

**Founder** Gloria White

**Board of Directors 2015** Sr. Judith Marie Keith, RSM President

Betty Coots, 1<sup>st</sup> V-President

Dr. Jo Harper, 2<sup>nd</sup> V-President

Sr. Elise Forst, Secretary

David Roberts, Treasurer

#### Carmelita Adams Pat Fellner Jean Fleming Marie Holland Linda Hamilton Ralph Nichols Paul Post William Ricks Dr. Eric Stein Loyd Welbern Jerry White

Staff

Marian Conrad Executive Director

#### **Facilities Served**

Alma Healthcare Ashton Place Brookfield Assisted **Chapel Ridge** Covington Court H&R Crawford H &R Fianna Hills NH **Golden Years Retirement** Greenhurst NH Greenwood Retirement Highlands of Van Buren Hope's Creek Legacy H&R Medi-Home of Arkoma Mercy Crest Methodist Health **Ozark Healthcare** Oaks NH. Poteau Paris H&R Pink Bud Home **River Valley H&R** Sequoyah East St. Scholastica Van Buren H&R

# **One-To-One**

# The Key To Compassion

**Special Edition 2015** 

### A Word From Our Director...

Events and life circumstances repeatedly remind us to count our blessings one by one. Recent storms and historic flooding in our region and the constant strife in all corners of the earth are a testament to the volatility of our world. Whether reading the newspaper, watching TV, scanning the internet or listening to the radio, we can be consumed by the trials and tribulations surrounding the lives of people each and every day. These events remind us of the impact of friendship, positive energy, support and relief when communities, neighborhoods and other



Marian Conrad Executive Director

groups pull together toward a shared mission. That is exactly what our volunteers do! Project Compassion connects people to a shared mission: bringing joy and friendship to nursing home residents.

Volunteer visits, cards, and continued support are truly priceless gifts from the heart. Thanks to all of our volunteers and community partners. You are a blessing!

#### Welcome New Board Member

Loyd Welbern, retired Director of Business Services at St. Edward Mercy Medical, has joined the Board of Directors of Project Compassion. Mr. Welbern was employed by St. Edward Mercy Medical Center for 36 years before his retirement in 2010. He graduated from Northside High School in 1965, joined the United States Air Force in July 1965 and served until January



Loyd Welbern

1969. After being honorably discharged from the USAF, Mr. Welbern attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, where he graduated in 1974 with a Bachelor's degree in Finance.

#### In This Issue:

- A Word From Our Executive Director
- Welcome New Board Member
- Easter Bunny Collection and Delivery
- Arkansas Gives
- "Get On Board" Nonprofit Expo
- Mayor's Volunteer Awards Luncheon
- National Nursing Home Week
- United Way Day of Caring

# **UDIN PRAN** Olect

**Our Mission:** "Bringing Joy Companionship, and Quality of Life to Nursing Home Residents"

# **Easter Bunnies!**



We appreciate our volunteers and partners who donated and delivered plush Easter bunnies to nursing home residents. Thank you to First National Bank of Fort Smith, Simmons Bank, Pike Elementary, and Graphic Packaging for collecting plush Easter Bunnies! Members of Delta Gamma Sorority at UAFS and one of our new volunteers, Kerry Goodwin, teamed up with veteran volunteer, Nancy Zornes, to cheer residents at Methodist H&R. Jordan Hatwig, a recent graduate from

Southside High, delivered bunnies to residents at Legacy H&R and Fianna Hills Nursing. The "Write to a Resident" team from ArcBest brought cards and bunnies to residents of Covington Court.

Kerry Goodwin (left) Nancy Zornes (right)





Jordan Hatwig (right) Telesha McKinney (left)

#### **Delta Gamma Sorority from UAFS**





Beverly Flynn & ArcBest Team at Covington Court

Arkansas Gives Project Compassion participated in the Arkansas Gives



campaign, a 12-hour online giving event on April 2, 2015 sponsored by Arkansas Community Foundation. Donors raised nearly 2 Million dollars for 361 Arkansas nonprofits! 70% of our support comes from private individuals like you who understand the critical need for volunteers in nursing homes. Thank you to everyone who donated to us during this campaign and who support us throughout the year!

## "Get On Board" Nonprofit Expo

Thanks to the Leadership Fort Smith Alumni Association for inviting us to participate in the "Get On Board" Nonprofit Expo. We joined with other nonprofit organizations from around the community to recruit volunteers. It was a fun evening at the Movie Lounge EpiCenter complete with hot dogs from the Arvest Bank Grill Team and delicious desserts provided by First National Bank of Fort Smith.



#### **Mayor's Volunteer Awards Luncheon**

We held a "Bloom Where You're Planted!" Volunteer Awards Luncheon to honor all of our dedicated volunteers and to thank them for the difference they make in the lives of nursing home residents. Special awards were presented by Mayor Sandy Sanders to recognize our "Volunteer of the Year", our "Rookie(s) of the Year", and our "Gloria White Community Angel"! These volunteers were nominated by peers, colleagues, and facility staff. Our volunteers are prime examples of "blooming where they're planted" and we couldn't be more proud of the service ALL of our volunteers provide every day!



Southside High "Johnny Reb Singers"



(Left) We were graced with the beautiful voices of the Johnny **Reb Singers from Southside** High, led by Choir Director Gaye McClure.

(Right) UAFS Historical Interpretation student, Jackie Rupp gave her "Tales from the Crypt" presentation describing the life of our late founder, Gloria White.



Allie Wilson from Delta Gamma

(Above) Allie Wilson described the similarities between Project Compassion and the Delta Gamma "Golden Anchor" Philanthropy program. We are pleased to partner with Delta Gamma!

(Left) Both Holly Osborne and Evoynn McGee, volunteers from Chapel Ridge H&R, were honored with our new award 'Rookie of the Year." This distinction goes to an extraordinary volunteer who has been with Project Compassion for a year or less. Together these two have given over 2500 hours in their first year! They have made an incredible impact on the residents and facility staff at Chapel Ridge.

Angela "Mama" Avila "Volunteer of the Year"



volunteer at Covington Court, is truly a blessing to everyone. "Mama" as she is known by residents, is presented the 2015 "Volunteer of the Year" award.

(Right) Project Compassion Board President, Sr. Judith Marie Keith, RSM and Mayor Sanders presented the Gloria White Community Angel Award to Dr. Dana Rabideau. He was nominated by colleagues for his leadership and dedication to serving others in the community.

Dr. Dana Rabideau accepting the Gloria White Community Angel Award



\*See our website www.projectcompassioninc.com to read more about our amazina volunteers!

Jackie Rupp as **Gloria White** 





# National Nursing Home Week 2015



**Mayor Sanders &** Debbie Satterfield



Mayor Sanders presented a Proclamation to Project Compassion declaring May 10th-16th "National Nursing Home Appreciation Week." The kick-off was held at Methodist H&R promoting the 2015 national theme "Bring on the Fiesta!" Students from Pike Elementary celebrated with residents and visitors. Many facilities in the area held fun events! Thanks to volunteers and staff for helping us showcase all that you do.

Ms. Wilma won this beautiful wreath!







#### **Painting Nails at Brookfield**



#### **United Way Day of Caring**

Day of Caring 2015 was a huge success! 90 volunteers gave over 270 hours visiting nursing home residents in our area. We appreciate local companies, partners, and individuals who participated in Day of Caring! Thanks to United Way of Fort Smith Area for coordinating this event. We can't wait until next year!

Paint with a Friend at Methodist









Strong Medicine Since 1920

**Project Compassion, Inc.** Saint Scholastica Retreat Center 1205 South Albert Pike Fort Smith, AR 72903 Phone: (479) 783-2273 Fax: (479) 783-1849 Email: Director@projectcompassioninc.com www.projectcompassioninc.com Facebook.com/projectcompassioninc



