

PROMISING FUTURES



2026: QUARTER 3

WELCOME MESSAGE

GEORGE TRAUNER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As another summer comes to a close, I'm reminded of just how much can happen across Bethesda in a few short months.

From celebrating graduates and welcoming community partners to seeing supporters rally behind our mission, there has been no shortage of meaningful moments. Each one reflects the people who make Bethesda what it is and the many ways our mission comes to life every day.

One of the most visible examples is the new mural recently installed at our Trinity Center in Erie. It tells a story of growth, connection, and community—and I think those same themes can be seen throughout Bethesda. Whether it's a young person reaching an important milestone, an employee showing up with compassion, or a donor choosing to invest in our mission, each plays a part in building promising futures.

As we look toward the months ahead, I'm grateful for the continued support of our staff, families, donors, volunteers, and community partners. Thank you for being part of Bethesda and for believing in the young people and families we serve.

I hope you enjoy this look at what has been happening across Bethesda, the people who make it possible, and what's still to come.



George R. Trauner
Chief Executive Officer



AROUND BETHESDA



From celebrating milestones to gathering with community partners, this summer brought plenty of meaningful moments across Bethesda. Here are a few highlights from the past several months.

Young Leaders Give Back

In May, students from the Iroquois High School National Honor Society presented Bethesda's Right Start for Young Mothers program with a \$650 donation raised through their pancake breakfast fundraiser.

The gift was a meaningful show of support for the young mothers served through Right Start and an inspiring example of young people choosing to invest in their community.

Bethesda CEO George Trauner and COO Jerrad Rimel accepted the donation alongside National Honor Society adviser Mrs. Jessica Chrapowicz and student representatives Hunter Chew, Alissa Thompson, Ashlyn Fisher, Luke Noyes, and Evelyn Moyer.

We are so grateful to the entire Iroquois National Honor Society for choosing Bethesda and putting compassion into action!

A Great Day on the Course

This year's sold-out 18th Annual Charity Golf Outing welcomed 37 teams to Mount Hope Golf Course on June 3.

A Great Day on the Course Continued

Thanks to an incredible group of golfers, sponsors, donors, and volunteers, the outing generated \$48,332.50 in net proceeds to support Bethesda Lutheran Services and the Bethesda Foundation for Children.

Nearly 30 donated raffle baskets and 20 volunteers helped make the day possible, and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who supported another successful event on the course! Save the date and plan to register early: Our 19th Annual Charity Golf Outing returns Wednesday, June 2, 2027.

Celebrating Our Graduates

Graduation season gave us plenty to celebrate!

Two young people in Bethesda's residential program earned their high school diplomas, while several youth and adults in our Erie Independent Living Program celebrated graduations from high school, trade school, and technical school.

Each accomplishment represents hard work, perseverance, and another step toward greater independence. We are proud of every graduate and excited to see where their next chapter takes them.

Celebrating Character, Leadership, and Service

Bethesda was honored to host the Northwest PA C.L.A.S.S. Act Banquet at our Trinity Center in Erie on June 18.

The evening recognized students from Erie, Crawford, and Warren counties who demonstrate character, leadership, service, and selflessness in their schools and communities. Bethesda CEO George Trauner also served as this year's keynote speaker.

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients and all of the young leaders recognized!

Our Communities Came Through

August brought two major days of giving and an incredible response from supporters across our region.

Our Communities Came Through Continued

Donors contributed \$4,140 through Erie Gives and \$12,373.30 through Crawford Gives, with additional Crawford Gives checks still coming in at the time of this update.

Those gifts support the work happening every day across Bethesda, including continued progress on our new residential building on the Meadville campus. The building is on track to be completed before winter and will provide a safe, welcoming place for the girls who will call it home.

We are grateful to everyone who donated, shared our message, encouraged others to give, and chose to invest in promising futures.



MISSION MOMENT

A Story in 18 Panels

On August 21, all 18 panels of a new mural created by Christina Wolfe of Wolfe Art Studios were officially installed at Bethesda's Trinity Center at the corner of 18th and Walnut streets in Erie.

Created with the children and youth we serve in mind, the mural features young people enjoying activities that are part of life at Bethesda, along with details inspired by nature and the surrounding community. Together, the panels tell a story of growth, connection, and the experiences that make Bethesda what it is.

Christina's original vision centered on children and growth, community and stewardship, and a positive, uplifting atmosphere. The result is a colorful piece of public art that reflects Bethesda's mission while creating a welcoming presence in the neighborhood.

We are grateful to Christina Wolfe, the Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network, and funding partners PA DCED, Highmark, and Marquette Bank for helping bring this project to life.

Take a closer look and see what you can discover!



WE'RE HIRING!

Looking for work that makes a difference? Bethesda is hiring for several positions across our programs and locations. Here are a few opportunities currently available:

Youth Support Specialist

Meadville | 2nd & 3rd Shift | Full & Part Time

Work directly with youth in Bethesda's residential program, providing positive role modeling, guidance, behavioral support, and encouragement as they build skills for success. \$2,000 hiring incentive available.

Behavior Support Specialist

Erie & Meadville Positions Available

Support students in the classroom through behavioral interventions, therapeutic support, and positive relationship-building while working alongside Bethesda staff, schools, and families.

Truancy Monitor

Help students stay connected to their education by monitoring attendance and working closely with students, families, schools, and community partners to address chronic absenteeism.

Case Manager

Independent Living Program | Full Time | Flexible Schedule | No Weekends

Help young people ages 14–23 develop life skills, set goals, access community resources, and prepare for greater independence and self-sufficiency. \$1,000 hiring incentive available.

Find Your Place at Bethesda

View current openings, full job descriptions, and application information on our Careers page!

EXPLORE BETHESDA CAREERS HERE

LOOKING AHEAD...

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Bethesda events and opportunities!

11th Annual Clays for Kids Clay Shoot

*Friday, October 2, 2026 | Registration at 9 AM–Start at 10 AM
Sandy Creek Conservancy, Franklin*

One of Bethesda's signature fundraising events returns this fall! Clays for Kids brings together shooters, sponsors, volunteers, and community supporters for a day of sporting clays in support of Bethesda's mission.

Registration is open now at bethesda1919.org/clays.

Mission & Meetup with The Nonprofit Partnership

*Friday, October 9, 2026 | 11:30 AM–1 PM
Bethesda Leadership Center, Erie*

We're excited to welcome local nonprofit professionals for an afternoon of connection, a brief look at Bethesda's mission, light bites from the ILP Snack Shack, and conversation around nonprofit and faith-based collaboration.



Christmastime at Bethesda

December 2026

Help make the holidays brighter by providing Christmas gifts and essentials for children and youth at Bethesda. More details will be shared as the season approaches.

Giving Tuesday

Tuesday, December 1, 2026

Join supporters around the world for a day dedicated to giving back and making a difference.



GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to support Bethesda's mission and make a meaningful difference.

Join Our Pillars of Promise

Become a monthly giver and provide steady support throughout the year where it's needed most.

Be a Champion for Children

Support our mission through your time, talents, or financial gifts. Every contribution is a meaningful way to put faith into action.

Become a Friend of Bethesda

Stay connected to our mission. Friends of Bethesda receive inspiring stories, ministry updates, and meaningful opportunities to stay involved.

Ready to Get Involved?

Visit us at bethesda1919.org to learn more!

