

Promising Futures



A WORD FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Friends,

Wow what an amazing year for Bethesda Lutheran Services. We began 2022 with the grand opening of Wise Hall, a residence hall for our residential youth that receive twenty-four-hour care. This spacious, state-of-the-art building was strategically designed with north and south wings separated by a common space. Each wing provides generous space for two different residential programs offering a full functioning kitchen and individual shower facilities. A very important aspect of this building is that each youth has their own bedroom. Bethesda has learned as a trauma-informed agency that shared bedrooms can at times have unwanted effects on the youth we work with. Now each youth have the privacy and space needed to aid them in their treatment progression at our agency. Many youth have provided such positive feedback with having their own private bedroom.

In July 2021, we transitioned many of our residential programs to a Specialized Setting programming to be in accordance with the Federal Family First Act. One of the expectations of being a Specialized Setting is increased engagement with the families of our residential youth. Therefore, we began holding family engagement days. Families are invited to our campus in Meadville to spend the day with their children doing a variety of therapeutic activities. We realized we needed more usable indoor space to effectively engage with our families so, we began transforming our former maintenance building into a recreation center. It is now completed and everyone loves it...youth and staff alike! The recreation center contains two bathrooms/changing rooms for the swimming pool, a large common area with kitchen facilities, and a large game room that includes an air hockey table, video games, and pinball games. The building also includes a 20-seat movie theater. The movie theater seats were donated by the local theater.

In our Erie locations, we have updated the space in our Alternative Education and Truancy departments. We added a dividing wall at the Bethesda Leadership Center which allows the food preparation for the food truck, The ILP Snack Shack, to take place while ILP (Independent Living Program) groups are being held. Also in regards to the ILP Snack Shack, a new garage is being built so that the truck can be on site all year round as well as improve the safety and security of our youth-operated business.

When reflecting back on 2022, I am very proud of all of our accomplishments. What I am most proud of is that everything we do at Bethesda Lutheran Services is done in the best interest of the children, youth, and families we serve. This last year has provided the agency with many environmental upgrades with our construction projects, in an effort to continue promising futures for children, youth, and families. On behalf of both Boards of Directors, our staff team, and myself, I want to thank you for your continued support. The agency simply cannot continue to carry out its mission without you.

With Deepest Thanks,

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George R. Trauner | Chief Executive Officer

BETHESDA FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN



First National Bank donated \$10k through EITC funding. If you have a business please contact our Development Dept to talk about the beneficial tax breaks of EITC funding.





Thanks to a generous donation from Board Member, Alice Dalmaso, we were able to install a new fence around our now newly named Getty Pool.



Pictured above is our ILP Snack Shack Food Truck and the new drive-through garage being built on our Erie campus to allow for safe and secure storage and acess to the truck the entire year.

Our Meadville Education Center received a bit of sprucing up this year with new carpeting in several hallways.





CEO George Trauner and our 2022 Gala Speaker Mia Sproat when she received a \$10k Scholarship to continue her education.

Bethesda awarded \$20k in scholarships this year to former Bethesda youth to continue their education through technical training or four year university.

Our 2023 Casino Royale Gala is March 25th 2023.

Our 2022 Charity Golf Classic was held in June the funds raised were used to support our continuing programming at our Meadville Campus. The event is held at the Meadville Country Club and is scheduled for June 5th 2023.





Our second annual Luau on the Lake was held in August for a crowd of over 100. This great new event raised money for continuing programming and is scheduled again for August 26th 2023!

Our Clays for Kids event is a unique Sporting Clays competition that takes place the first Friday in October. The next shoot is October 6th 2023!





Our dedication and opening of Wise Hall in March was recognized with a visit by State Senator Michelle Brooks, our local Chamber of Commerce and the ribbon was cut by the family of Ida May Right, long time board member and dear friend of Bethesda, whom the one wing is named in memory of.



This residence hall is a spacious, stateof-the-art building that is designed with north and south wings separated by common space.



Wise Hall has a beautifully designed common area but the best benefit is that each youth has their own individual bedroom.



The new Reverend James and Susan Neal Recreation Center opened its doors in 2022. It offers a movie theater with 20 seats, a game room with air hockey and arcade games, and locations for our youth to visit with their familes during engagement days.



We have dedicated one wall in the Recreaction center to showcasing some beautiful and historical photos of Bethesda.





CHRISTMAS AT BETHESDA



THANK YOU!

Christmas at Bethesda was truly magical for over 200 youth!

We can't begin to thank you, our caring donors for everything you did for the holidays this year. We had an overwhelming amount of presents donated, along with food baskets for our families, blankets, gift cards, pizza parties, and delicious homemade cookie trays.

Please know that your gifts truly touched the hearts of these children. Simply knowing that someone cared enough for them to fulfill their every Christmas wish, meant everything to them!

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and that you will enjoy a safe, healthy, happy, and blessed New Year!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

George R. Trauner - Chief Executive Officer Amanda Shields - Development Office Bethesda Foundation for Children Board of Directors Bethesda Lutheran Services Board of Directors

Learn more about our programs by visiting www.bethesda1919.org



View the youth's thank you video at www.bethesda1919.org/christmas

Calendar Year 2022

NUMBERS & STATISTICS

Christmas
Events

Promising Futures Fund

Grants/Trusts/Planned Giving

2022 DONATION TOTALS |

Christmas | \$30,291.93 Events | \$112,479.60 Promising Futures Fund | \$68,405.22 Grants/Trusts/Planned Giving | \$67,900

TOTAL 2022 FUNDRAISING | \$279,076.75

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Remember Bethesda in your Estate Plans | Free Professional Estate Planning Available
- Buy a Brick | Honor your loved ones and their legacy will become a part of our history
- Donate to our Promising Futures Fund via Cash, Check, or Online Donation
- Shop our Amazon Wish List for items we need most for the youth we care for
- Donate during Crawford or Erie Gives Days
- Learn about our Christmas Adopt a Child and our School Supply drives on our website.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.BETHESDA1919.ORG/DONATE

Leadership of 2022

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS BETHESDA FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

Brad Whitman - Chairman Jennifer Winchester - Vice Chair Terry Danko - Treasurer Mark Michaelis Dan Burek Marlene Jenkins Rachelle Fritz Larry Fritz Gregory Furer Ki Kim Alan Benson Mark Smith Anna Rachocki Mark Zielinski Doug Massey

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FRIENDS OF BETHESDA: INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Abplanalp, Eleanor Anderson, Arvid Anderson, Charles and Wendy Fritz, Larry, and Rachelle Arter. Reverend James Askounes, Lowell & Lois Attardo. Paul Avers. Lewis & Rochelle Barnett, LaTicra Bartzen, Emily Beck, Milo & Abby Benso, Alan Bizjak, Amy Blank, Raymond Bloss, Jessey and Robin Boots. Michael Boozer, Wilson & Andrea Bova, Richard & DiAnn Bracken. Timothy & Marv Bragg, Ruth Brown. Jo-An B Brown. Dorothy Buchko. Devin **Burch**, Mildred Burge, Troy & Deana Byrum, Reverend Deborah Cap, Jane Carter, Mark and Tina Carucci, Christy & James Caveglia, Theodore Chalupka, Michael & Linda Chisholm, Tracy Cohen. Al and Ann Collins. Will and Madi Connors, Jane Cooney, Michael Cox. Alexander Cronin, Edward & Suann Crytzer, Travis Culmer. Rosemarie Dalmaso, Alice Dammeyer, James Danko, Števe Danko, Terry & Melinda DeArment, Jonathan & Dana Dickhausen. Michael Dickson. Chad & Amanda Dickson, Marci Diley, Jasen & Kelly Doutt. Carole Earley, Patricia Eidbo. Dr. Joel Elliott, Wade Ewing, Victor Faust, Erin Fox, Jody

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Readel, Ralph & Judy Reed. James Reitinger, Joseph & Donna Rhodes. George **Riddle, Reverend Brian** Right, Phillip & Stephanie Rimel, Jerrad & Lacey Rossman. Thomas & Sandra Roth. Martin. and Sarah Sampsel, Joyce Satterfield. Stephanie Saxton. Jeremiah Schlosser. Matthew & Carmen Scott, Jared Seeley, Christopher Sellman. Carol Sessler, Kerry Shattenberg, Walter Slezak, Dorothy Smith, Christopher Stanton, Randy & Linda Stubbe. Jozette Suhr, Henry & Beverly Sullivan. Michael Thompson, Esther Trauner, George & Holly Trauner, George & Loretta Vatalare. Matthew Vogt. Ronald & Linda Webster, Chip Weiers Tom, and Reverend **Joyce Dix-Weiers** Wheeler, Kevin & Lori Whitling, John & Mary Whitman, Brad & Sonya Wilcox, Shirley Will. Charles. and Deborah Winchell. Amv Winchester, Jennifer Yaple, Timothy & Kathy Zerbe, Christopher & Kathryn Zielinski, Mark & Megan Zimmerman, Amy Zimmerman, Jake & Melissa Zook. Ronald

CHURCHES

Bethesda Lutheran | Lower Burrell Bethlehem Lutheran | Scenery Hill Bethlehem Lutheran | Bremen Christ Lutheran | Sharon Christ Lutheran | Charleroi Christ Lutheran | Shelocta Christ Rupp Lutheran | Kittanning Christ the Redeemer Lutheran | Erie **Cochranton Pres.** | Cochranton Emmanuel Lutheran | Pittsburgh Endowment Fund of the ELCA Chicago Esther Circle St. John Mark Lutheran Faith Lutheran | Venus Fallowfield U.M. | Atlantic First Evangelical Lutheran | Leechburg First Lutheran | Warren Good Shepherd Lutheran | Pittsburgh Grace Evangelical Lutheran | Manorville Holy Trinity Lutheran | Shippenville Holy Trinity Lutheran | Hermitage Holy Trinity Lutheran | Halethrope Hope Evangelical Lutheran | Homer City Hope Lutheran | Homer City



BUSINESSES

Anne R. Monroe Foundation Auto Racers for Kids Charities Inc. **Bayshore Homes Bob Fisher Chevrolet Canadohta Security Construction Services of Pennsylvania LLC Crawford Heritage Foundation** Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries **Endowment Fund of the ELCA Erie Community Foundation First National Bank Foulks Flooring America** Gery T. Nietupski, Esquire LLC Hagan Business Machines of Meadville Happi Jax | Canadohta Ventures Humes Chrysler Dodge Jeep & Ram Imperial Carbide, Inc. **Kightliner Motors | Coudersport** Koldrock Waters, Inc. **Loeffler's Flowers** Marquette Savings Bank McGill, Power, Bell & Associates McLaughlin & Byrum Family Fund Meadville Medical Center Morlin Incorporated

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- St Paul's Drakes Mills | Cambridge Springs
- St. John Mark Lutheran | Homestead
- St. John's Lutheran | Greenville
- St. John's Lutheran | New Castle
- St. John's Lutheran | Kittanning
- St. John's of Highland Lutheran | Pittsburgh
- St. Matthew's Lutheran | Pittsburgh
- St. Matthew's Lutheran | Hunker
- St. Paul's Lutheran | Scottdale
- St. Paul's Lutheran | Corry St. Paul's Lutheran | Cambridge Springs
- St. Paul's Lutheran | Canonsburg
- St. Paul's Lutheran | Carmichaels
- St. Peter's Lutheran | Evans Citv
- Trinity Lutheran | Meadville
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YEAR 2022





BETHESDA GALA | MARCH 25TH CHARITY GOLF OUTING | JUNE 5TH ERIE & CRAWFORD GIVES | AUGUST LUAU ON THE LAKE | AUGUST 26TH CLAYS FOR KIDS CLAY SHOOT | OCTOBER 6TH



STAY UP TO DATE ON ALL OF OUR EVENTS AT WWW.BETHESDA1919.ORG/EVENTS