



PINE REST NEWS

SPRING 2004

MAKING MISSION HAPPEN BY PHILIP ELLIS, PhD

As the new Director of Mission Integration, a significant part of my role is to ensure that Pine Rest is continually strengthening and revitalizing the spiritual components of the care we provide. It is always a blessing to share with you a success story - and recently, staff shared a story that really touched my heart. Jason* was 16 when he came to us for help - lonely and afraid. His first 16 years of life had left deep scars. Hurt and betrayed by years of abuse, he had survived but often acted out his anger, repeating the painful cycle of self-destruction he had experienced as a young child. Beneath that tough exterior lay the wounded and fearful heart of a little boy few people had truly cared about.

Helping people heal and create change in their life is such a critical part of what we do at Pine Rest. Our Center for Psychiatric Residential Services does an excellent job in tending to the emotional, physical, and spiritual needs of kids like Jason. Through interventions from our Pastoral Services staff and participation in Young Life at Pine Rest, an unmistakable and distinct change began to take place. Where there had been only pain, there was some forgiveness. Where there were wounds, there was healing. For the first time in his life, Jason experienced caring Christians believing in him and helping him make decisions that would move him forward in life.

All of our efforts are dedicated to helping people like Jason live healthier, happier, more productive lives. Offering spiritual support is an important part of that healing. Every day at Pine Rest we care for individuals, children, and families who have been terribly hurt and scarred by trauma, abuse, and neglect. For every success story, there are many still struggling, desperate for hope. As we continue to carry out our mission "to express the healing ministry of Jesus Christ," we covet your prayers and support. Thank you for helping us reach kids in need like Jason, and for helping us restore lives and renew spirits in Jesus' name.

**Name has been changed to protect confidentiality*

2003 JAY VAN DEN BERG LEADERSHIP AWARD DINNER

On Sept. 24, 2003, Casey Wondergem was recognized as the 2003 Jay Van Den Berg Leadership Award recipient at the Pine Rest Foundation's biennial award dinner, held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. Nearly 400 people gathered for an evening of celebration that was capped off by an inspirational keynote address by Dr. Tim Brown.



Casey Wondergem received the 2003 Jay Van Den Berg Leadership Award from Bob Hooker.

One of many highlights of the evening was a moving tribute to Casey offered by Bob Hooker, a longtime friend of both Casey and Pine Rest. In recounting Casey's service to Pine Rest dating back more than 40 years, Bob noted Casey's vision and leadership in numerous Foundation initiatives and his passionate advocacy and tireless efforts to see the Foundation thrive.

The Pine Rest Foundation would like to take this opportunity to once again express our gratitude to all those who attended the 2003 Jay Van Den Berg Leadership Award Dinner and helped make it possible to raise over \$180,000 for the Pine Rest Foundation. The Foundation is truly blessed to have individuals like Casey Wondergem and countless others like you who give generously of their time and resources. **Thank you!**



The Pine Rest Rustic Market Resale Thrift Shop, at 389 68th Street, SE, **now accepts credit cards**. All sales proceeds benefit the Patient Assistance Fund (PAF) at Pine Rest. To be part of our great volunteer team, contact Tonya at 616/281-6308.

IT'S A GOOD CAUSE

Sharon and Keith Herring were not runners, but when Pine Rest was named the official charity of the 2003 Fifth Third River Bank Run, they signed up. "We enjoy doing things as a family and we thought the 5K run would be a fun family event," says Sharon, a Pine Rest Campus Clinic employee.

As Sharon trained, Keith raised pledges and their youngest child, Katelyn, age 9, volunteered at the Fifth Third Junior Event Day. She helped apply temporary tattoos, hand out Pine Rest Frisbees, and ran in the Junior "Fun Run." This event was Katelyn's first experience as a volunteer and her first time participating in a race outside of school. "It was fun seeing other kids having fun, being outside. I had fun running." A student in the Wayland school system, Katelyn enjoys bike riding, swimming – and now...volunteering with her family!

For Sharon and Keith, the commitment to run the 5K was big. Neither jogged regularly, nor had they ever run a race before. Even before attending an informational luncheon for Pine Rest employees who were running in the race and interested in raising money for the Patient Assistance Fund (PAF), Keith quietly set about collecting pledges from a few friends and co-workers. Sharon was shocked when she found out Keith had already begun getting support for her. Helping good causes is not new to Keith, who works for Sara Lee Corporation in Zeeland. "I raise money to help others," says Keith proudly. "I helped my son raise money for Rocket football and he became the top seller. I enjoy the challenge and competition."



Sharon, Katelyn, and Keith Herring found ways to make the Fifth Third River Bank Run a family event.

With over 55 pledges from friends and family, Keith soon entered the race as well, and both Herrings completed their first 5K run. Through their efforts alone, nearly \$500 was raised for PAF. "We're glad we did it," says Sharon. "It was an awesome experience."

The Herrings are already in training for the 2004 Fifth Third River Bank Run. "Our goal is to beat our running time of last year," says Sharon. "And raise more money," adds Keith with a twinkle in his eye.

On behalf of those Pine Rest serves, **THANK YOU** to the Herring family and 11 other Pine Rest staff who raised money through pledges for PAF. **We'll be rooting for you on May 8, 2004!**

PLEASE SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES

Has your life or the life of a loved one benefited or been helped as a result of services received from Pine Rest staff or programs? If so, let us know! Your story can provide encouragement and could help others better understand our ministry and how Pine Rest helps those in need. Please send your story to pinerestfoundation@pinerest.org, or Attn: Pine Rest Foundation, 300 68th Street, SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49548. Identifying information such as name and address will be kept confidential. Any photos submitted cannot be returned unless self-addressed, stamped envelopes are provided.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



21ST ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Monday, June 14, 2004
Blythefield Country Club

Did You Know ...

- There are more suicide deaths than homicides each year.
- Pine Rest served 30,084 individuals, children, and families in Fiscal Year 2002-2003.
- Your gifts to the Pine Rest Patient Assistance Fund (PAF) help individuals, children, and families with limited or no financial resources get the mental health care they urgently need.

Restoring Lives, Renewing Spirits:

In Your Own Words ...

HERE ARE BUT A FEW OF THE COMMENTS WE HAVE HEARD FROM THOSE WE SERVED LAST YEAR:

- "I'm very thankful [my child] was sent here for treatment...you all are very special people for all the great work you do for the children – that we as parents just aren't trained to handle..."
- "For the first time in three years someone paid attention to our concerns – thank you for helping us to get on the right track..!"
- "I've tried to get help for my daughter many places and different ways. Pine Rest was the only one caring enough to get us on track with help. Thank you so much."
- "...thank you for saving my daughter's life."

SAVING FOR THE FUTURE

Scripture encourages us to save. "The wise man saves for the future, but the foolish man spends whatever he gets." (Proverbs 21:20 LB)

Recent data highlights rising personal debt and the absence of savings for the majority of Americans – or as the writer of Proverbs might say, a lot more foolishness than wisdom when it comes to how we manage our money.

Saving makes provision for tomorrow. It builds a financial safety cushion for emergencies. Financial experts suggest we have the equivalent of at least two to three months' salary in savings in the event of an unexpected illness, injury, or job loss. That's hard to do in a culture that promotes easy credit and immediate gratification.

Looking to the future was exactly what a group of individuals who cared deeply about Pine Rest were doing when they started an endowment in 1961 and created the Pine Rest Foundation. Then and now, the Pine Rest Foundation has been blessed by people like you who have not only made provisions for themselves and their loved ones, but also given generously to the Pine Rest Foundation. **Thank You!**

For more information or questions about including Pine Rest in your estate plan, please contact Scott Halquist with the Pine Rest Foundation at 616/281-6375 or scott.halquist@pinerest.org.



The 2003 Golf Marathon, held on October 3, raised over **\$25,000 for the Patient Assistance Fund**. Pictured is Randy Johnson, Pine Rest's Lakeshore Services Manager.

A GIFT OF THE HEART

In a wonderful testament to his marriage and loving wife Esther, Dr. Loyal Vannette approached Pine Rest last summer seeking to give a gift in her memory. Esther, who died June 14, 2003, held the ministry of Pine Rest very dear to her heart. A graduate of Pine Rest's practical nursing school, Esther first served Pine Rest as a Psychiatric Nurse from 1957-1965, and more recently as a Case Manager from 1999-2003.

Dr. Vannette wanted the memorial to reflect Esther's love of Pine Rest, her commitment to further its mission to be a "healing ministry of Jesus Christ," and her Christian faith. Within weeks, a creative process began under the direction of Pine Rest Chaplains, Rev. Bob Uken and Rev. Roze Bruins. That process led to the commissioning of Marilyn Vanden Heuvel to develop twelve banners to adorn the nursing stations on units in the Van Andel Center where Esther worked. The selection of Marilyn seemed especially fitting since her father, the Rev. Ralph Heynen, served as a Chaplain at Pine Rest during Esther's initial service at Pine Rest.



Pictured above is Dr. Vannette with Marilyn Vanden Heuvel.

During a dedication service held at Pine Rest on January 23, 2004, Dr. Vannette was joined by Pine Rest staff as he recalled Esther's passion for Pine Rest's mission and the importance of her Christian faith. During the installation of the first two banners, Dr. Vannette noted how each was designed to encompass and reflect some of his and Esther's favorite scripture verses.

In addition to commissioning these beautiful works of art and faith, Dr. Vannette has generously given funds to support the building of a new pulpit on the main campus for use in campus chapel and worship services. We are grateful to Dr. Vannette for his love and generosity in memory of Esther, who touched many lives during her years of Christian service at Pine Rest.

A newsletter for friends and supporters of
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services and the Pine Rest Foundation



PINE REST
FOUNDATION

PINE REST NEWS

SPRING 2004



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FROM OUR SUPPORTERS AND CONTRIBUTORS:

- "In gratitude to God for what you did for our granddaughter..."
Anonymous Pine Rest Donor
- "I support the Pine Rest Foundation so that the healing ministry of Jesus Christ may reach out to those who are hurting."
Brad Mast, Systems Analyst, Pine Rest Staff
- "I support PAF because it allows people with limited resources to receive needed mental health treatment with dignity."
Brian McNamara, Pine Rest Foundation Board Member

The Pine Rest News is a product of the Pine Rest Foundation and is designed to inform our supporters of key developments within the services and programs of Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services and the Pine Rest Foundation.

Send changes of address, comments or suggestions, and requests for free subscriptions to:

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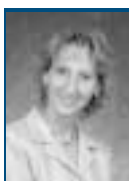
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PINE REST DEVELOPMENT STAFF



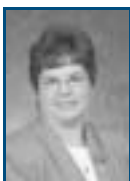
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Pine Rest Foundation



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Faith Elliott
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