

Celebrating 50 Years of Service at our 2022 Gala



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Mission

Guided by our Christian calling, we serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing a life filled with hope and love.

Vision

A world of inclusion for all people by showing the hope and love of Jesus.

Gala Committee

Susan Farcy – **Chairperson**
Ed Galenkamp
Marlene Griffin
Kris Pepper
Wendy Rogers
Kimberly Salles
Joan Walsh

Board of Directors

Tim Parker, **President**
Kris Pepper, **Vice President**
Steve Hulsebos, **Treasurer**
Laura Gorter, **Secretary**
Mark Borst
Bill Bushman
Ken Kuiken
Tom Ludwig
Keith Post
John Prol, Jr.

A MAGICAL EVENING CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

On April 5, 2022, guests gathered at the Indian Trail Club in Franklin Lakes to celebrate at the Eastern Christian Children's Retreat 50th Anniversary Gala. It was a magical evening where friends, old and new, came together to show their support of our mission.





The Indian Trail Club was the perfect venue for this milestone event. Guest enjoyed an assortment of passed hors d'oeuvres while browsing the Silent Auction items and catching up with friends. The Silent Auction included items from local businesses and artisans. The Ridgewood Art Institute donated a stunning array of oil paintings that were actioned for people to place in our group homes. The historic display took people on a trip down memory lane as they reminisced about their connection to ECCR. There was a great deal to remember from the past 50 years. During the evening,

guests enjoy the soothing music from cellist Stella Saliei.

The doors to the dining room opened to signify the next part of the evening. Audrey Kuiken, Marilyn Bushman, and Cedar Hill Nursery provided all of the decorations for the evening. The centerpieces combined a warm rustic feel with messages of hope. As guests found their tables, our MC Joshua Salles welcomed everyone to the 50th Anniversary Gala. Pastor Yohan Lee started the dinner with a prayer.





CEO Daryl Rogers shared words of thanks and appreciation. Board President Tim Parker reflected on the past 50 years and the amazing growth we have seen. Medical Director Dr. Gregory Costello updated everyone on the medical advances we have witnessed.

Following a delicious dinner of filet mignon and salmon, the presentation to our honorees began. Senior Case Manager Corinne Benson spoke about the important relationship that ECCR shares with the Wyckoff First Responders; EMS, Fire, and Police. No matter when we call, the first responders are there. They treat our staff and residents with courtesy and respect while responding to the issues. Their professionalism, dedication, and kindness are just a few reasons we honored the Wyckoff First Responders.



Corinne also introduced the second honorees of the evening, the Teresi family. Florence has lived at ECCR since 1973. From the beginning, Dr. & Mrs. Teresi were at ECCR often and always advocated for Florence. They have always been involved in all aspects of Florence's life and members of the Parents Association and participants in most of our fundraisers. Florence is the oldest of seven children. Her six brothers are actively involved with her and ECCR today. Al, John, Christopher, Gerard, Richard, and Robert all support us in different ways. In addition to caring for Florence, they are the force behind Golf4Flo, our highly successful annual golf outing. They supplied much-needed PPE during the COVID pandemic and have sent lunch for all staff members on multiple occasions. These are only a few reasons why we honored the Teresi family.





Gala guests watched a short video recapping the past 50 years and highlighting plans for the future. The video concluded with the big reveal of our new name. **Eastern Christian Children's Retreat is now HOPE CHRISTIAN SERVICES.** This video can be found on our website HopeChristian.org.

The evening concluded with the final bids at the silent auction and a closing prayer from Pastor Jerrold Lewis of Pompton Plains Free Reformed Church. **Thank you to everyone who attended the Gala and supported the event.**

New Name. Same Loving Care.

A Message from the Board President

We have just returned from a wonderful celebration of Eastern Christian Children's Retreat's 50 year anniversary. I was a very young man at the time it all started, but I am so pleased to be able to serve my God and our community by actively participating on the boards of ECCR and our foundation over the past several years.

We also had the opportunity to honor our first responders from the town of Wyckoff, who have visited our campus and homes many times over the years to help in time of need and to train for the day that an emergency strikes. The gala also honored the much-loved Teresi family, a family that has provided many materials and services to the retreat over the years, and started the golf outing that benefits our organization in honor of Florence Teresi, one of our long-term residents. We are renaming the East Wing of the Bushman Building in their honor.

Revealing the rebranding of ECCR to Hope Christian Services was also on the agenda, so those of you reading this may be in for a shock. Over time we have found the name to be a bit of a conversation starter, and not necessarily in a good way, as people who aren't familiar with us, confuse us with a wonderful private school system in the area, thought we served young children (which we don't, and haven't done for decades), or thought we were part of Christian Health. After many, many years of discussion and deliberation about the name of our organization, the board and staff took on the task of reviewing all we are and what we stand for. We wanted to hold fast to our Christian heritage and purpose and focus on the hope in Jesus that drives us and the hope we bring to our residents, clients, and families. We have fully embraced the new name Hope Christian Services and the fresh colors, logo, and website that have been created to go along with it. We hope it brightens your day and all those we serve, for years to come.

Sincerely,
Tim Parker



Board President,
Hope Christian Services





Honoring 50 Years of Service

Congratulations on 50 years! May the ECCR continue to be a blessing to our community.

Mark & Heather Borst

Congratulations to ECCR on its 50th Anniversary. I have fond memories of being on the Board of Directors from the early pre-construction days through the time when we opened the doors to welcome the first residents and into the early years of operation. It has been exciting to witness the progress and expansion of this wonderful facility over the years. May God continue to bless the ECCR!

Garret & Florence Nieuwenhuis

*To God be the glory for 50 years of caring.
Happy Anniversary!*

Steve & Beverly Hulsebos

What a blessing it's been to see God's plan unfold for the ECCR over the past 50 years. His faithfulness has been overwhelming and we look forward to many more years of offering hope to our precious residents and their families.

Bill & Marilyn Bushman

O God our help in ages past, Our Hope for years to come.

Looking back with appreciation and humility on all that has been accomplished and the lives that have been touched over the past 50 years as the Eastern Christian Children's Retreat.

Looking forward with excitement and anticipation to the future and all that is in store for Hope Christian Services.

Looking up to a God who upholds and sustains this organization and its ministry to this special population and keeps them within His tender care.

John & Laura Prol

We celebrate the 50 years of loving care as Eastern Christian Children's Retreat and look forward to the next 50 years as Hope Christian Services!

Tim & Kyong Parker

Lord's blessing on the work that you do

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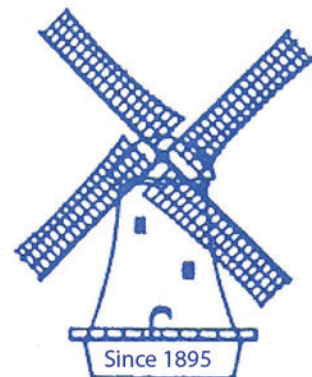
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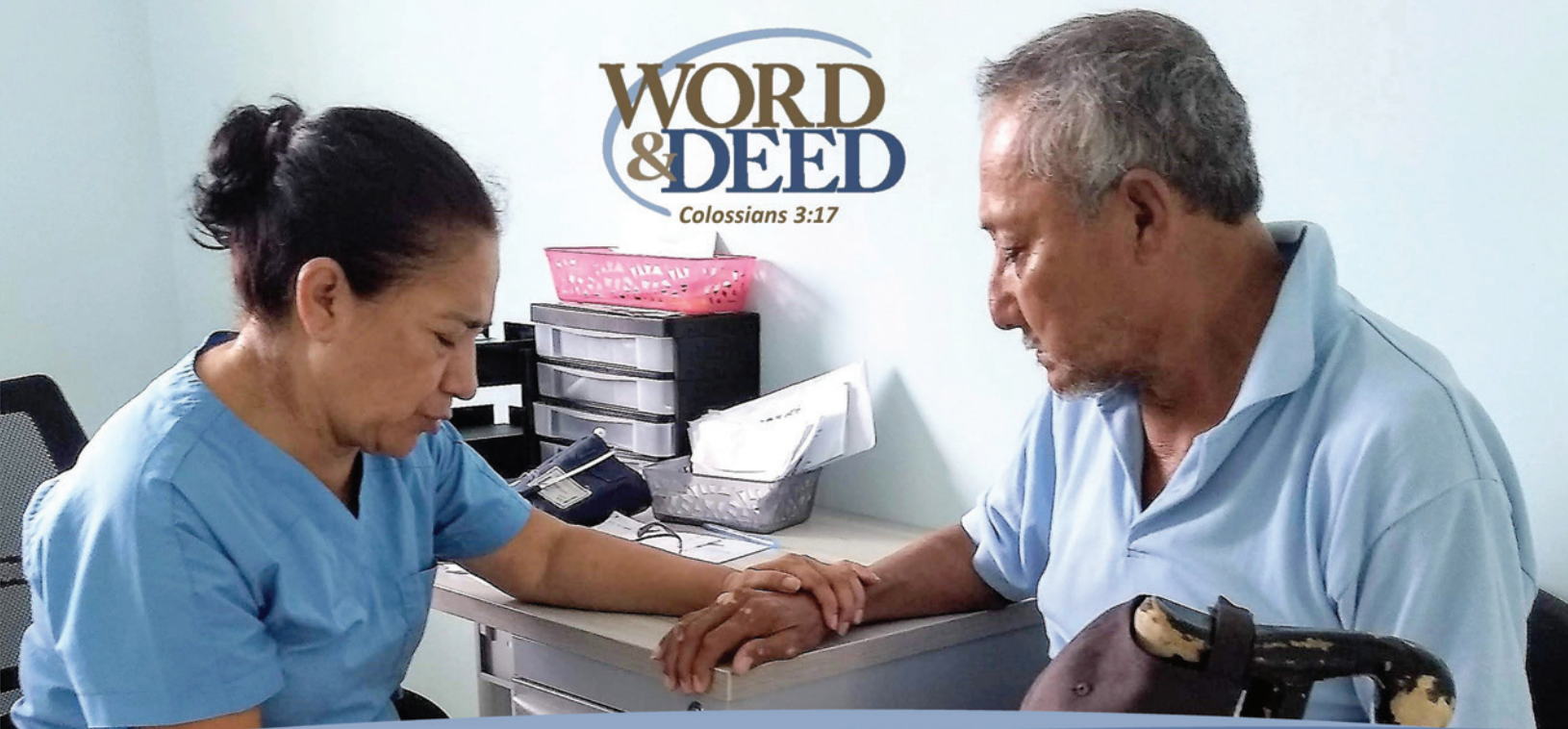
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Congratulations to John & The Teresi Family

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