

## **Personnel**

MHCO welcomes intern Darauna Davis as the new Program Assistant.

MHCO is currently recruiting for one Maintenance Employee and one CCW couple.

Therapist Couple Mr. and Mrs. Terry provided caregiver training for CCWs on 8/6.

All Staff Meeting was held on 8/16 and the All Staff Training Fair was held on 9/5. Topics included, Campus Security, Ethical Standards, Evaluation, Resident Rights, Employee Rights, Child Abuse and Neglect, and Information Technology. Fire Safety training was provided by OFD on 10/25. The next All Staff Meeting is 11/14 and will include BBP training.

COVID and Flu vaccinations were provided to employees and children on 10/9.

## **Referral Status**

As of 10/30/24 there are 56 youth in care. MHCO has reopened Bemis Cottage. MHCO has offered space to children's homes and DSS placements through Benchmarks for those displaced by Hurricane Helene.

## **Board Committee Work and Schedule**

The Financial Development Committee is scheduled to meet on 11/7/24 at 1:30pm.

The Marketing Committee is scheduled to meet on 10/30/24 by zoom at 7:00pm.

The Policy and Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet on 10/31/24 by zoom at 5:15pm.

The Program Planning Committee is scheduled to meet on 11/7/24 at 3:00pm.

The Nominations Committee is scheduled to meet on 11/7/24 at 4:00pm.

The Vision Committee is scheduled to meet on 11/7/24 at 5:00pm.

The Community Communications Committee is scheduled to meet on 11/12/24.

## **Performance Quality Improvement - PQI**

MHCO was awarded four grants during this period including the previously mentioned TDA grant for MHF advertising for \$5000. Arby's awarded a grant for \$14,100 toward the furniture campaign. Triangle North Healthcare Foundation provided a grant for the CSC for \$21,500. A portion of this award is approved for CSC operations and some for providing outreach support to families. The United Way provided a \$1500 grant for the CHAMPS program on campus. Total awards for this period are \$42,100. MHCO was denied grant requests from Wells Fargo and the Granville Co. Community Foundation. A grant application is being submitted to the Dale Jr. Foundation.

MHCO has been invited to the John William Pope Foundation reception on 12/5.

November 8, 2024

MHCO has begun self-study for the Council on Accreditation review. Teams are being established for each standard to review, gather evidence, and educate the staff on the process.

### **Program**

The Campus was busy wrapping up summer fun and preparing for a new school year. Activities and educational events included GV Health Dept. Education, MS and HS Learning Workshop, MS and HS Education Lab, Vacation Bible School, Outer Banks Fishing Trip, Spencer Pool Party, HS Civil Engineering Educ with Frank Wanko, and most residents attended Great Wolf Lodge which was a gift from the Alumni Association. Lux Libertas Lodge #772 sponsored several residents attending the UNC game on 10/27. Additional memorable events are scheduled to include the Panthers Game on 11/3. Special Thanks to West Gate Lodge #738, Phalanx Lodge #31, Metrolina Shrine Club, WB Steve White, Brother Brad and Diane Orr, WB Mack Wilson, Brother Michael and Karen Hoover, and WB Gary Cooke. Thanks to all for providing these wonderful memories for the children.

The students are involved with school activities and extracurriculars including JROTC, Soccer, Cheerleading, Volleyball, Football, Band, and Theater. Residents are involved in ETB and CHAMPS on campus. MHCO has become a host site for a GSA Troop. MHCO will not be a Chartering Organization, but simply a meeting location. Several youth and employee children are interested in Girl Scouts.

Special recognition was made by the Chamber of Commerce as one student was recently awarded Student Spotlight. One student is in Early College. Another is working toward an Associate Degree in HVAC. Two residents recently earned their CDL. One student plans to enlist in the National Reserves.

ILP residents are currently working at Subway, UPS, Lowes Hardware, Beckford Medical Center, driving a truck for MR Williams, doing Maintenance at McDonalds working at a Nursing Home, and delivering Flowers.

Employment levels for September were Direct Care – no youth eligible, TLC 83%, ILP 90%, Combined 88%. Sixteen residents are doing Kid\$Earn jobs on campus. Eleven youth are enrolling in Driver's Ed!

### **Financial Development and Marketing**

September 14<sup>th</sup> was a big day at MHCO. The 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic District led by Adoniram Lodge #149 prepared lunch for the campus and all the guests. Eureka Lodge #283 held their 27<sup>th</sup> Charity Ride and raised \$22,000 for MHCO. KOS also presented their check for their Charity Ride held in June. Around 30 volunteers helped staff and residents move out the old bedroom furniture to be replaced with new furniture from Dave's Furniture. Dave's team was very helpful and all were able to replace furniture in 65 rooms. To date \$164,518 has been received toward the furniture campaign. Immediately after the picnic lunch several cottages were able to attend Mocksville Lodge's picnic. This event has been a fundraiser for MHCO for 145 years. The report is that the event went very well. Special thanks to all the staff, residents and volunteers that made the day so successful.

## Administrator's Report

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November 8, 2024

MHCO has been honored to present to Federal Point Lodge #753, St. John's Lodge #3 at the GM District #7 meeting, Durham York Rite Bodies, and Biltmore Lodge #446.

On 9/17 MHCO was featured on Next Door Radio to promote Homecoming and MHCO. The TDA grant is being utilized to promote Homecoming through WIZS, WRAL, WLUS, Next Door Radio, and a digital Billboard on US 1.

The 2025 Gala Planning team met on 9/9. The team decided on branding the gala as the St. John's Annual Charity Gala. Tentative plans are being finalized regarding the location and speaker. The date chosen will be 6/21/25 and once a location is finalized MHCO will send out save the date notices through Blackbaud, Grandview, and to our attendees for the past Galas. Save the date!

MHCO was honored to tour Steve Young's family, in particular Cecil Frank Thomson who was a resident in the 1930's. It was very delightful to hear his stories and share news of how the Home operates today.

On 10/3 and 10/23 MHCO was featured on TownTalk and on 10/9 with 98.3 FM to promote Homecoming and MHCO. GCPS allowed MHCO to distribute 1300 flyers in backpacks also to promote Homecoming.

On 10/5 MHCO toured several members of the Concerned Bikers Association who made a nice check presentation. They were very impressed and plan to stay involved with MHCO.

MHCO was honored to present Hamlet 532 Gospel Concert attendees. The Brethren continue to develop this fundraiser as sponsorships almost doubled to forty sponsors.

Neighbor Jimmy Crawford invited the Administrator to participate in a breakfast on 10/10 to meet and talk with several GOP candidates including, Ashlee Adams, Frank Sossamon, and Laurie Buckhout.

MHCO was also Blessed to become the beneficiary of the Rufus Walston Smile Fund established by Mrs. Walston-Taylor and her family, Crown Point Lodge #708, and Greenville Lodge #284. This endowed gift will provide annual support for the children needing special dental care. Special thanks to WB Chris Richardson and the NCMF for establishing this fund to benefit the children's smiles.

Nobel Brother Mike Savial delivered several bikes for the residents on 10/21.

Additional depositions are being conducted on 11/21 for the Eudy Case.

MHCO looks forward to the DDGM retreat at MHCO on 11/1-11-2. These events are always very nice opportunities to present about the Home's programming. Thanks to all.

### **Master Plan/Capital Projects**

Several capital projects are included in the 2025 budget. Of note Certainteed provided shingles for reroofing the lower campus cottages and Cobb Center. MHCO still seeks a contractor to address the

front porch of the SJAB issues. If anyone has a contact, please share so we can address this developing need.

### **Community Support Center**

The CSC has been busy providing support for several groups and education. These include AIM High Mobile Park and Play coordinated for Housing Authority, Health Education, Voter Registration, Moms of Children with Special needs Support Group, and GEF Back to School Bash.

On 8/23 MHCO was able to tour members of the United Way Summer Conversation. The tour included a video being produced by NC United Way which features the collaboration between GC United Way and MHCO. The video will be made available to United Way across the state as a model of working together.

The NC Tourism Department requests that MHCO's property be listed as available for filming. Parameters would need to be put into place and the Chairman mentioned he has access to arrangements we could adopt.

The Community Support Center has collaborated service and provided services to 430 persons this year. These numbers do not reflect direct outreach service to four families. The American Red Cross recently opened their office in the CSC to be the newest partner.

### **Homecoming**

MHCO met with Law Enforcement and the Fire Department to plan for safety and security during Homecoming. Security protocols included the use of drones to help monitor and signage letting attendees know filming is taking place. Adjustments were made to stage the parade on lower campus. Violet Davenport and JC Knowles were again the Grand Marshalls due to no parade being held last year. Thirty community groups and dignitaries participated in the parade. Twenty-two BBQ teams participated. Sides were provided by Joey Transou to go with the BBQ. Food trucks were available but only served coffee and desserts so as not to compete with the BBQ teams' offerings.

MHCO is pleased that Homecoming was a safe and positive event. The weather cooperated. Special thanks to all the Staff and their families, BBQ teams, parade groups, youth, and all who made this a very special event. After action meeting was held on 10/16. Several recommendations were made to improve on the organization, structure, and ability to prevent some of the issues we had this year.

The BBQ winners were:

Best of the Best Overall Calvin Rogers Award

- Keller Memorial Lodge #657

Second Overall

- Phoenix Lodge #8

Third Overall

- 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

November 8, 2024

Pork BBQ

- First – Durham Lodge #352
- Second – Sudan Shriners
- Third – Oak Grove Lodge #750

Chicken

- First – Keller Memorial Lodge #657
- Second – 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Smoke
- Third – 13<sup>th</sup> Masonic District

Big Peach People's Choice Award

- Smokin' Santa's Que Crew

The York Rite Christmas Observance Ceremony will be on 12/15. Please consider joining the celebration as we welcome the Christmas Spirit.

**2025 Dates to Save**

- 3/15 Great Landscape Day
- 5/17 Hayes Neal Society Dinner
- 5/18 Baccalaureate
- 6/21 Gala
- 9/13 Eureka Charity Ride
- 10/10-11 Homecoming
- 12/13 MHCO Christmas Luncheon

**Risk Management**

The MHCO Risk Management Team met on 9/18.

Of special note, Dr. Tony Cozart was recognized as a Long Leaf Pine recipient. Well deserved!

On a personal note I would like to extend my appreciation to the Board as I have been able to visit my parents and daughters' family all living out of state. This is a very important time in each of their lives and being available is a Blessing I appreciate. Additionally, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Board as we were able to take the time as our Son got married in September. Thank you.

***We are Blessed and Pray we will remain so. Prayers and best wishes with all.***

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Otis