Greetings from the Duvall Home,

Like most organizations, we had our ups and downs in 2011 and personally, I’m glad it is history. It was not a great year for me or my family, but 2012 looks much more promising. Same here at the Duvall Home…..promising! For the first time since I’ve been here, I’m very happy and satisfied with our management team. With the additions of Debra West & Samantha Gruber to our Development Department, Christina Negri in Human Resources & Ed McDowell transferring over to OPPS, we are very solid. Marsha, Mary, Juleith, Karen & others continue managing & operating at above average levels, so we are very fortunate.

While pleased with the management team, we cannot be complacent or satisfied. We still have many obstacles to confront, and barriers to overcome. We still have ample room for improvement, and challenging aspirations. After all, becoming the best provider of residential and community based services in the United States is our overall goal. We’ve made huge strides in that direction over the past year, and our ultimate goals and objectives must remain priority number one. As always, priority number one remains the same; ensuring the safety, wellbeing, quality of life and quality of care for all of our residents.

The Florida budget for this year and next still is worrisome. I am once again predicting another rate cut for the Medicaid waiver client. Plus, there is discussion about reducing and/or eliminating key services for our population. So, we are focusing on diversifying our program mix to minimize more rate cuts and broadening our continuum of care. We are especially focused on the Autism population and are looking closely at other market segments.

We would appreciate your help in spreading the word about the Duvall Home. We are seeing a distinct drop in donations, and would love the opportunity to talk about the Duvall Home in front of all organizations, faith based groups and community resource networks. Just get in touch with Debra West or myself, and let us know.

Hoping for a great year to you and yours!

Martin Favis

A Message from of the President of the Duvall Home Board of Regents

Help us Plan for the Future!

The Duvall Home has welcomed new residents for over 66 years, providing lifetime care, love and support as part of the Duvall Home family. We have a few openings at this time for new residents, but space is limited and admissions are subject to the Home’s usual admissions policies. One of our goals is to grow by adding new homes, but the decision to invest in additional capacity will be a function of the demand we have for new admissions. That is where you can help.

A real differentiating feature of the Duvall Home among other providers is the fact that our residents originally came to us from over 30 states and 5 foreign countries. We are eager to reach out to other families who are exploring long term care options for a special needs loved one. You can assist the Home and at the same time help these families learn about the Duvall Home by directing them to our website: duvallhome.org. It is full of great information, so pass it on to your friends, churches and others who might know of someone who is looking for answers regarding long term care.

The video soon to air nationally on Public Broadcasting stations about the Duvall Home is intended to spread the word about the Home well beyond Florida. Please take a few minutes and help us do that too you can also find it on the website and on YouTube! Your help in spreading the word will assist us in planning for the future.

All good wishes from the Board of Regents for a healthy and happy 2012. The Home’s staff is hard at work creating new activities, programs and opportunities for all our residents with the expectation that this will be our best year yet!

Sincerely,

Rick Armstrong

From the Desk of Martin Favis, President/Chief Executive Officer

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Hoping for a great year to you and yours!

Martin Favis
We have limited openings in our residential cottages. They are located in quiet country settings and offer our special population an opportunity to socialize, grow, learn and have fun with their peers. We offer limited respite care on our main campus. Please contact Marsha Shankleton to set up a tour or receive a packet of information. Please pass this information on to family or friends who may need our services.

Phone : 888-445-4722 or 386-734-2874 Ext 105  or Email: mshankleton@duvallhome.org

*Update from the Duvall Home’s Development Team*

Let your hook be always cast. In the stream where you least expect it, there will be a fish.

Ovid (Roman poet, 43 BC – 18 AD)

Like many non-profit organizations the Duvall Home is experiencing some challenging times.

The good news is that we have top quality marketing materials and have implemented solid strategies for 2012. Now we can turn the main focus of the development team to what it is we need the most—solidifying relationships with our current donors and cultivating new ones.

Sami and I are relentlessly looking for opportunities to get out in front of groups of people to share the mission of the Duvall Home. That is where you can help. If you know of any church events, community gatherings or civic organizations that would be interested in a presentation please let them know that we are available to; speak, show our video, answer questions and/or set up an exhibit table.

Our website, social media outlets, videos, media coverage, and community participation are creating an increase in the awareness and the visibility of the Duvall Home. Our efforts are beginning to pay off in small but not insignificant ways. Our email blast asking recipients to save the Campbell’s 100 points bonus sheets from their Sunday newspaper generated 72 sheets and two new churches that are now saving labels for us. Some churches and individuals have committed to new monthly pledges for 2012. In December alone we welcomed 19 first-time donors to the Duvall Home family and combined they contributed nearly $7,000.00.

In the scheme of our financial shortfall of $200,000.00 these accomplishments seem like a drop in the bucket—however when you are a non-profit you know and appreciate the fact that every little bit helps and that no donation is too small.

And like the quote says, “In the stream where you least expect it, there will be a fish.”

We are hopeful for a really big one!

Debra West & Samantha Gruber

*A Moment with Marsha*

The Duvall Home is growing! We have had several new admissions in the last few months. It’s wonderful to add new people to our residential and our Adult Day Program. Every new admit brings different needs and ideas how to meet them. We love the youth and energy these new folks are bringing to our home. We are looking at adding another cottage to our campus as we are almost full and need to be ready for growth!

The staff have been busy with activities throughout all the cottages and McGaffin. Today Hope Reins our equestrian provider came with horses for our people to pet, groom and enjoy. We have participated in community walks for good causes, park openings, and a variety of other fun events. Super Bowl parties are planned in all the different cottages as well as a huge event in McGaffin. A team of staff look for weekly activities everyone would enjoy and we try to keep the cost to the individuals down by choosing some free community events also.

Our second thrift store opens February 10th in Deltona. The address is 1200 Deltona Boulevard. A grand opening is planned with food, door prizes and more! We are excited about the expansion. It offers our individuals a place to work and increases our revenue for operations. Please plan to stop in and tell store manager Jim, and retail assistant Heather, hello. If you are in the Deland area stop in to see manager Bobbi and assistant Dawn they will delighted to help you shop! Remember to call for pick up of any large items you wish to donate. We are also planning an employee appreciation event for February to thank our wonderful staff for their hard work. Martin loves to bar-b-que and the weather should be cooler this time of year.

Thank you,

Marsha Shankleton, Chief Operating Officer

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We are entering the New Year with great enthusiasm and with many exciting opportunities on the horizon!

Our holiday sale of luminaries, brownies, cookies, and Christmas cards was very successful. We appreciate your response and support. We will continue to produce products such as; brownies, decorative soaps, and cards for seasonal holidays, and for everyday use.

We also have an opportunity for contract work with a local business and our workers will be paid. We will soon operate a “snack cart” on the main campus. Duvall Home employees will be able to purchase snack items that our workers have baked and packaged. Our workers will put the cart together and handle all transactions.

We will also be volunteering at different places in the community, five days a week.

Ed McDowell, Adult Day Training Director

The Recreation Department will be continuing on with our therapeutic horseback riding lessons at Hope Reins for another few months. Our residents absolutely love the time they get to spend with the horses.

We have been spending a lot of time at our local bowling alley Sunshine Lanes. Everybody can enjoy bowling with a special ramp that the bowling alley provides!

We have also been enjoying the weather and the scenery at our local state parks and we will continue to make these trips weekly. Baseball season will be starting soon! We will be attending at least 4 Daytona Cubs Baseball games this season.

Cindy Jakobowski, Recreation Coordinator

Friends Welcome! The Duvall Parents, Guardians & Friends Association

The DPGFA is pleased to begin the New Year with a new focus—to help publicize the wonderful programs and the careful attention given to each resident at the Duvall Home.

At the January meeting Martin Favis, CEO and Rick Armstrong Board of Regents President gave reports about the future of the Home. One of the highlights of the January meeting—the golf cart that was on the Home’s needs list was graciously donated by parents Dr. & Mrs. Hansrote.

The Phantom Ball which raised $21,298.07 last year will take place this year from May 1 to July 31, but contributions are welcomed all year. Funds raised from this event have been used for replacing furniture and appliances, painting at some of the group homes, and for the road improvements outside Allgair Cottage on the main campus. This year we anticipate supporting the OPPS vocational training program and replacing the frozen custard/yogurt machine which will supply the whole campus with regular and sugar free desserts. The Giving Tree will continue for 2012 and the money from 2010 and 2011 will be used to help purchase the equipment necessary to implement the new paperless system which allows for better communication and documentation between all departments of the Home.

The DPGFA projects are simple to administer, provide easy participation and there is great satisfaction in what they accomplish. This year, we hope more “friends” will join with the parents and guardians. Please consider participating with us. Membership meetings are planned for May and October.

Emilie Kimbrough
President
Phone (941) 388-7037 or email ekimbro@aol.com
A Legacy of Love…
A Lifetime of Opportunity

Empowering individuals with developmental disabilities since 1945

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