i>	MRS. NICKI PERRY – <i>Louisburg</i>	MR. A. GENE COBB – <i>Sanford</i>	MR. JIMMIE HICKS (Observer) – <i>New Bern</i>

Residential Direct Care

The Direct Care residential program continues to provide a safe, nurturing, family-like environment for children from infancy through 21 years of age. This is accomplished by focusing on assisting youth with their daily needs, teaching independent living skills, building positive relationships and memories, and providing an environment that allows for the constant development of the residents’ social, spiritual, physical, emotional, and academic growth and goals. Daily family living activities include processing one’s behavior and choices, self-esteem building, completion of chores, personal care of room and hygiene, cottage family meetings, recreation, homework and tutoring, and coordination of school, employment, and counseling endeavors. Daily life and activities allows for many teachable moments with the children and provides opportunities to practice these new skills and strengths

CLIENTS SERVED	2012	2013	2014
Admissions	21	29	14
Discharges	24	23	16
Clients Served	65	68	56
Days in Care	15,382	17,395	15,025
Average Served / Day	42.14	47.66	41.16

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CLIENTS	In Care Jan. 1, 2014	In Care Dec. 31, 2014
0 – 5	4	4
6 – 10	12	9
11 – 13	7	5
14 – 17	15	15
18 – above	4	4
TOTAL	42	37



LENGTH OF RESIDENCY (IN MONTHS)	In Care Jan. 1, 2014	In Care Dec. 31, 2014
0 – 1	1	0
2 – 3	0	1
4 – 6	0	3
7 – 9	6	3
10 – 12	4	1
13 – 18	4	2
19 – 24	6	6
25 – 36	5	1
37 – 60	12	12
61 – 120	4	8
Over 120	0	0
TOTAL	42	37

GENDER	Male	Female
In Care Jan. 1, 2014	26	16
Admitted	9	5
Discharged	13	3
In Care Dec. 31, 2014	21	16
TOTAL	35	21

ETHNICITY	African-American	Caucasian	Hispanic	Multi-Racial	Totals
In Care Jan. 1, 2014	14	21	1	6	42
Admitted	6	7	0	1	14
Discharged	5	10	1	0	16
In Care Dec. 31, 2014	15	16	0	6	37
TOTAL SERVED	20	28	1	7	

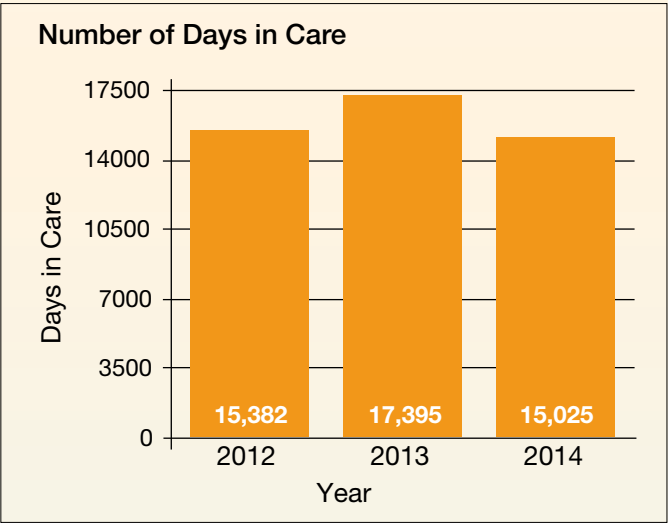
in a variety of settings – in the cottage engaging with other youth, working out problems, with a visiting donor group, at a new job, in a club at school, or taking a trip to a new place.

Here are some examples of activities in 2014:

- Self-Esteem Building Cottage focus and Cyber Safety Training,
- Human Resource Development class for residents 16 and older to build employability skills,
- Formal dining with a dinner provided by Vance-Granville Community College,
- Cooking and art classes,
- Financial Management and Responsibility Cottage focus,
- Talent Showcase – where our youth had an opportunity to show their abilities, and
- Christmas Caroling at Whitestone.

In the cottages, the children are supported by live-in Child Care Worker couples who not only help provide these teachable moments, but who utilize a natural and logical consequence parenting approach to teach youth to make better decisions in their lives. This approach helps the child focus on his/her goal using individual strengths and skills - meeting that goal without harming or disrupting others.

Together, in turn, Child Care Workers are supported by a network of staff that assists with more activities in spiritual development, recreation, education, medical needs, development of skills, and case management. In addition, we work with the children and their families to help resolve issues which led to their out-of-home placement, providing counseling and goal management, and encourage continuous



DISCHARGE REASON	2012	2013	2014
Higher Level of Care	4	6	5
MHCO Request	2	4	2
Custodian’s Request with Agency Agreement	12	5	7
Custodian’s Request without Agency Agreement	6	4	1
Client’s Request	0	4	1
TOTALS	24	23	16

DISCHARGE TO	2012	2013	2014
Parent(s)	18	11	7
Adoptive Parent(s)	0	1	1
Other Relatives	0	4	2
DSS	6	5	4
Self	0	2	2
TOTALS	24	23	16

relationship building with the goal of reuniting children with their families or transition into an independent living situation. ♦

COUNTY OF REFERRAL 2014 (ALL COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA UNLESS SPECIFIED)	NO. OF CLIENTS REFERRED
Alamance	2
Anderson County, SC	1
Cumberland	1
Davidson	4
Durham	7
Edgecombe	3
Forsyth	1
Franklin	9
Granville	9
Halifax	1
Johnston	1
Lenoir	1
Nash	1
Northampton	2
Rowan	1
Union	1
Vance	3
Wake	6
Wayne	1
Wilson	1
TOTAL CLIENTS REFERRED	56

Independent Living Program

Many of our youth decide upon graduation from high school to transition into our Independent Living program (ILP). This program focuses on youth, 18 years of age through 21, who have graduated from high school or those who have not been in high school for some time and wish to complete their GED. It is the goal of the program to assist these young adults with completing a college degree, become successfully employed, and have productive daily lives through services that include:

- Individual assessments to determine independent living needs and case management goals
- Apartment style living supported by a Resident Advisor
- Training, support, and guidance in education planning, adult living skills, career planning, employment, social/support networks, and transitions

Program participants begin their GED completion or

degree work at Vance-Granville Community College with the original goal of completing a two year degree. However, individuals who want to obtain a four year degree can stay with the program, if they are still within the appropriate age range.

In 2014, MHCO had one resident complete his certificate program at Vance-Granville Community College in Air Conditioning and Heating Technology and complete the Independent Living program. He has transitioned to his new home and job with a local business. ♦

CLIENTS SERVED	2012	2013	2014
Clients Served	14	20	20
Admissions	3	6	4
Discharges	3	4	9
Direct Care Transfer	3	3	3
Days in Care	3,622	5,376	5,895
Average Served / Day	9.92	14.73	16.15

GENDER	Male	Female	Totals
In Care Jan. 1, 2014	8	8	16
Admitted	3	1	4
Direct Care Transfer	1	2	3
Discharged	6	3	9
In Care Dec. 31, 2014	7	8	15
TOTAL CLIENTS SERVED	11	9	20

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY (IN MONTHS)	In Care Jan. 1, 2014	In Care Dec. 31, 2014
0 – 1	0	1
2 – 3	0	1
4 – 6	1	2
7 – 9	2	0
10 – 12	1	0
13 – 18	3	2
19 – 24	2	3
25 – 36	2	2
37 – 60	1	2
61 – 120	2	1
Over 120	2	1
TOTAL	16	15

ETHNICITY	African-American	Caucasian	Hispanic	Multi-Racial	Totals
In Care Jan. 1, 2014	7	8	1	0	16
Admitted	3	1	0	0	4
Direct Care Transfer	0	2	0	1	3
Discharged	5	3	0	1	9
In Care Dec. 31, 2014	5	9	1	0	15
TOTAL SERVED	10	9	1	0	

DISCHARGE REASON	2012	2013	2014
Completed Program	0	1	2
At Agency's Request	1	1	4
At Client's Request	2	2	3
TOTALS	3	4	9

COUNTY OF REFERRAL 2014 (ALL COUNTIES IN NORTH CAROLINA UNLESS SPECIFIED)			
COUNTY	CLIENTS	COUNTY	CLIENTS
Carteret	1	Mecklenburg	1
Durham	1	Person	1
Franklin	1	Rockingham	2
Granville	5	Vance	2
Halifax	2	Wake	2
Macon	1	Wayne	1
TOTAL CLIENTS REFERRED = 20			

Focus on Education

A major emphasis in both programs is a strong focus and value on education. With the support of the Granville County Public School system, Vance-Granville Community College, donors, and various community organizations, it is our goal to help our youth with improved academic achievement by promoting life-long learning, cultivating good study habits, and improving self-esteem and self-image. This is achieved in many ways:

- Through the utilization of school and/or MHCO campus tutoring opportunities
- Incentive programs recognizing improvement and academic achievement
- Collaboration between schools, MHCO, and children's families
- Participation in school extracurricular activities and clubs
- Participation in community programs
- On-going skills retention activities during the summer

- Through scholarships and financial aid assistance

Each spring MHCO's annual Baccalaureate church service and awards ceremony honors those residents graduating from high school or college and acknowledges the year's annual scholarship and award winners. ♦

New Additions to Program Services

Education Coordinator

This year, MHCO was excited to reintroduce an Education Coordinator to our program staff. This position was added to increase our efforts in aiding our children and young adults to be successful in meeting their ever changing and demanding challenges in their academics. From understanding a child's 504 or Individualized Education Plan, to identifying target areas for tutoring needs, to helping a youth adjust their schedule to meet their graduations needs, the Education Coordinator will assist the children, staff, and schools with these and other creative ways to learn as we work to improve our education assistance.

One creative way the Education Coordinator will implement is to continue the MHCO GEMS (Giving Educationally Motivating Signals) Program that was started in the 2013-2014 school year. This program involves groups of volunteer mentors who work with our youth in regular meetings to reinforce the importance of education and build educational fundamentals. These volunteers come from academic institutions and volunteer organizations in our community. ♦

REFERRAL INFORMATION

Referrals to The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford are made by families, schools, childcare agencies, state agencies, members of Masonic lodges, and other private sources. Starting an admission to the Home can be as simple as calling 1-888-505-4357. After each call a pre-placement meeting is scheduled, if appropriate, with the parent, guardian, legal custodian or young adult (if 18 years or older and making a self-referral). A determination of the appropriateness of the child's admission and MHCO's ability to meet the child's needs is made through coordination among a team of program and administration staff.

MHCO does not take legal custody of any child, allowing parents and other guardians to retain custody while in our care. MHCO expects the parents or guardians to participate in the plan of care and counseling with the children, enhancing prospects of reunification.

Wheels4Hope® – A New Partner Agency

One of the most important resources that a young adult needs to succeed is access to transportation – some way to get to work and to school. This is not an easy acquisition for most young adults without support. During 2014, MHCO helped four ILP residents connect with Wheels4Hope®. This agency has several locations throughout North Carolina. MHCO developed a partnership with Wheels4Hope® located in Raleigh. This agency repairs donated vehicles and helps other human service support agencies match these vehicles to individuals and families in need of transportation (see page 10 of this report.). ♦

Vocational Education

Part of the program focus of the residents at MHCO centers on the development of workplace skills that are necessary to gain and maintain employment now and in their future. Younger residents at MHCO begin the process by participating in age-appropriate chores in their cottages that teach responsibility and begin to build good work habits, under the direction of the Child Care Workers. Residents then become eligible in the fourth grade to participate in the Kid\$Earn Program which provides on-campus work opportunities in various departments under the supervision of a staff member. Work is age-appropriate and typically is for an hour each day for which the residents are paid an allowance. Direction and feedback is provided by their supervising staff member who also provides an evaluation at the end of each work session, three times yearly.

Most residents are encouraged to seek off-campus employment when they reach age sixteen, including Independent Living (ILP) residents for whom employment is an integral part of their program participation at MHCO. Employed residents are exposed to various work-related and life experiences and have the opportunity to gain or enhance their employment skill set through learning responsibility, gaining independence, developing good work habits and good time management. Other important life skills and experiences learned include money management and working as part of a team.

The Vocational Counselor is available to assist with all phases of the work progression for residents on an individual basis. Assistance is available for pre-employment counseling, particularly in the areas of application completion, resume writing, interview practice, career counseling, and arranging interviews for employment. MHCO partnered with Vance-Granville Community College for a Human Resource Development (HRD) class offered as part of the pre-employment training for eligible residents this past year.

During the 2014 year, 77.2% of the residents age sixteen and above, who were approved for off-campus employment, held part-time jobs, including those in ILP. The monthly average was 18.9 residents employed with an average of 10.9 different employers hiring residents. ♦

PERSONNEL

Year of Transition

Twenty fourteen at MHCO was a year of transition and new faces with 13 new employees joining the Home including 3 Child Care Worker Couples. Overall the Home has 69 staff members. Currently within the Administration, Direct Care Program, and Independent Living Program there are 62 full and part-time employees which is 90% of our workforce. The School of Graphic Arts has six full time and two part time employees. The Maintenance Department has three full time employees.

All of our staff strives to uphold the mission through their everyday job duties. All staff receives annual in-service training covering a wide range of topics including CPR & First Aid, Cultural Diversity, Information Technology and North Carolina Interventions (NCI) Training. Last year, the staff logged over 2,900 hours in training including in-service, job specific and personal enhancement opportunities. Our staff goes beyond the required trainings and daily obligations by giving of their time, services and money to various other charitable organizations. Through encouraging residents to

participate in charitable acts, the staff teaches about being a part of a community and helping those around you. Residents participated in collections for Haiti and canned goods for ACIM. They even held a car wash for the Great Human Race charity.

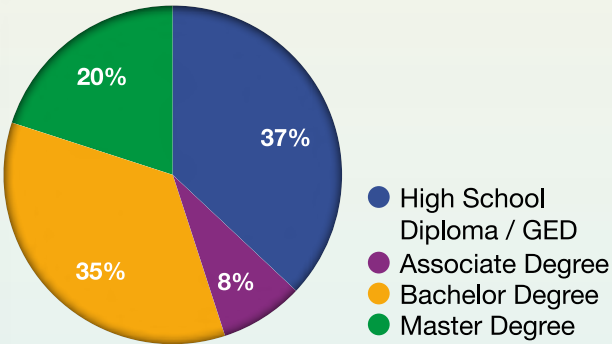
Our staff members provide for the needs of the youth through their role in the program model. Each component of the program model, to include direct supervision and leadership, spiritual development, medical services, recreation, clothing and nutritional needs, is met by our dedicated staff. Child Care Worker (CCW) couples make up the largest percentage of program staff. These dedicated couples provide for the daily care and needs of the residents. All CCW couples must be married, have a high school diploma or GED, be at least 21 years of age and complete a background check, annual physical and Tuberculosis screening. In 2014, the average length of employment for Child Care Worker couples was 4 years 7 months. Currently, our longest employed Child Care Worker couple has served the children of our Home for almost 7 years and the newest couple having been with us for only 2 months. CCW couples, Resident Advisors and Program Supervisory Staff are required to complete the University of Oklahoma's Residential Child & Youth Care Professional Certificate Program (RCYCP). Our goal is to have 80% of the required staff certified at all times. This goal was met with 82% of the staff certified including the addition of 8 new Program Staff hired in the last quarter of 2014. In addition to RCYCP certification, some program staff choose to continue their formal education through pursuit of an Associate's, Bachelor's or Master's degree or a professional license. ♦

Life's teachable moments...

Children are learning every moment and they are actively discovering the world around them. We are always teaching our children whether we are strolling in the park, reading books, shopping, setting the table for dinner, or cooking together. Recognizing the teachable moment is the key that helps us open a dialogue that could extend or expand our children's learning and understanding.

As an example: a clerk in a store failed to charge me for an item and I respectfully pointed out the mistake and then paid for the item. One of the children asks me why we had to pay twice for our items. This is a teachable moment where we can discuss what happened, why honesty is always the best way to handle situations, and how this behavior leads to being a responsible member of the community. The children learn in a very powerful way about honesty, integrity, good citizenship and being part of a society.

Educational Degrees Held by Program Staff *



*Program Staff includes Direct Care and Independent Living

SCHOOL OF GRAPHIC ARTS

Year in Review

The national economy continued to improve in 2014, and it was reflected in the financial numbers at The School of Graphic Arts. We also made major steps forward in many areas of the facility, including the installation of our first digital press, the increase in business from Altec® Industries and Revlon® Cosmetics, the continued talks with Vance-Granville Community College concerning a student collaboration, and the purchase of Printer's Plan Software.

We were excited during the year to install a state of the art digital press to handle short run color projects. This has proven to be an excellent addition to our equipment inventory. This equipment allows the pressmen to complete small projects more quickly than they were able to on the small offset presses. It also delivers on the promise of exact color match throughout the entire production cycle, something that was a struggle on the older presses.

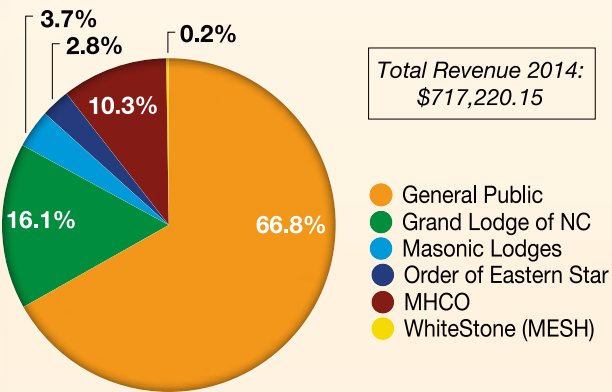
Two of our major commercial accounts continued to increase business with us during 2014. Altec® Industries' requests for book printing reached a level that required hiring a part time operator to handle the increase in business. The addition of the extra staff member allowed our graphic designer to dedicate her time solely to design and set up of customer projects.

During the year we continued our talks with Vance-Granville Community College concerning the prospect of them starting a Graphic Design Curriculum in the near future. What was looking very promising in the beginning has now slowed while the College completes the necessary surveys to determine the interest in such a program among the area high school students. We are still hoping that with the input of Vance-Granville and the local Granville County Schools we can continue to pursue this program. It would realize our dreams of returning The School of Graphic Arts to once again being a more formal instructional facility.

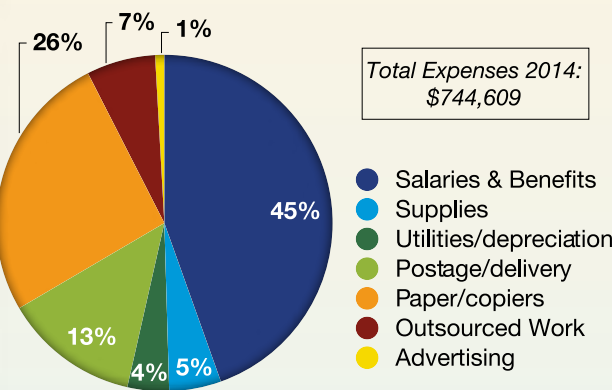
In an effort to fulfill a need that has persisted for years, in 2014 we finally took the steps necessary to move our facility toward digital reporting and tracking of projects with the purchase of Printer's Plan Software. Upon inspection of the steps that would be needed to make this a reality, we determined that it would be advisable to install our own server and establish our own network that would be dedicated to

The School of Graphic Arts. These upgrades are ongoing with plans to be completed in 2015. This software and the associated server installation will push The School of Graphic Arts closer to being a 21st century print facility. ♦

SGA Revenue 2014



SGA Expenses 2014



TOP TEN CUSTOMERS IN 2014

- ♦ Altec® Industries, Inc.
- ♦ Grand Lodge of NC
- ♦ Revlon, Inc.
- ♦ MHCO
- ♦ Tar Heel Star News
- ♦ American Plott Association
- ♦ Texas Chapter of NARFE®
- ♦ NC Genealogical Society
- ♦ Merritt Webb Wilson & Caruso, PLLC
- ♦ Granville County Senior Services

TOP REVENUE SOURCES IN 2014

- Altec® Industries, Inc. — 20.42%
- Grand Lodge of NC — 16.12%
- Revlon, Inc. — 12.05%
- MHCO — 10.28%
- Masonic Lodges — 3.72%

Giving



HOPING FOR WHEELS THANKS TO WHEELS4HOPE®

MHCO helped four ILP residents connect with **Wheels4Hope®**. The agency has several locations throughout North Carolina focused on providing afford-

able, reliable transportation to low-wage families and individuals who are referred to them by one of their partner agencies. MHCO became a partner agency in 2014, developing a partnership with the Raleigh Wheels4Hope® location. Through this relationship, MHCO helped our oldest residents secure one of the basic and most imperative resources of becoming a successful adult – transportation. In addition to this partnership, MHCO receives privately donated, tax deductible vehicles throughout the year for resident and staff transportation.



SHELBY MASONIC LODGE NO. 744 AND H&R BLOCKSM SUPPORT MHCO

For the seventh year in a row, members of **Shelby Masonic Lodge #744** worked with **H&R Block Corporation** to help children at MHCO. A

check for more than eight thousand dollars was the result, given to the Home in 2014. Lodge Treasurer, **Ed Burk**, learned of the plan as a tax preparer for H&R BlockSM and began working with the local H&R BlockSM facilities in Shelby promoting the program starting in 2006. In that time period his lodge in Shelby and others in his district who have participated have raised more than thirty-eight thousand dollars for the Masonic Home for Children. Those interested can visit the Home's website or their local H&R BlockSM Branch or by visiting the H&R BlockSM website to find out how to contribute during future tax seasons while getting your taxes done.



Our donors give with their funds, their hearts, and in many valuable instances, their successful occupations. Such was the case with **Youngsville Lodge No. 377** and **Danco Construction** who provided new countertops in January 2014. Donating over \$2,367 and enlisting the help, charity, and skill of past master **Mark Hurt and his company Danco Builders**, the Lodge and its members provided funds and support for the replacement of three full countertops in the kitchens of Temple, Eller, and Alumni Cottage. The project is part of a growing capital effort asking Lodges and donors to help for specific,

needed projects while continuing to provide undesignated funds and assistance to operate the Home and care for its children.



JJ Crowder Pasta Luncheon



Low Country Boil

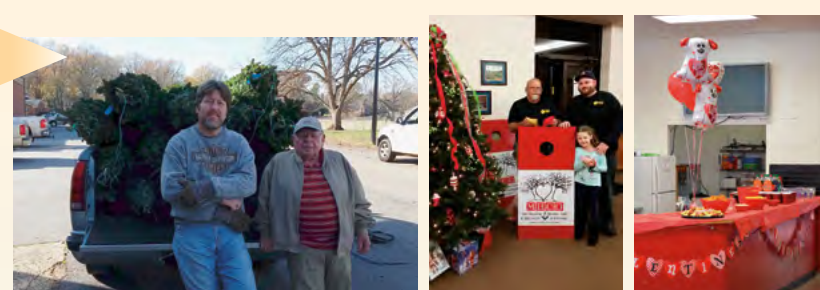


Goldsboro BBQ Crisp



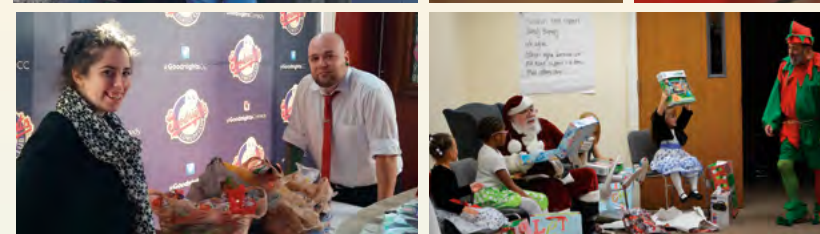
Friendship Lodge BBQ

WHAT'S COOKING? You just never know when our Masons and other friends of MHCO come to campus throughout the year to provide a meal for the children. Yes they provide incredible meals, charitably and served with warmth and care for our Home, but the meals also serve as a valuable time of fellowship, sharing, and introduction. Many new and valuable relationships have begun over home cooked meals that are delivered from across the state by our Masons, friends, and their families. 2014 saw hot dogs, hamburgers, pizza, pasta, wings, steak, chicken, tacos, and even our first "low-country boil" grace the plates of our children. While these delicious gifts were on the menu the greatest delivery of each event were the smiles! Wonder what will be cooking in 2015 and beyond?

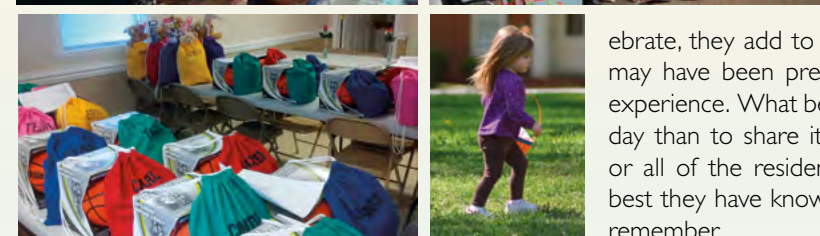


HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Not just referring to Christmas, MHCO and its children are the beneficiary of many happy holidays, from Mardi Gras to Valentine's, Easter to the 4th of July, from Back to School to Halloween, even Birthdays and of course Christmas, donors find ways to give at the holidays. With decorations, gifts, food, and fun our supporters not only provide the goods and funds needed to celebrate,

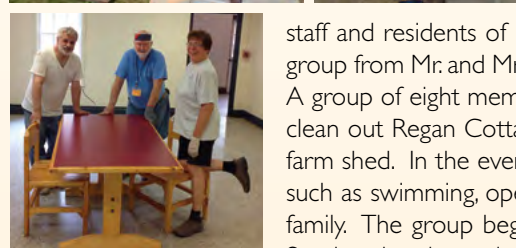


they add to the memory of a child that may have been previously void of any positive experience. What better way to celebrate a holiday than to share it with a resident of MHCO or all of the residents, making that holiday the best they have known and one they will always remember.



GUESTS FROM THE MID- WEST GIVE TIME, MILES, AND MEMORIES

Long before they traveled half-way across the United States, members of **Central Christian Church** were friends and neighbors of MHCO Administrator, Kevin Otis. In his new home in Oxford, Mr. Otis and the



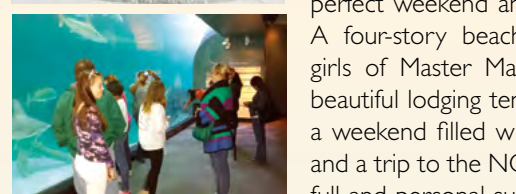
staff and residents of MHCO were proud to host a mission group from Mr. and Mrs. Otis' home church in Decatur, Illinois. A group of eight members traveled for days and worked to clean out Regan Cottage and replace two bay doors on the farm shed. In the evening the group participated in activities such as swimming, open gym and ceramics with the MHCO family. The group began the week by performing a song at Sunday church service and making a generous donation to

MHCO through their World Outreach Committee. It was good to have old friends from Mr. and Mrs. Otis' home become new friends of MHCO.



For Brother Phil Johnson and District Deputy of Masonic District 1, Mike Burnham, it made perfect

sense. During one of the worst winters the Lodges of District 1 brought the residents of MHCO some relief from the ice, and snow. With the support of the district and several local businesses these Masons picked the perfect weekend and the perfect location in early March. A four-story beach house, fully furnished, greeted the girls of Master Mason and Kimel Cottage. And if the beautiful lodging ten yards from the ocean wasn't enough, a weekend filled with delicious local food, entertainment, and a trip to the NC Aquarium at Roanoke Island with the full and personal support of our Masons of District 1 and

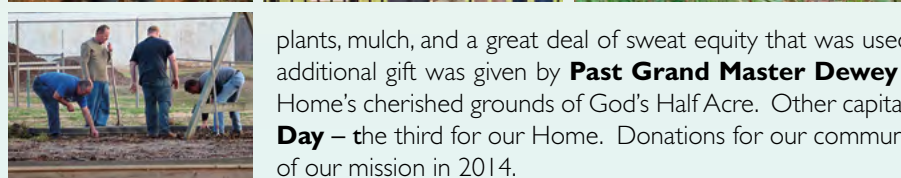


their wives and families made this incredible trip complete. The brethren also included their community calling on local businesses who donated in various ways during the weekend. While providing lots of advantages, including an escape from the ice and snow, the weekend provided lasting memories for our young ladies that will stay with them forever and engaged a district of Masons in supporting one of their charities. This is just one of the many trips, camps, and excursions that continue year after year and are made possible through the generosity and creative commitment of our supporters.

In Pictures



The Home continues to benefit from capital gifts, specifically those given to enhance, replace, or add to the safety, security, appearance, and function of our campus. Capital gifts will be even more important in the year ahead, as the Home looks to add even more improvements to better serve the children, Capital gifts, both monetary and in-kind, will allow just that. The Home conducted its 3rd annual **Great Landscape** event in March inviting over 60 supporters on campus for a day of ground and building maintenance. The donor-led day of giving featured the donation of several

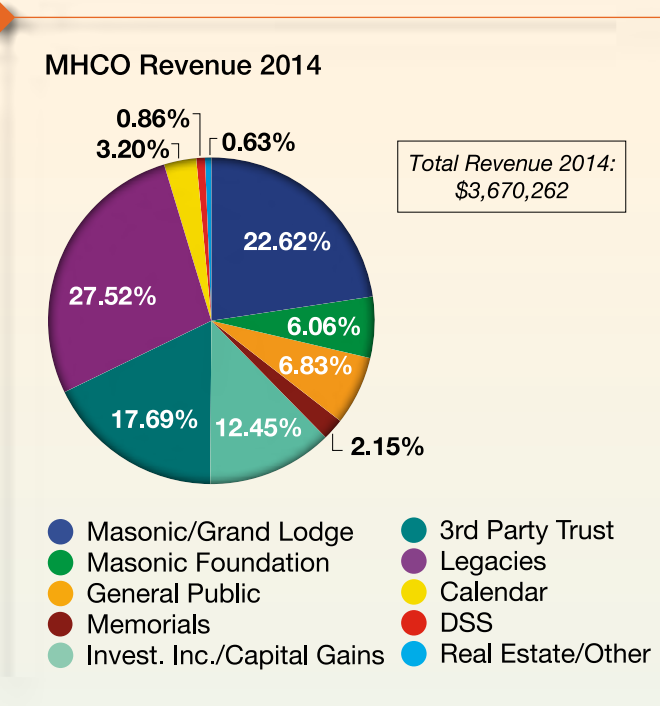


plants, mulch, and a great deal of sweat equity that was used throughout campus and had a lasting effect throughout the spring and summer. An additional gift was given by **Past Grand Master Dewey Preslar, Jr.** and his family in the form of a capital gift, providing a new fence for the Home's cherished grounds of God's Half Acre. Other capital gifts included a visit from the folks at **GlaxoSmithKline®** for their **annual Orange Day** – the third for our Home. Donations for our community garden, picnic tables, furniture, and electronics all contributed to the overall success of our mission in 2014.

Operations for 2014

Financial operations for 2014 at The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford were very good with income exceeding budget projections and operating expenses being held below budget projections. Income exceeded projections by 16.9% and expenses finished under projections by 12.5%. The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford continues to operate without incurring any debt.

Once again, planned giving accounted for the largest portion of income in 2014. Planned giving – wills, trusts, investment income and capital gains received from the bequests – accounted for 59.2% of the total revenue received in 2014. The importance of planned giving is evidenced by the fact that it accounts for over half of the total revenue received in a year. The second largest source of revenue in



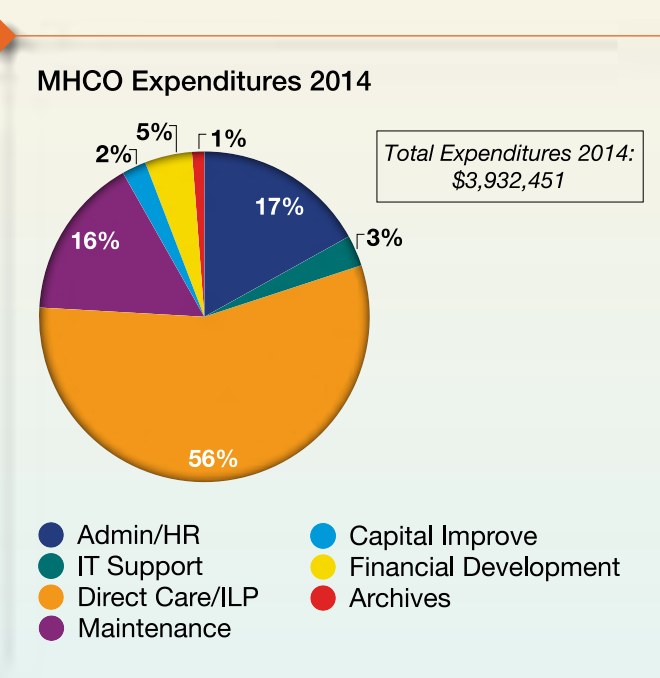
2014 was Masonic Donations totaling 22.6% of total revenue. Masonic Donations contributed a slightly higher percentage of total revenue received in 2014 than in 2013 and the largest percentage of total revenue over that last 10 years. General Public Donations and Memorial gifts accounted for 9% of total revenue received in 2014 and continued to be a steady source of revenue for The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford.

Operating expenses for 2014 were less than 1% below the previous year's expenses and were held to 12.5% below the 2014 approved budget. Excluding contingent salaries/benefits and capital improvements, 2014 expenses were 4.89% below budget projections. Direct care and related childcare costs continue to be over 50% of total expenses

with 55.9% of total expenses being directly related to the care of children at The Home. The cost of caring for a child at The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford in 2014 was \$98.46 per day. These costs include providing for food, clothing, medical needs, recreation, spirituality, education, utilities, and the salaries/benefits of the Child Care Workers in the homes.

Capital improvements in 2014 totaled \$93,227 or slightly more than 2% of annual expenses. These improvements included a new van to replace an aging van with high mileage and a new car for our Development Director that was purchased when it was cost prohibitive to the repair the existing one. Additional improvements included three new computers and computer switches, replacement of two HVAC units that failed in 2014, replacement of damaged carpeting in the Independent Living Resident Advisor's apartment, replacement of older furniture for the gym, two offices, and two cottages, major repairs to the freezer locker and an automatic chemical pump for the pool.

Our mission of caring for children and assisting families in need would not be possible without the generous donations that we receive every day from masons and the general public. We take very seriously our fiduciary responsibility of using these gifts as each donor intended and maximizing each gift to its greatest potential. It is important that we provide the best care for our children today and plan for our future children by striving to increase and grow our investments.



MASONIC LODGE CONTRIBUTIONS

Average Giving Per Lodge/Per Member for 2014

NO.	LODGE NAME	DISTRICT	GIFT PER MEMBER	NO.	LODGE NAME	DISTRICT	GIFT PER MEMBER	NO.	LODGE NAME	DISTRICT	GIFT PER MEMBER	NO.	LODGE NAME	DISTRICT	GIFT PER MEMBER
1	St. John's	12	\$ 24.63	248	Catawba	34	\$ 17.96	460	Cliffside	38	\$ 15.89	672	Robbinsville	41	\$ 13.04
2	Royal White Hart	8	\$ 9.15	249	Pythagoras	12	\$ 28.20	461	Matthews	32	\$ 79.39	674	Acacia	23	\$ 37.73
3	St. John's	7	\$ 15.07	253	Lee	30	\$ 6.83	462	South Fork	36	\$ 6.56	675	Washington	3	\$ 43.31
4	St. John's	10	\$ 4.68	257	Kenly	16	\$ 33.92	463	Currituck	1	\$ 18.37	676	Temple	32	\$ 61.33
5	Charity	5	\$ 13.18	258	Fuquay	15	\$ 9.54	471	Grassy Knob	30	\$ -	678	Providence	3	\$ 5.25
7	Unanimity	1	\$ 27.26	259	Waynesville	40	\$ 5.33	472	Sonoma	40	\$ 14.11	679	Creasy Proctor	17	\$ 149.30
8	Phoenix	17	\$ 5.47	261	Excelsior	32	\$ 9.49	473	Lexington-Memorial	27	\$ 24.28	680	Semper Fidelis	4	\$ 10.98
10	Johnston-Caswell	8	\$ 20.59	262	Hibriten	34	\$ 10.40	474	St. Pauls	18	\$ 22.30	683	Rolesville	14	\$ 19.92
11	Caswell Brotherhood	22	\$ 81.13	263	Gaston	36	\$ 33.32	475	Grimesland	6	\$ 37.45	685	Piedmont-Pioneer	26	\$ 4.67
13	St. John's	11	\$ 6.44	265	Farmington	27	\$ 4.18	479	Rainbow	7	\$ 3.48	686	Angier	20	\$ 9.29
17	American George	5	\$ 14.77	267	Dunn's Rock	38	\$ 10.53	482	Polk County Unity	38	\$ 5.00	687	Fellowship	19	\$ 179.59
19	Eagle	19	\$ 31.08	271	Tabasco	23	\$ 18.02	483	Traphill	33	\$ 8.97	688	Cherry Point	7	\$ 16.30
27	Statesville	30	\$ 28.80	272	Bingham	22	\$ 95.07	484	Southern Pines	21	\$ 83.03	689	Scotland Neck	8	\$ 23.91
31	Phalanx	32	\$ 25.50	276	Beaver Dam	29	\$ 9.08	486	Lawndale	35	\$ 0.77	690	Mount Moriah	30	\$ 2.47
32	Stokes	28	\$ 23.04	277	Green Level	15	\$ 55.84	489	Linville	37	\$ 8.97	691	Renfro	25	\$ 18.59
39	Davie	5	\$ 8.64	279	Wallace	11	\$ 81.08	491	Hominy	39	\$ 8.32	692	East Gate	31	\$ 7.59
40	Hiram	15	\$ 59.09	282	Wake Forest	14	\$ 31.17	492	Thomas M. Holt	22	\$ 15.43	693	Charles M. Setzer	32	\$ 14.06
45	Liberty	33	\$ 22.06	283	Eureka	28	\$ 616.97	493	Pilot	25	\$ 39.55	694	Gate City	23	\$ 2.61
53	Hall	1	\$ 23.67	284	Greenville	6	\$ 10.69	495	Rockingham	21	\$ 25.08	695	Allen Graham	28	\$ 41.86
58	Concord	9	\$ 7.27	289	Salem	26	\$ 7.72	496	Mooreville	30	\$ 20.57	697	Butner	13	\$ 43.06
59	Perseverance	3	\$ 89.90	292	French Broad	39	\$ 7.00	497	Royal Hart	8	\$ 38.26	698	Cape Hatteras	2	\$ 13.59
64	Kilwinning	29	\$ 29.08	293	Vance	39	\$ 14.45	498	Ayden	6	\$ 27.98	699	Asheboro	24	\$ 9.99
75	Widow's Son	1	\$ 1.15	294	Atlantic	3	\$ 54.82	499	Creedmoor	13	\$ 124.81	701	Garner	15	\$ 12.50
76	Greensboro	23	\$ 6.76	296	Stonewall	5	\$ 3.13	500	Raleigh	14	\$ 54.30	702	St. Andrew	31	\$ 4.58
81	Zion	7	\$ 24.66	299	Harmony	30	\$ 17.09	501	Red Springs	18	\$ 3.24	703	Albemarle	29	\$ 25.92
83	Lafayette	4	\$ 12.76	300	Aurora	7	\$ 65.15	502	Cookville	34	\$ 6.52	704	King Solomon	36	\$ 8.13
84	Fellowship	16	\$ 26.12	301	Clay	41	\$ 15.74	505	Cherryville	36	\$ 14.22	705	Richard Caswell	10	\$ 7.05
85	Morning Star	9	\$ 11.73	302	Lillington	20	\$ 23.10	509	Belhaven	3	\$ 23.85	706	Newport	4	\$ 5.18
90	Skewarkee	5	\$ 20.91	304	Pleasant Hill	10	\$ 11.82	515	Whetstone	36	\$ 18.35	707	Forsyth	26	\$ 11.90
91	Western Star	38	\$ 24.57	305	Laurinburg	21	\$ 9.38	517	Farmville	6	\$ 33.06	708	Crown Point	6	\$ 19.47
92	Joseph Warren	16	\$ 10.01	306	Raeford	21	\$ 32.97	519	Widow's Son	8	\$ 4.44	709	Conover	34	\$ 19.51
95	Jerusalem	6	\$ 38.07	314	New Lebanon	1	\$ 34.01	521	Manleo	2	\$ 4.39	710	Advance	27	\$ 5.86
97	Millbrook	14	\$ 140.67	317	Eureka	1	\$ 26.90	525	Rodgers	9	\$ -	712	Wilson	16	\$ 12.74
98	Hiram	11	\$ 91.97	319	Wilmington	12	\$ 22.42	527	Lucama	16	\$ 13.63	713	Stanley	36	\$ 1.40
99	Fulton	28	\$ 4,225.12	320	Selma	16	\$ 64.09	528	Fairmont	18	\$ 55.40	714	Liberty	24	\$ 44.41
102	Columbus	20	\$ 32.81	322	Granite	25	\$ 25.67	529	Andrews	41	\$ 12.55	715	Derita	31	\$ 7.00
104	Orr	3	\$ 32.14	331	Bayboro	7	\$ 6.25	532	Hamlet	21	\$ 39.05	717	Burnsville	37	\$ 18.44
106	Perquimans	1	\$ 78.85	339	Fairview	35	\$ 28.57	534	Camp Call	35	\$ 36.49	718	Troy	24	\$ 73.21
109	Franklin	4	\$ 10.13	340	Harmony	10	\$ 5.00	535	Hollis	38	\$ 1.35	719	Horse Creek	38	\$ 22.18
112	Wayne	10	\$ 26.60	343	Hickory	34	\$ 13.35	542	Corinthian	23	\$ 19.31	720	Cabarrus	28	\$ 33.14
113	Person	19	\$ 126.03	344	Numa F. Reid	23	\$ 26.28	543	Spencer	28	\$ 51.08	722	King	26	\$ 19.84
114	St. Alban's	18	\$ 7.95	348	Stanly	29	\$ 31.03	544	Mount Holly	36	\$ 21.74	723	Winton	5	\$ 12.93
115	Holly Springs	15	\$ 27.16	352	Durham	19	\$ 40.46	550	Roman Eagle	21	\$ 9.36	724	Berne	7	\$ 9.05
117	Mt. Lebanon	16	\$ 39.73	356	Fallston	35	\$ 11.02	551	Glenville	40	\$ 7.96	725	Grantham	7	\$ 8.33
118	Mount Hermon	39	\$ 8.13	357	Bakersville	37	\$ 0.51	552	Revolution	23	\$ 15.97	727	Shallotte	12	\$ 2.07
122	Oxford	13	\$ 87.54	358	East LaPorte	40	\$ 10.95	554	Vesper	37	\$ 16.83	730	Stedman	17	\$ 38.57
123	Franklinton	13	\$ 37.10	359	Mt. Vernon	7	\$ 43.98	555	Elise	21	\$ 9.05	732	Bush Hill	24	\$ 1.49
125	Mill Creek	11	\$ 98.64	363	Snow	33	\$ 61.52	556	Neill S. Stewart	20	\$ 1.50	733	Stump Sound	4	\$ 2.42
126	Gatesville	1	\$ 31.41	369	Gastonia	36	\$ 10.19	558	Ararat	25	\$ 11.90	734	William Pitt	6	\$ 54.15
127	Blackmer	24	\$ 46.91	373	Ashler	33	\$ 12.45	561	Swannanoa	39	\$ 1.30	735	James B. Green	14	\$ 32.36
128	Hanks	24	\$ 24.17	374	Campbell	30	\$ 20.84	562	Waxhaw	29	\$ 37.26	736	New River	4	\$ 43.21
129	Dan River	22	\$ 23.20	375	State Line	35	\$ 28.88	563	Tabor	18	\$ 1.72	737	Steele Creek	32	\$ 22.03
132	Radiance	6	\$ 22.15	377	Youngsville	13	\$ 69.35	564	Richlands	4	\$ 29.45	738	West Gate	31	\$ 21.60
134	Mocksville	27	\$ 13.88	378	Seaboard	5	\$ 13.78	565	Wendell	14	\$ 43.89	739	Newell	31	\$ 105.90
136	Leaksville	22	\$ 23.90	379	Coharie	11	\$ 204.23	568	Doric	7	\$ 34.61	740	Charles B. Newcomb	15	\$ 30.56
137	Lincoln	34	\$ 21.27	380	Granville	13	\$ 58.96	571	Snow Creek	30	\$ 9.66	741	Crisiss Wright	4	\$ 6.70
138	King Solomon	12	\$ 35.74	381	Forest City	38	\$ 6.85	573	Mt. Pleasant	33	\$ 18.21	742	Mint Hill	32	\$ 12.34
143	Mt. Vernon	20	\$ 9.34	384	Jefferson Penn	22	\$ 20.59	576	Andrew Jackson	28	\$ 56.83	743	J. J. Crowder	14	\$ 44.21
145	Junaluskee	41	\$ 8.44	386	Pigeon River	40	\$ 11.38	578	Meadow Branch	29	\$ 32.42	744	Shelby	35	\$ 125.23
146	Cherokee	41	\$ 16.50	387	Kedron	38	\$ 24.30	579	Casar	35	\$ 43.15	745	Vandora	15	\$ 67.42
147	Palmyra	20	\$ 5.41	388	Friendship	35	\$ 37.55	583	Ionic	7	\$ 36.81	746	P. P. Turner	23	\$ 2.55
149	Adoniram	13	\$ 88.41	390	Copeland	25	\$ 12.67	584	Apex	15	\$ 30.46	747	Ocracoke	2	\$ 2.14
150	Pee Dee	29	\$ 43.19	391	Lebanon	17	\$ 18.32	585	Roseboro	11	\$ 3.81	749	Truth	29	\$ 12.73
151	Sanford	20	\$ 14.16	395	Orient	12	\$ 11.28	589	Bethel	6	\$ 29.82	750	Oak Grove	19	\$ 24.51
154	Scotch Ireland	28	\$ 68.20	397	Bald Creek	37	\$ 14.74	590	Lowell	36	\$ 2.36	751	Old Town	26	\$ 71.10
155	White Stone	14	\$ 11.04	401	Joppa	34	\$ 14.26	592	Maiden	34	\$ 7.54	752	Enterprise	27	\$ 6.28
158	Knap of Reeds	19	\$ 22.09	403	Siler City	20	\$ 2.22	593	Stony Point	30	\$ 17.35	753	Federal Point	12	\$ 18.31
162	Yadkin	25	\$ 9.71	404	Denton	27	\$ 20.56	594	Ashe	33	\$ 18.93	755	Clemmons	26	\$ 70.73
165	Archer	14	\$ 29.35	405	Ocean	4	\$ 15.94	596	Waccamaw	12	\$ 0.68	756	Clifford Duell	17	\$ 23.21
167	Winston	26	\$ 9.09	407	North Wilkesboro	33	\$ 5.00	598	Cranberry	37	\$ 3.31	757	Denver	34	\$ 38.14
170	Blackmer	39	\$ 20.88	408	University	19	\$ 18.98	602	Queen City	9	\$ 1.00	758	Oak Island	12	\$ 1.71
172	Buffalo	20	\$ 10.97	409	Bula	22	\$ 46.87	606	Riverside	34	\$ 27.44	759	James K. Polk	32	\$ 26.67
176	Williams	31	\$ 22.85	411	Bailey	9	\$ 9.52	609	Zebulon	14	\$ 41.23	760	Wilkinson College	23	\$ 1.10
181	Carthage	21	\$ 19.53	412	Henry F. Grainger	13	\$ 117.23	612	Atkinson	12	\$ 210.10	761	Orphans	13	\$ 70.77
187	Central Cross	9	\$ 18.56	413	James A. Johnson	13	\$ 49.97	613	Home	10	\$ 83.72	762	Mosaic	19	\$ 5.08
188	Balfour	24	\$ 23.56	417	Maxton	18	\$ 1.42	616	Round Peak	25	\$ 57.81	763	Friendship	20	\$ 11.76
190	Chadbourne (Fair Bluff)	18	\$ 18.45	418	Pendleton	5	\$ 23.42	617	St. Patrick's	16	\$ 44.85	764	Knights of Solomon	32	\$ 103.89
191	Granite	16	\$ 11.10	420	Harmony	25	\$ 11.29	618	Union	28	\$ 9.45	765	Ashler	12	\$ 4.57
198	Cary	15	\$ 62.52	423	Sparta	33	\$ 8.10	624	John H. Mills	13	\$ 52.78	766	Knights of Solomon - East	4	\$ -
202	Cleveland	35	\$ 5.96	426	Montgomery	41	\$ 7.84	626	Cannon Memorial	28	\$ 12.45	UD	Sophia	28	\$ -
205	Long Creek	31	\$ 67.15	427	Oconee	40	\$ 27.84	627	Belmont	36	\$ 1.58				
206	Mingo	11	\$ 117.67	428	Stokesdale	23	\$ 13.50	629	Walnut Cove	26	\$ 84.67				
207	Lebanon	18	\$ 7.12	429	Seaside	4	\$ 32.46	634	Goldsboro	10	\$ 65.72				
208	Mount Olive	10	\$ 21.34	431	Relief	16	\$ 15.56	637	Yadkin Falls	29	\$ 28.16				
210	Eno	19	\$ 37.95	432	Piney Creek	33	\$ 0.43	643	Practerville	18	\$ 4.00				
214	Thomasville	27	\$ 16.13	433	Vanceboro	7	\$ 1.11	64646</							

Growing More Ways To Give – Fundraising Summary

The gifts that continue to support The Masonic Home for Children hold value in so many forms. What was 142 years ago comprised of collections and clothing now extends much further as donors, both new to our Home or those giving over decades, plan, work, comprise, engage, and contribute in ways that give to every facet of our mission. This year was highlighted by a number of new and beneficial forms of giving. Some contributions supported directly the care of the children and the operation of the Home, which continues to be the most essential focus of our charitable needs. The year was also gratified with a number of new and unique contributions, realizing needs recently established or presenting new opportunities for hope and care in the life of a child. The foundation of our fundraising at MHCO and the future of this Home are indispensable and will continue to be fixed as charity determines our future and our ability to change the life of a child.

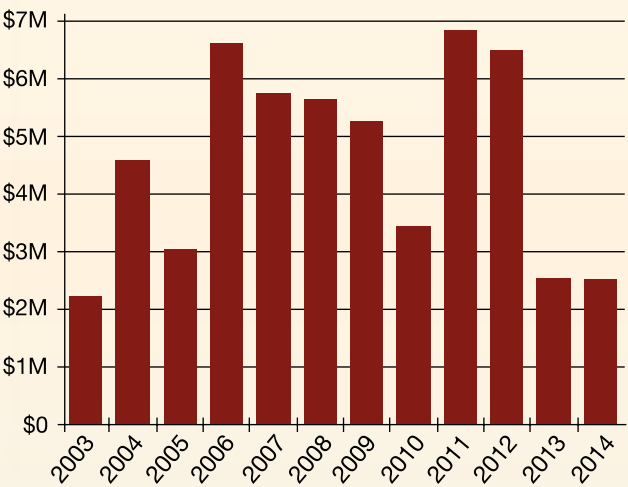
With the charity given to our Home, comes the responsibility to manage the gifts of others legally, ethically, and soundly. The cost of raising funds is practical and appropriate and must be reasonable to realize the most in charity from others. Ninety cents of every dollar contributed as donation revenue in 2014 went to the care of the children and support of this Home. In addition, MHCO follows the guidelines of our North Carolina's Office of the Secretary of State and their Solicitation License, which was awarded to our Home again in 2014. The Home has adopted the Association of Fundraising Professionals Donor Bill of Rights and Code of Ethical Principles and Standards. This code serves as a guideline for generating philanthropic support and focuses on fundraising obligations, solicitation and use of funds, presentation of information, and compensation and contracts. This excellent and trusted model supplements our benchmark for charity which continues to be the gifts which are used for their intended purpose to the satisfaction of our givers and always for the benefit of this Home and the care of its children.

The Year of Giving at MHCO

This was a year of diverse and exceptional forms of giving. From in-kind giving to matching gifts, the escalated importance of on-line marketing and charity to a growing demand for more planned gifts, much of the fundraising centered on new opportunities or the opportunity to re-invest in something valuable from the past. Statistically, fundraising numbers remained relatively unchanged. What has shown growth is the continued establishment of donors new to our Home and its purpose and the introduction of new ways to contribute for the betterment of our children's care and stability. Benefitting from these additions the Home maintains a level of giving equal to the previous year.

Overall donation revenue was slightly higher in 2014 than that of the previous year. Donations related to Planned Gifts and the earnings of our North Carolina Masonic Foundation were both up in 2014. General Public, Masonic, and calendar giving were down slightly. Specific donation types show with their percentage of total giving as part of the finance report on page 12 of this report.

Total Donation Revenue 2003-2014 (M = Million)



Donors and Donations

Behind every gift there is a "giver". Whether familiar with the Home over the course of time, an alumnus of the Home, a member of the Masonic fraternity, or simply as one who wishes to give to the life of a child, those who gave in 2014 totaled over 3,500, many giving more than one time throughout the year. Foremost of this group is our Masonic Fraternity. Their sponsorship of this Home and those who live here spans over 140 years and over 10,000 young lives. Masonic giving accounted for approximately 32% of total monetary gifts over the past year. While total giving attributed to Masonic groups or members declined slightly as compared to 2013, the gift given to our Home, per member rose to a six year high of \$25.21 per member. This total included monetary and in-kind gifts and those designated or a the gift of property, stocks, or other appreciable. A full list of giving per lodge, per member for every lodge in North Carolina that donated to MHCO in 2014 is outlined on page 13. Over 134 Lodges gave over the average per member gift for 2014, as compared to 80 lodges in 2013.

The ways a person can give are varied and the options are growing. From on-line gifts through the Home's website,

at www.mhc-oxford.org/waystogive.html#donate, a total of \$12,519.14 was given just through the internet. The Home is planning a new website for 2015, which will be an even simpler to use, secure site, allowing donors to add information relating to memorials, honorariums, and designated gifts. The Home's matching gifts/payroll deduction percentage of giving also grew, introducing more companies and easier options for donors to confidentially and comfortably give to MHCO with the assistance of their employer or bank. Matching gifts provide a unique opportunity allowing donors or potential donors to give more courtesy of bank or business without personally committing more from their personal account. The advantage of Matching Gifts for both MHCO and its donors is outlined in the article *Growing Ways To Give More – Matching Gifts* located on page 18 of this report.

Memorial and Honorary gifts continue to allow donors to support our Home while recognizing the importance and impact of another in their own lives. Helping our children these tokens of personal tribute are facilitated by the Home issuing not only a letter of thanks, but one of acknowledgment on the continuing legacy of a very special person. Grants and Corporate Gifts come from a variety of sources and can be designated or undesignated, pairing the desires of a donor with a need in the life of a child at MHCO.

Planned Gifts – Wills, Estates, Trusts and Annuities

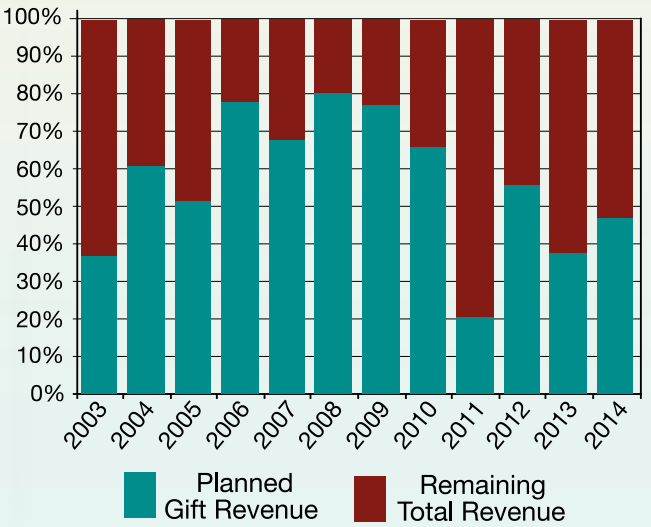
The Home showed a slight increase in the realization of major gifts as a result of Planned Giving. In most cases these gifts are from a will or estate that has executed and are often not known of ahead of time. Their impact continues to be critical to MHCO and its ability to operate, grow, improve,

and maintain a quality of care that can change the life of a child. Planned giving and its subsequent gifts experienced a finish above previous year's totals for the first time in over two years, finishing with an increase of 6% above 2013, but 49% below the eight-year average for planned gifts of \$1.9 million. Their significance is shown on the chart (bottom left on this page), showing their percentage of total giving for the past This reduction of planned gifts over the past several years is slightly offset by other forms of giving, while its total impact continues to be on average 55% of total annual giving since 2003.

Celebrating a Gift to "God's Half Acre" – Hayes/Neal Planned Giving Society

Planned Giving also allows the Home the opportunity to celebrate lifetime gifts, especially for those who have passed, leaving our Home and the care of its children as part of their legacy. As it has been for seven years, MHCO's governing body, leadership, staff, alumni and children gathered in 2014 to honor those who remembered their Home with a lifetime gift as part of the annual Hayes/Neal Society Recognition Luncheon. In addition to the recognition of these gifts of a lifetime, the Home and its Board also took the opportunity to recognize a very special designated gift from a past Grand Master, Board Member Emeritus, and friend of this Home and his family. Each year MHCO acknowledges the importance of planned gifts in the operation of the Home and its ability to continue to serve, inviting family and friends of those honored to come and share a meal and a word while seeing the lasting

Planned Giving Statistics



HAYES/NEAL PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY
INDUCTEES IN 2014

- SILVER**
FRANK E. AND HILDA MAE T. YOUNG
- BRONZE**
DORIS C. ROBBINS
DANIEL M. GRADY
ELBERT B. AND MARGARET B. HUFFMAN
- LEGACY**
EVERETT NESBITT "SONNY" JARRETT, SR.
- BENEFACTOR**
CLAUD W. CARAWAN
VIRA WILLOWDEAN J. STRICKLAND

and tremendous impact of planned giving, including the one related to their family or friend.

In addition to listing the newest members of the Planned Giving Society, as shown on page 15 of this report, the Home recognized a special designated donation courtesy of Dewey Preslar, Jr. and his wife Terrie who committed a gift for the replacement of the fence at the Home's historic cemetery, known as God's Half Acre. Joining the Preslar's were members of Eureka Lodge No. 283 and Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 576 who also donated funds, as well as time, travel, and plants to compliment the fence's installation. A rededication of the fence was held following the luncheon. For more information on the importance of planned giving at MHCO and how you or your family or a friend can become a part of this vital method of giving at MHCO, please call the Financial Development Department at 919-603-3901 or email Chris Richardson, Director of Financial Development at crichards@mhc-oxford.org. ♦

Masonic Giving and Gifts

With a relationship of giving that spans almost a century and a half, our Home once again looked to the generosity and trust of our Masons. These fraternal brothers, whose predecessors founded our Home in 1873 and continue as its primary sponsors, joined together again in 2014. They joined to plan and conduct fundraisers, some for their 40th or 50th year! They were one as they visited our Home to provide a meal, an activity, or goods or service. With each gift came the endorsement of that member and their family and the creation of a memory, some a first and all pleasant, special, and benevolent. Their inquiries asked of what could be done and how they could help. Their answers came as dollars and cents, in-kind gifts of goods, the service of daily acts or of special events of individuality and assurance for a child. Our Masons,

give in so many ways, as witnessed once again in 2014. While the effects of their charity may never be witnessed directly by those who work so hard for MHCO, our Masons know and believe in their power to change a young life, provide stability and support, and help guide a soul void of some opportunity, while living at their Home.

The average gift of our Masons, per the 381 Lodges in North Carolina, and per member in each of those Lodges was \$25.21. This is a 8% increase as compared to the average gift per Lodge, per Mason, given in 2013 of \$23. 92 Lodges gave an average gift, per Mason of \$35 or more in 2014, which compares to 62 Lodges in 2013. A full report of the giving, per Lodge, per member of each Lodge for all 381 Lodges in North Carolina can be found on 13 of this report. It should be noted that MHCO is now recording the reported amount given for in-kind giving, including goods and opportunities, as part of the per Lodge, per member average which increased overall averages in 2014. This practice started in 2011 and has grown with the increased participation of Masons giving through goods and services.

Of special mention for 2014 is the growing impact of our Masons and their relationships both in their Lodge and outside of it, with their families, co-workers, and communities. This has been significant adding to our donor base, exposing our Home to new potential stakeholders, and in utilizing many new and popular methods of giving. This includes on-line giving, which has been an option for several years, but was not marketed quite as frequently. 2014 saw on-line gifts at their highest total ever of \$12,519. ♦



FROM PIZZA TO PLAYHOUSES

The activity seemed simple enough – have an office pizza party and share it with another. A Mason and a mortgage officer suggested to these friends – who happen to be home builders – they hold their party at a Home he and his fellow Masons support for children away from their families. For their first visit the home builders and the bankers shared an afternoon with the youngest and the oldest living at the Home. They had a meal, but a much greater gift was generated on this day. From that meal came an idea from first-time friends who were now engaged as perpetual shareholders in the lives of the Home's residents. On a sunny Wednesday in April, our friends at Ashton Woods Homes® (www.ashtonwoods.com) delivered two newly constructed playhouses to the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. The same friends who came to enjoy a meal with the children were now giving with an incredible capital donation adding to the entire environment of our campus for now and years to come. Proof that you can start a relationship in many important ways with a very simple act of kindness and give lasting support for the Home and the children who will call upon it in the future.

Gifts In-Kind

Another area of growth in giving is that of in-kind gifts, those goods or services that are donated and directly contribute to the mission of the Home. From school supplies to daily supplies, tasks and duties, special needs, and special gifts these physical gifts add to the work of the Home, while saving funds for use in other areas of care. The gifts are big and small, known and unknown, requested and unsolicited. In providing these donations our Home often receives a further benefit – the creation of a new friend and supporter. A great example of such a gift came in the giving of two beautiful, new playhouses and an even greater gift in a host of new and committed friends. This story – the story of Ashton Woods Builders (page 16) - outlines how one, simple action can determine the positive and valuable actions that will give for years to come.

Those interested in giving through in-kind gifts are encouraged to visit the Home's website monthly to view the latest list of needed items and services at <http://www.mhc-oxford.org/needslist/NeedsList.pdf>. ♦

The Use of Gifts – Designated Giving

The Masonic Home for Children practices and regularly reconciles its fundraising activities to ensure adherence to current ethical and legal practices as adopted by the National Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP), or by a similar recognized organization, either of which the Financial Development Officer must be a member. (From the MHCO Procedures Manual, Revised 2013, Sec. XII, Financial Development Procedures.)

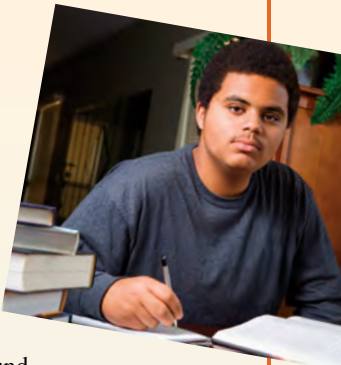
In handling our donations ethically, fiscally responsible, and legally, our Home demonstrates not only its commitment to our children, but to our donors. This accountability includes the use of gifts for their intended purpose, providing in specific ways, for specific reasons. Donors provide these gifts for these particular causes at our Home, with the inclusion of an honor or memorial or in asking our Home what would be the best way their gift could be designated, to help with this greatest impact. We celebrated a number of these gifts relating to educational, recreational, spiritual development, health needs, capital requests and other components that are essential to the successful operation of our Home. Ranging from a college education to the addition of updated furnishings, light for safety, and landscaped grounds, designated gifts provide, save, enhance, and improve, all charitably without financial burden to the Home and focuses on improving the quality of care at MHCO.

Many of these gifts were celebrated again in 2014, some for the 50th time, others for the first time, often connected to the life and memories of those committed to the cause of children. The names associated with each gift tell a story, which will continue to be told each time a child is helped by

their giving.

In 2014, MHCO awarded the following designated funds, including those listed for individual projects and causes on our campus.

- Umphlet Scholarship
- Daniel and Nellie Beck Scholarship
- The John L. and Flora V. Watson Educational Scholarship Fund
- OO/MHCO AA Citizenship Award
(sponsored by the Oxford Orphanage Alumni Association)
- Dan C. Rice Journalism Award
(honoring a student of the School of Graphic Arts)
- Mel Davis Children's Award
(honoring a student of the School of Graphic Arts)
- Norman Garland Hines Memorial Scholarship
- Arthur L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship
- Guy Thomas and Lelle Courtney Horner/Guy T. Horner Presidential Scholar Award
- Ira P. Spivey, Jr. Memorial Fund for Higher Learning
- Creedmoor Lodge No. 499 Scholarship
- Cresenzo Family Scholarship Fund
- Oscar Vatz Fund
- Carl and Nerata Burt Trust
- Darlene Hix Fund
- Neighbors Scholarship
- Beck Scholarship
- Merritt Scholarship
- Harris Fund
- John L. and Corneilia C. Troutman Awards
- The Jack Allen Memory Scholarship Fund



In addition to these specific awards, we receive income from a number of designated award funds used to help with educational, recreational, capital, and other expenses eligible for different residents of MHCO throughout the year. The funds provide individual and essential funding established to offer opportunities for children at the Home year after year after year in a variety of areas of care. Below are these designated awards, given in 2014, and their focused area of giving.

- Joe Walters Memorial Music Fund (*Music Needs*)
- Evelyn and Stan Longdon Education Endowment
(*Educational/Safety/Learning Funding*)
- Carson York Rite Library Fund (*Literacy Funding*)
- Pond Fund (*providing class rings for all graduating seniors*)
- Justin Neil Taylor Memorial Athletic Fund
(*specifically for recreation needs at MHCO*)
- Harvey T. and Jean L. Coley Education Endowment at MHCO
(*General Education Needs*)
- Floyd and Dot Burton Fund for the Children
(*Capital Improvement Needs for Individual Homes*)

For more information on these designated funds or to find

out how you can honor a special person in your life through the establishment of a designated scholarship or donation fund, please call MHCO's Financial Development Office at (919)603-3906 or visit www.mhc-oxford.org/donations. ♦

OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR DONORS

MHCO works to give those that give so much to us an experience that is positive, applicable to our procedures, beneficial to our mission and relevant to our future and that of the children and families we serve. Primary to this are ethical principles of fundraising, including those legal, moral, ethical, and transparent procedures utilized through fundraising and reporting at MHCO. We are committed to our donors and the proper management and utilization of all donations. In adhering to these principles MHCO and its Board continue to accept and follow the Ethical Standards and the Donor Bill of Rights written and approved by the recognized and sanctioned fundraising professionals' organization, The Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). MHCO also follows all federal rules and regulations of fundraising in maintaining its non-profit, 501(c) (3) status and continues to be licensed by the State of North Carolina to solicit for charitable donations within the state and accordingly to its rules and regulations. For more information or to view the Home's adopted Donor Bill of Rights, Ethical Standards, or Solicitation License, visit www.mhc-oxford.org/donor.

*The Masonic Home for Children practices and regularly reconciles its fundraising activities to ensure adherence to current ethical and legal practices as adopted by the National Association of Fundraising Professionals, a nationally recognized, or by a similar recognized organization, either of which the Financial Development Officer must be a member.

(From the MHCO Procedures Manual, Revised 2013, Sec. XII, Financial Development Procedures)

Growing Ways To Give More – Matching Gifts

How An Employer's Commitment to Charity Generates Even More in the Life of a Child

This is the first in a short series of articles, available in 2015, focused on the number of different and growing ways to give larger and more frequently to our Masonic Home for Children at Oxford. Specifically, these articles recognize that contributions continue to be vital to the operation of our Home, providing quality care for our children away from their families. Yet, MHCO realizes that in meeting this need, we cannot continue to ask for more from the same sources and in the same places. The articles will help answer the question "How do we increase the giving we must have to provide for our children's lives and increase the quality of their care while respecting the charitable concerns of our donors? Visit www.mhc-oxford.org for more articles on the growing ways to give to MHCO and its children for the future.

What is a MATCHING GIFT? A matching gift can also be known as a matching fund or matching donation and is a charitable gift made toward a non-profit organization, like MHCO, by a matching donor (e.g., an employer, financial institution, or other organization) under the provision that an original donor (e.g., an employee, retiree, or spouse of an employee) first makes a gift toward that organization. Matching Gifts are the perfect example of taking the gifts already generously given by our donors and, in some cases, "doubling or tripling" the amount given without asking the original donor to give more. Many companies and other employee driven organizations offer **MATCHING GIFT** programs. These programs can include:

- ♦ a matching gift of cash or stock of various percentages and up to various limits annually
- ♦ the ability to match the gift of a spouse of an employee or a retired employee
- ♦ the opportunity for families who work for companies who offer MATCHING GIFTS to combine their credit for an annual gift to MHCO
- ♦ Payroll deductions and annual statements from your employer further simplifying the giving process

Not taking advantage of MATCHING GIFTS or unsure if your employer participates? Visit your company website or the HR Department today. ♦

Companies That Participate Currently in Employer, Retiree, or Spousal Matching/Payroll Deduction Programs With MHCO

Below are just a few of the companies that MHCO works with regarding our donors who are employees, spouses of employees, or retired employees and who give annually with their employers to MHCO. Look for a full list on our new website in 2015.

State Employees of North Carolina
American Express® Employee Giving
Bank of America®
Duke Energy®
ExxonMobil® Foundation
Kohl's® Stores and Employees
GE® Foundation
GlaxoSmithKline® Foundation
IBM® Employee Service Center
IBM® Retiree Charitable Fund
Lumina™ Foundation for Education

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney®
Pharpoint Research
PPG Industries™ Foundation
Reynolds American Foundation
Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.
Storr Office Environments
TE Connectivity® Matching Gift
The Merck Foundation
Traveler's Community Connections
Wachovia® Foundation-Matching Gifts
Wells Fargo® Community Support Foundation

Employee and Board Giving Campaign Reaches New Heights

As important as any gifts that we get are those associated with our employees and our Board Members. While supporting the operation of our Home as workers, providers, and our primary governing body, these two groups represent the foundation of our Home's care every day. To have their support in yet another way, and one vital to the Home, monetary giving, demonstrates to all other potential and current supporters their full commitment to our Home.

Led by Finance Assistant Leigh Ann Adcock, the "Fill our Heart" Giving Campaign for Employees and Board Members kicked off in February and with constant reminders and special emphasis on the importance of their giving, concluded in October 2014. In the end the amounts and more importantly, the percentage of those that participated was unprecedented. 95% of employees and 88% of Board Members contributed to the Home, many every month and with large gifts from both members of their family. In kind-gifts of goods and services



were also included in the final amount.

Leading by example continues as one of the key messages associated with this campaign. Employees and Board Members not only give much needed funds, they confirm their place as committed, honest, and valid advocates and brokers for our Home and its future with other current and potential donors. The leadership of our employees and Board is unparalleled, as evidenced by this wonderful gift in 2014. We applaud our staff and Board for their charity, in so many ways, and are looking forward to 2015 and the next campaign to "Fill Every Heart". ♦

Life's teachable moments . . .

Through the years, its been my thought to ask, not demand work out of the children, to try to make things interesting, not boring and to just have fun with it. Things come natural to me that way.

OUR MISSION: The Masonic Home for Children assists families in need by providing a home-like setting together with community based programs and services for children to enhance its stable, supportive and nurturing living environment in order for children to reunite with their families or achieve independence.

- Quality residential child care services to include institutional foster care,
- Parent education and counseling,
- Social skill development for children and families,
- Spiritual development for children and families,
- Academic development and achievement for children,
- Assistance for the advancement of higher education for client children

- and former child clients of the residential program to include both academic and vocational schooling,
- Community education and child and family advocacy,
- Family reintegration and assistance with permanency planning,
- Promotion of independent living education for youth, and
- After-care and Follow-up services

VISION STATEMENT: The Masonic Home for Children is committed to providing a safe and nurturing home environment as well as necessary services through a professional and caring staff, for low to moderate risk children in need of an alternative living environment and for other child development services. The Home is committed to provide emotional, physical, spiritual and social development for children as well as family counseling, in furtherance of reunification with family. The Home will also take all necessary steps to ensure academic remediation, vocational and technical training assistance as well as social and living skills to encourage independent living and productive citizenship.

QUALITY STANDARDS: The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford strives to maintain a culture of constant performance and quality improvement which supports the mission and promotes an organization-wide standard of quality that is evidence-based and driven by safety, education and ethical, fiscal and legal responsibilities. These standards are validated by our accreditation and affiliation with the following professionally recognized organizations:

ACCREDITED BY COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION (COA) which partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. COA envisions excellence in the delivery of human services globally, resulting in the well-being of individuals, families, and communities.

BENCHMARKS (www.benchmarks-nc.org)

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA® (www.cwla.org)

ALLIANCE FOR STRONG FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES™ (www.alliance1.org)

NORTH CAROLINA CENTER FOR NONPROFITS (www.ncnonprofits.org)

ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS™ (www.afpnet.org)



THE MASONIC HOME FOR CHILDREN AT OXFORD, INC.

600 College Street

Oxford, NC 27565

919.693.5111

TOLL FREE 888.505.HELP (4357)

www.mhc-oxford.org

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford, Inc. is a licensed, residential children's home through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (www.dhhs.state.nc.us) and is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit registered through the Secretary of State of North Carolina (www.secstate.state.nc.us)

Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available from the Charitable Solicitation Licensing Section at 888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

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