“Compassion Isn’t Cancelled”

This spring and summer at Holy Angels definitely looks different. Our residents haven’t experienced the sun on their faces during boat rides on Lake Wylie, our Summer Volunteers aren’t here making new friends, and our supported employees aren’t serving us smiles at our businesses; yet, residents and staff are all safe, happy, well and thriving! We wanted to let everyone know that just because things look different because of COVID-19 – “compassion isn’t cancelled”!

Holy Angels implemented a strict “no visitors” policy on March 10 not allowing family, friends, visitors, donors, vendors and volunteers on campus. We realized what an emotional crisis this would present to our families, so our “Everyday Heroes” (our staff) have once again risen to the occasion and provided the exceptional care and compassion we are known for. Our social workers have been keeping families connected through FaceTime and phone calls. Employees have been making crafts and sending them through the mail to brighten their loved one’s day with thumbprints and handprints, reminding loved ones of the “imprint” that is made on their hearts. Mother and Father’s Day did not pass without a personal video message from each resident and even a handmade gift – but it is still not the same as the touch of a hand or the kiss on a cheek. Our families know we are doing everything possible to protect their angels.

Fun Fridays are still taking place with baseball games and karaoke – with the addition of proper social distancing and masks! Camp Wyliewanna is now on campus and our residents are enjoying a Rock n’ Roll theme! Residents have celebrated their birthdays with balloons, cakes and their fellow residents with family members participating via FaceTime.

The phrase “we are all in this together” has truly resonated with our Holy Angels family during these unprecedented times. The community has rallied around our staff, our “Everyday Heroes” by having a Heroes’ Welcome – with law enforcement, fire department, and EMT out in full force welcoming our staff to work – lights and sirens blaring! Lowes Home Improvement donated flowers for all our mother’s for Mother’s Day and cleaning supplies for all our offices to keep us sanitized and safe. Dominoes delivered delicious pizza to all three shifts and the CEO of Krispy Kreme took time out of his busy schedule to deliver sweet treats and personal messages to our staff. Our local Chick fil A donated financial aid in recognition of the financial impact this pandemic has had on us.

Our motto, “Believe there is good in the world” couldn’t ring more true than during this time of uncertainty and adversity. Each day we see our Everyday Heroes – staff, residents, families and the community – “Being the Good” and we are grateful!
Angel “Rock N’ Roll” Bowl

Little did we know when we picked the theme “Rock N’ Roll Bowl” our lives would be rocked significantly after the event! On Saturday, March 7th bowlers, sponsors, volunteers and staff wore their favorite rock ‘n roll attire and helped us to raise $189,397 for our mission. Just three days later, our campus went into COVID restrictions – which meant we couldn’t celebrate our success with our supporters in person. We celebrate and thank the 191 individual fundraisers who shared our mission with friends and family – you amaze us and “rock our world” with your loving support!

GOLD SPONSORS
Gastonia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram

SILVER SPONSORS
Blythe Construction
George Pappas’ Liberty Lanes
Mann+Hummel

BRONZE SPONSORS
BB&T – Truist
Charlotte Eye Ear Nose and Throat
Dominion Energy
Image 360
Lockton
Remembering Austin
The Howe Foundation
Verigent

Rebecca Fox, coordinator for Gold Sponsor Gastonia Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, is set to throw a strike.

This team took the Rock N Roll Bowl theme seriously. Way to go!

Long time emcee, Larry Sprinkle (WCNC), joins Nelson Britt (Bronze Sponsor Dominion Energy) as they welcome the bowlers to the first session.
Guardian Angel Program

We are living in a time of uncertainty due to the presence and problems with Covid-19. At Holy Angels we have taken to heart “faith over fear” as response to uncertainty. “Faith Over Fear” is our way of trusting that all shall be well and we will be safe, secure and protected by holy angels from heaven.

In the face of uncertainty one thing is certain: investing now will help to guarantee the future of Holy Angels. The “Guardian Angel” program was created years ago to assist in raising funds to secure the future for children and adults with special needs and their families who will need our services. All donations to this program go directly to the Hoban Endowment fund which is money set aside for the future. Be on the lookout for more information about this program and how you can participate in becoming a Guardian Angel.

When There’s A Will, There’s A Way

The mission of Holy Angels has touched the hearts of countless individuals for more than six decades. From time to time, at just the right time, we are blessed to receive a gift, a financial treasure from the heart, from someone who loved our mission while living and who chose to continue their support after they have passed away. This is leaving a legacy.

Leaving a legacy is a loving contribution that can be the solution to carry on our mission. Holy Angels has been blessed to be the recipient of a legacy gift, sometimes when we find ourselves needing it the most. This legacy gift helps ensure the success of our quality programs and services for our residents. We call that a “Mercy Moment”.

Please consider leaving a part of your legacy to Holy Angels – it will be a “Mercy Moment” for the angels we currently serve and for those yet to call Holy Angels home.

For more information, please contact Holy Angels Foundation at HALinfo@HolyAngelsNC.org or call 704.825.4161.

Special Thanks! Celebrating With Us - Our Amazing Staff!

Who doesn’t like pizza??? Thanks Dominoes in Mt. Holly for delivering pizza for all - on all three shifts!

Lowes Home Improvement made our Mother’s Day extra special - gifting our staff with beautiful plants!

Thanks Krispy Kreme for bringing sweet treats to our Everyday Heroes!
“Faith Over Fear”

As a community and a country we are all learning to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic. We have all been affected by increased restrictions and businesses that have closed. It has caused both an emotional and financial hardship at Holy Angels. We have faced these many challenges through “Faith Over Fear”.

From the beginning, our primary goal has been to assure the health and well-being of our residents, who are most vulnerable, and staff. We instituted a strict no-visitors policy on March 10th, which meant our families haven’t been on campus to see loved ones. They are very sad to not be able to visit or hug their sons and daughters. Thank goodness for technology they have been able to FaceTime, but it’s not quite the same.

Our funding has taken a big hit. We had to suspend LifeChoices adult day program and close our Business Enterprises (Cherubs Café, Cotton Candy Factory, Bliss Gallery and Spruced Goose Station).

We have not been able to admit new residents, and our fundraisers have been either cancelled or postponed. This has resulted in a $1.2 million dollar loss.

As for expenses, our needed medical supplies budget skyrocketed. Personal Protective Equipment alone cost over $150,000. We have increased the number of hand sanitizing stations in all of our offices, homes and classrooms and extra cleaning supplies to disinfect high use areas, multiple times throughout each day. All of these were unbudgeted expenses.

As we practice social distancing, let us also practice social caring; taking care of one another. As a community we must all work together to control and stop the spread of this rapidly evolving virus. We remind our staff weekly to remember the three Ws; Wear a mask, Wait and maintain 6’ distance and Wash those hands. During this difficult time – the most important thing we can do is follow the advice of the experts to stay healthy.

You may wonder how you can help. First, please keep us in prayer, as we continue to pray for you. Another way, please consider a donation (no amount is too small). Your prayers and gifts are greatly appreciated.

Donations – made on our website - www.HolyAngelsNC.org

Or mail to us (in the enclosed BRE) at PO Box 710, Belmont, NC 28012

As we move forward we will stay the course and continue to keep in mind we live with “Faith Over Fear”.

L O V I N G ,   L I V I N G
Scenes Around Campus

A hero’s welcome for our caring staff.

Belmont Police Department along with the Fire Department and GEMS gave our staff a heroes welcome with lights flashing and sirens blaring. It was an exciting day for our staff.

Caleb “plays” his saxophone during the School of Rock at Camp Wyliewanna.

When it is summer time - it’s time to cool off in some refreshing water.

Jack signs “I Love You” to all our Moms on Mother’s Day.

Kinsey gets some hand over hand assistance with her keyboard.

Oakcrest resident, Edwin, shares his Hero card with staff member, Doug Young.

Nora is enjoying the great outdoors during the baseball game at Push Place.
An Everyday Hero

Holy Angels considers itself lucky to have many Every Day Heroes among our talented team. But one of our own truly stands out – Teresa Friday, a classroom coordinator for some of our youngest residents, most of whom are medically fragile.

Teresa brings joy and compassion to every day as she ensures the residents’ care and needs are met. She helps train and mentor new staff and inspires others through her consistent commitment to our residents.

Teresa not only exceeds the expectations of serving the differently able, but she loves our residents unconditionally. She is extremely passionate about delivering the very best care possible to each individual, acting as a dependable, outstanding advocate and voice for our residents.

Teresa truly is the epitome of loving, living and learning for the differently able at Holy Angels and her support, unwavering commitment, is an example for all of us as we put the needs of our residents first and foremost.

She is just one of our many Everyday Heroes. They come in to work every day and share tender loving care with each one of our residents. It is such joy to see them in action. We thank all of our staff who serve not only in the classrooms and homes but our laundry, housekeeping, business office, dietary services and the entire Holy Angels family who take to heart our mission and ministry of Mercy for the differently able.

“Hope Springs Eternal…”

Something we know firsthand at Holy Angels - during the trials and tribulations in life we often experience triumphs! Our Spring Appeal this year was sent out with an update on how Sarah and her friend Skye were doing and adjusting to communicating during COVID-19. We also shared a most urgent request, explaining our financial challenges, deficits, and needs. Our original goal for the Spring Appeal was $55,000 and our faithful donors answered the call – with gifts exceeding $198,000! We are so thankful for you, our donors, and your loving support and for providing hope.
Life is “Still” Good!

Sarah has been able to find joy in the midst of uncertainty and for that we are thankful. She hasn’t seen her friends, family or favorite volunteer since March 10 when we implemented a strict “no visitors” policy because of COVID-19, but she has been staying connected through FaceTime. When asked if she had been keeping up with the news, she responded with her IPad, “News is boring! I would rather watch TLC, Netflix and Disney Plus!” Sarah has been disappointed not going on boat rides, to the movies, and attending Camp Hugs, but was overjoyed when she learned Camp Hugs would be a virtual camp in July! Debbie, a very close friend, sent her a bright pink “Life is Good” t-shirt and Sarah agrees – life is good despite everything that is going on in the world. When asked what she wanted to share with all of our supporters, Sarah typed into her IPad, “Thank you! What you give helps me and my friends to do the things that make us happy and enjoy our lives.”

Regina Moody Receives Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award

North Carolina Senator Kathy Harrington recently presented the Order of the Long Leaf Pine Award to Regina Moody.

In her remarks Senator Harrington noted, “Mrs. Moody’s service to the community as a special education teacher, elementary school principal and most notably as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Holy Angels, has been impressive and resulted in a lasting impact in North Carolina. She has been a strong advocate for persons with disabilities for over 47 years as she has carried out her vision of inclusion for all of North Carolina’s most vulnerable citizens.”

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine is one of the most prestigious awards conferred by the Governor of North Carolina. It is awarded to persons for exemplary service to the State of North Carolina and their communities that is above and beyond the call of duty, and have made a significant impact and strengthened North Carolina.
Dear Friends

As I write this, I am hopeful you all are doing well and staying safe! What strange and different times we are living in. At Holy Angels we take on each day’s challenges with “Faith Over Fear”. Covid-19 has truly changed the way we are living at home and at Holy Angels. Who knew that wearing a face covering would become our new normal way of life or that it would be months before we would have the opportunity to visit family and friends? Our overall goal since this pandemic began; keep our residents and staff healthy and Covid 19 free.

Our wonderful staff, our everyday heroes, have brought their creativity and fun loving spirits as they work with our residents. While social distancing and wearing masks, we have had lots of summer activities: Fun Fridays, Camp Wyliewanna, scavenger hunts, water fun and birthday celebrations.

Many thanks to all who have sent us donations to help in minimizing the financial strains on our budget due to the increased need for medical equipment and supplies. We are truly blessed to have your support.

We continue to move forward in “Faith Over Fear”, during this time of uncertainty. Please be assured of our prayers for you and your families. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Regina P. Moody, M.Ed.
President/CEO

Our Mission

The mission of Holy Angels is to provide compassionate, dependable care and opportunities for high-quality living to those with intellectual developmental disabilities and delicate medical conditions through physical, social, spiritual, vocational, educational and emotional support.