



LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

St. Joseph's Home

Serving the elderly poor in Virginia since 1874

Mission Statement

As Little Sisters of the Poor, our mission is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

Our Home in Virginia

Following St. Jeanne Jugan's example throughout our 142 years in Virginia, the Little Sisters of the Poor have relied on God's Providence, manifested through the kindness of benefactors, to continue our work of caring for the elderly poor. A financial statement is available upon request from the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs.

St. Joseph's Home for the Aged
1503 Michaels Road
Henrico, VA 23229

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While our Residents enjoy their meals in the dining room each day, some enjoy a trip to the hospitality room on each floor for special snacks. Here Sr. Mary Jeannette hands Resident Edyth Hendrickson one of her favorite treats — a hot cup of coffee!

2016: A Year In Review

With a new year comes new opportunities, new friends, and new memories to be made, but it is always nice to take a walk down 'memory lane' as we remember the many blessings we received in the past year. From the continual improvements to our building to ensure the safety and comfort of our Residents to a full slate of exciting outings and activities, 2016 was certainly one for the books, and you helped make it all possible.

Kicking off some tremendous fundraising for the year, the 42nd Annual Benefit Dinner at the Commonwealth Club welcomed 200 friends and benefactors for a beautiful evening in support of our Residents. Through Mother's Challenge, over \$116,000 was raised for the urgent and unexpected reconstruction of the Home's front ramp. April brought exciting changes with the 8th Annual RVA French Food Festival. With the addition of Friday

evening to the event line-up, a host of dedicated chefs donating their talents, and an excellent team of hardworking volunteers, the festival was bigger and better than ever before! Come November, the 39th Annual Christmas Bazaar offered its classic lineup of hand painted wood crafts to eager holiday shoppers.

As the year progressed, it became clear that, in addition to the entrance ramp, there were additional repairs and upgrades needed to be made around the home. Work was begun on a multi-phase project to update the nurse call system to a more reliable wireless system. In the Jeanne Jugan Pavilion, the multi-purpose and exercise rooms underwent construction to remove mold and replace affected walls. In addition to projects like these, we were blessed by a grant from Dominion and the Dominion Foundation to plant periwinkle and azalea bushes along the back hill to

Little Sisters of the Poor

help prevent soil erosion and beautify the grounds.

Inside the Home (and outside!) this past year was packed full of fun activities, trips, and adventures for all our Residents to enjoy. Spring brought the Residents a chance to cuddle miniature pigs and teeny bunnies at a petting zoo in celebration of the birthday of little Lucy, the daughter of one of our volunteers.

As the weather continued to warm and sunny skies became the norm, our Residents experienced 'May on the Move,' venturing out to exciting destinations near and far, like the Virginia Beach shoreline for a lunchtime cruise, up into the mountains to quaint shops, and even to a small Virginia casino.

Summer brought the Fourth of July flag raising, feast day visits from the ice cream truck, and homemade peach ice cream and games on the patio. Come fall, Residents made the trek up to Carter Mountain for gorgeous views, fresh air, and apples that were later used in fall baking activities. The season rounded out with a visit from the cutest Halloween trick-or-treaters.

Celebrating Mother Marie's Golden Jubilee brought performances from Irish dancers, traditional Irish songs, and a delicious meal complete with Irish coffee. As Christmas made its joyous approach, the Home buzzed with holiday activities, from the annual Christmas play to carolers from local schools and numerous special parties!



As we reflect on this past year, we have said a bittersweet farewell to beloved Residents who went home to Heaven, and we welcomed with open arms many new Residents into our Home and our family. Our staff has continued their efforts to provide our Residents with the very best, from updating training and safety protocols to serving nutritious and delicious meals, or even just offering a friendly smile or kind word.

Still, with all the wonderful and exciting things that have come our way this past year, one of our greatest blessings by far is you. We have been graced with your support, and that of so many friends in our community, and feel the comfort of those blessings with

each passing day. Your gifts provide not only the daily needs of our Home, but allow for all the wonderful activities, experiences, and opportunities our Residents enjoy throughout the year. Nothing that is done here at the Home would be possible without the support we receive daily from friends like you, and we are filled with joy, gratitude, and comfort in knowing that with you by our side our Residents will never go without. Thank you for being a shining example of God's love and the miracle of Divine Providence. With your continued support, we hope to make 2017 the best year yet!



Sr. Amy and Resident Alice chat as lunch gets under way in the dining room.

Magnify Your Impact

If you are currently giving to our Home and would like to increase your contributions without taking more money out of your pocket, or even if you have not yet donated but have been considering making a contribution, this is for you. Many companies have matching gifts programs through which they may double or even triple your contribution

to charitable organizations. Your gifts help to pay for every day needs of our Residents, including everything from the electricity and water for the building to the food they eat. Through a matching gift, your donation can go even further in meeting those needs. Check with your employer to find out what options for gift matching may be available to you!

Around Our Home



Volunteers Sylvia Wayne and Mary Freundt had a blast putting on a play for the Residents.

'Charlie Brown' Comes to LSP

One Christmas tradition here at the Home is our annual Christmas play, put on by our theatrically inclined Residents. This year, we decided to switch things up—instead of having the Residents act in the play, employees and volunteers would put on a special production for them! After weeks of practicing lines and meeting for dress rehearsals, our acting team was ready to perform 'A Charlie Brown Christmas.' Residents eagerly gathered to see employees and volunteers decked out in costumes and wigs, tossing 'snowballs' and decorating Snoopy's dog house. The show closed with a cameo from Residents Rae and Ross Girardi as Mary and Joseph, and their lovely granddaughter Isabella as an angel. The room was alight with laughter and smiles, and it was a wonderful twist on a Christmas classic.

Coventry Bell Ringers

From the gentle tinkling of the smallest bell to the rolling echo of the largest, the auditorium was filled with the beautiful sounds of Christmas when the Coventry Bell Ringers visited our Home. The group, from Bon Air Baptist Church, recreated classic carols with an arrangement of traditional handbells.

The ensemble brought the easily recognizable tunes to life with melody and harmony, each member responsible for particular notes in what comes together to be quite lovely. Residents, staff, and visitors alike were delighted,

particularly Resident Hazel Stanley, whose daughter is a member of the talented group!

We are so thankful to the Coventry Bell Ringers for taking the time out of their busy Christmas season to bring our Residents some Christmas cheer!



Members of the Coventry Bell Ringers perform beautiful Christmas songs for Residents.

FRENCH FOOD FESTIVAL
Connecting All Things French in Richmond

Special thanks to our sponsors...

"YOUR NAME HERE!"

Become an Event Sponsor Today!

One important avenue of fundraising for the Home comes in the form of special events, and as we hit the final stretch in preparing for the 9th Annual RVA French Food Festival we're amping up our search for sponsors. The income generated from the festival and other fundraising events is vital in helping to raise the more than 3.5 million dollars needed for run the Home each year.

We do our best to keep the costs associated with these events as low as possible, with help from our generous in-kind donors, but we are always in search of corporate and personal sponsors. Sponsorship money is critical for events of this size—with funding secured, event related expenses can be taken care of without deducting from the event income, and it acts as a safety buffer when forces beyond our control (terrible weather, for instance) cause a lower turnout than expected. Often, event sponsorships come with benefits of their own—each type or level of sponsorship comes with rewards like reserved parking spaces at the festival, free meals, advertising, and more. It's a great way to help out our Home and Residents while enjoying some benefits for yourself.

We are so thankful for our dear friends who have already committed as sponsors—like Page Auto Group, lead sponsor for the French Food Festival—for they truly are the backbone for these important events. If you are interested in partnering with us on the 9th Annual RVA French Food Festival, please contact Corinne Waldrop at ecrichmond@littlesistersofthepoor.org or by phone at 804-377-4629. We'd be happy to go over our sponsorship opportunities or work with you on creating a sponsorship package tailored to you!

A Simple Note

BY: MOTHER MARIE EDWARD



As we look back on 2016 and forward into 2017, we are so thankful for the blessing you have been to our Residents, as your gifts provided for the needs of our elderly poor. It is your spirit of generosity that made possible so many of the wonderful activities the Residents experienced last year.

After reading the following quote from our beloved Pope Francis, I thought of you, our family, friends, and benefactors: "To live charitably means not looking out for our own interests, but carrying the burdens of the weakest and poorest among us."

We couldn't continue the spiritual or corporal works of mercy, such as feeding and clothing the hungry or offering a Christ-like home, without your enormous spiritual and financial intervention. For these and so many unseen blessings, we are continuously grateful.

May this year bring you and your family many blessings, as you have been a blessing to the elderly poor! Please be assured of our continual prayers as we help one another during our Journey. God bless all of you.

In His loving embrace,
Mother Marie

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **9th Annual RVA French Food Festival**
Friday, April 28, 2017 (4pm - 8pm)
Saturday, April 29, 2017 (11am - 9pm)
*If you are interested in finding out more about the festival, visit our website at www.rvafrenchfoodfestival.com.
* Many volunteers are still needed! Sign up today by visiting the website listed above.

We are blessed with the generous support of Allegra Design, Print, Mail, who helped us with the printing of this newsletter; Veritiv, who donated the paper; and ColorTree Inc., who donated the printed envelopes. This newsletter would not be possible without them!

Vist us at www.littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org

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