

HH Promises

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOLLAND HOME FOUNDATION



Incredible COVID support!

Immediately after COVID hit our community, Holland Home and its affiliates took charge to keep its residents, patients, and staff safe, raising funds for much-needed PPE (Personal Protection Equipment).

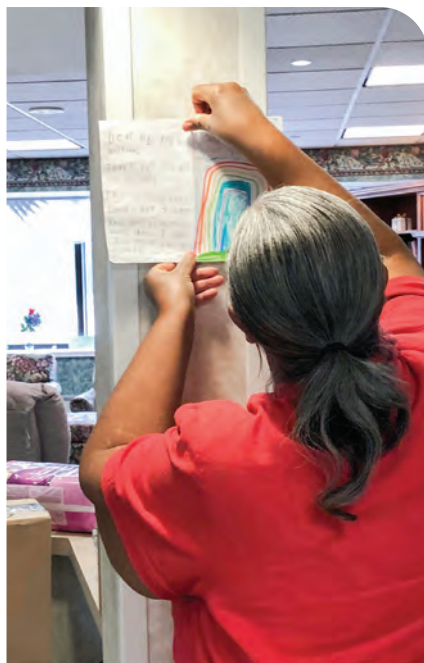
With donors like you, our staff has been able to serve patients and their families with love and compassion, not worrying about the safety of those served.

Special thanks to the Peter C. & Emajean Cook Foundation who generously matched all donations in July up to \$10,000. With this match, we raised more than \$30,000. As of September, COVID-19 fundraising efforts exceed \$192,000. All proceeds are being used to purchase Personal Protection Equipment to keep our staff and those we serve safe through the pandemic.



“I felt safer making visits to COVID positive clients with my Personal Protection Equipment than I did shopping for groceries. Thank you!”

Jared (above), registered nurse who has served COVID-positive clients



A thank you to frontline staff

Dear Holland Home workers, thank you for working so hard !!!!!!! This is from Lexi Timmerman. You may know my Grandma; she works there. I hope you enjoy this gift from the 2nd grade class in Dutton Christian School !! We're praying for you !!!!

When a 2nd grade teacher at Dutton Christian School asked if her students knew anyone working on the frontlines of healthcare, one student immediately thought of her "Nana" who works at Holland Home. As a way to say "thank you," her class used funds raised from their popcorn sales and from vegetables in their garden to put together a gratitude package for Holland Home's frontline staff. *The snacks were appreciated by all —thank you Dutton 2nd Graders!*



Vibrant & Virtual

Launched in 2016, our Vibrant Living model offers a range of opportunities to meet the different needs, backgrounds, styles, and preferences of our senior community residents. Vibrant Living exists to help residents engage with others in the community and improve and enrich their quality of life through a wide variety of program opportunities both in person and virtually.

With the Michigan Stay at Home Order, Vibrant Living quickly transitioned to a full virtual model. Its popular physical exercise component was made available on Facebook and continues to be utilized by both our residents and the community at large. Vibrant Living staff, Alisha Van Epps, Liz Norry, Zack House, Madye Martin (right) miss seeing residents in person but have enjoyed coming up with new and varied routines.



"I was very glad and thankful when they started the workout videos. I enjoyed the different instructors and the variety of exercises they provided.

I found the routines so very helpful since I need to exercise and work on keeping fit. I especially appreciate that I could go back and repeat them when it worked for me." - Pat, Holland Home resident

A family's annual holiday charitable tradition influenced by their personal experience

Mike VanLaan is one of five siblings, and his large, close-knit family made a collective decision seven years ago to help make their community a better place. In lieu of exchanging Christmas gifts, the siblings and their children each honor a chosen Christian-centered charity by raising funds through an "auction off" held annually on New Year's Day. Family members usually have a personal connection with their chosen charity, but because of the family's recent personal experience, Faith Hospice was everyone's unanimous choice.

Their aunt, Betty Winkle, had moved to Trillium Woods in August 2019 and their mom, Donna VanLaan, visited her sister every day. The whole family was very impressed by the wonderful care Aunt Betty had received over her six days in hospice.

In December 2019, Donna underwent surgery because of circulation problems in her legs. She was supposed to return home after surgery, and although the surgery was successful, she only had one functioning kidney and was considered high-risk for complications. She was transferred to sub-acute rehab for recovery assistance.

Even though their mother was in rehab and unable to attend the New Year's Day event, the VanLaan family decided to go ahead with their annual tradition. More than 20 family members and four generations participated. There's always a bit of strategy to making it fun, and the majority of the items involve family experiences, which is perfect for a family who loves spending time together.

Mike's son donated a movie night for 10 people in his home theatre. Other donations included a steak night, kayaking trip, pizza on the grill, home brews with a personalized label, two nights of baby sitting (which raised \$300), and even a lasagna that went for \$200. Many items were purchased at higher than average prices because of the family's personal connection to the cause.



Mikes' sister, a teacher at Dutton Christian School, hired some of her sixth graders to watch the younger family members. One student requested his pay be donated along with the auction funds because his grandfather died under Faith Hospice care four years before. They had no idea of his direct experience and were so touched by his contribution. In total, their annual auction raised \$4,000 for Faith Hospice!

Little did they know how much the family's charitable tradition would mean to them in just a few short days as Donna's health began to decline. The family's elder care attorney, who was working on her transition to Medicaid, suggested hospice as an additional resource. While the possibility of her not recovering had been in the back of their minds, no one had wanted to say it out loud. As a result of that recommendation though, Mike, two sisters, and his dad scheduled a Faith Hospice consultation and met with Josh Brewer, a nurse. Josh explained why she would benefit from hospice and the reasons made sense for transitioning her care. The Faith Hospice experience over the following days helped prepare the entire family for Donna's peaceful death on January 12.

The family feels choosing Faith Hospice as the beneficiary of last year's "auction off" was very providential. For them, God's plan in both the family's fund raising effort and their mom's subsequent hospice care is clearly evident.

Faith Hospice is deeply grateful to the VanLaan family and the creative way they supported our organization. Mike, his siblings, and entire extended family hope this may inspire others to be creative, stay together as a family, and support a wonderful cause.

For information on other opportunities to support Holland Home or Faith Hospice, contact the Holland Home Foundation at 616-235-5125 | foundation@hollandhome.org



Holland Home™
FOUNDATION

2100 Raybrook Street SE
Suite 300
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Questions? Call 616-235-5118.

Please Note

*Holland Home's annual
Keeping the Promise Dinner
has been postponed until 2021.*

The rescheduled 31st Annual Golf Outing took place on Monday, August 31 with more than 20 foursomes playing in each the AM and PM flights. Despite the challenges of running a socially-distanced event, we are so grateful for the ongoing support of the West Michigan community for Holland Home — especially from our Title Sponsor, Buiten & Associates (top left). Thank you to all who participated!

