

ISSUE

06

CHRISTIAN RECOVERY CENTERS

# Inside CONNECTION

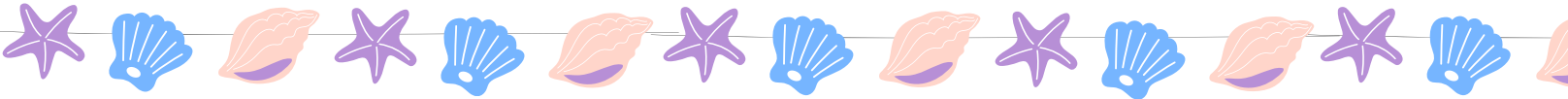


Internal Newsletter



**Hello June – and hello sunshine!** ☀️

Summer is here, and it's bringing a wave of energy, excitement, and fresh momentum! We've welcomed new faces to the mission and seen familiar ones show up strong, offering their time, support, and passion to help us grow. From uplifting events that bring us together to everyday wins that fuel our purpose, this month has been filled with blessings. We're stepping into summer with full hearts, renewed vision, and a community that's stronger than ever—let's keep the momentum going!



## Volunteerism

Volunteers are the heartbeat of our mission, helping us reach more people and do more good with every hour they give. Their time, skills, and compassion allow us to serve our community more effectively and steward our resources wisely. To celebrate and honor their dedication, we've introduced volunteer shirts as a small token of our gratitude—because every act of service deserves to be recognized!

**1 Peter 4:10** reminds us, we are called to use our gifts to serve others—thank you for being part of the impact!





# UPDATES

**“Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.”  
– Habakkuk 2:2**



## New London Open House – May 2

We recently had the honor of hosting an Open House at CRCI West, welcoming local officials, pastors, faithful supporters, and individuals who are partnering with us in the vision God has placed on our hearts. This gathering wasn't just about showing a space—it was about casting vision, building relationships, and sharing the hope we believe CRCI represents. Together, we are laying the groundwork for something greater—a place of restoration, discipleship, and transformation.

We are grateful for every person who came, prayed, encouraged, and expressed interest in joining the movement. The momentum is growing, and so is the vision!



## Bryant's Orchard

The Brunswick County Planning Board on May 12 approved Christian Recovery Centers Inc.'s conditional request for the property to be used as a social service facility and emergency shelter. Josh Torbich said he has heard no negative feedback from the community about their new facility, only questions about the program and plans.





# WORKFORCE REDEVELOPMENT



## LANDSCAPING Services

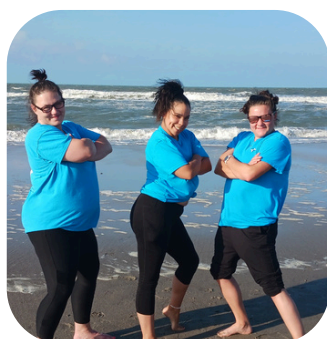


*The reviews keep coming in! Here is a glimpse of a comment made by a happy client" "Just a short note to let you know I was very pleased with the expert job that Austin, Tyler, Cory and Mattie did in removing the enclosed wooden fence, the contents and the thorough clean-up of the garden. It makes a world of difference for me. Perhaps this will give me a sense of encouragement to plant some flowers. I am truly blessed and am so glad I called the Christian Recovery Center for your help."*



## THRIFT STORE

Cynthia Arden was promoted to the Assistant Store Manager this week at Shallotte Thrift. Tammy and her team had a special luncheon last Sunday to celebrate their 1 year anniversary as a staff. The one year celebration for the Sunset Thrift will take place on June 2!



## CLEANING Services

As beach rental season ramps up, our crews are hard at work ensuring every property is clean, fresh, and guest-ready. Amid the hustle, there are still quiet moments to pause and appreciate the beauty of the coast. Shout-out to our amazing team for their dedication and to our Supervisors for leading with purpose—keeping everyone focused while living out the example of recovery and faith. Thanks to everyone's hard work, we've had a strong first quarter of business, and we're excited for what's ahead!



## CABINET & COUNTERTOP Services

The Cabinet and Countertops team is hard at work honing their skills in the 20-20 Design course offered by BCC. Under the guidance of Design Manager Maurey T., the team is gaining valuable expertise to bring custom cabinetry projects to life with precision and creativity.



# Rose HOUSE

## RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS

We're excited to share recent backyard upgrades, including a new multiuse sand court perfect for volleyball, cornhole, badminton, and even the occasional sandcastle. This versatile space encourages both fun and fellowship for residents and visitors alike.

We're also thrilled to welcome three new senior residents to the Rose House family: Paulette, Jese, and Angela!



## Grant's HARBOR



CRCI Men's Program Shines at Brunswick County Literacy Council's 25th Annual Spelling Bee! The spirit of learning and community was alive and buzzing as the CRCI Men's Program proudly participated in the 25th Annual Spelling Bee hosted by the Brunswick County Literacy Council. The event, which brought together teams from across the region, celebrates literacy, lifelong learning, and community involvement — values at the core of the CRCI program.

Grant's Harbor Graduate BBQ was a hit! Graduates celebrated with burger dogs and our signature graduate steaks to mark their program completion in style.



35th annual BCLC Adult

### Spelling Bee





## Team with a Testimony

Tammy Ward Superintendent - Sunset Beach Thrift

**“God is always in the business of making things new.”**

I've loved the Lord my whole life, growing up with grandmothers who taught me about God. It was during my time at a Baptist college that I truly gave my life to Christ, and that decision changed everything. Not long after, I met my husband, and we've been together for 37 years, with two kids and two grandkids.

We lived in Cary, North Carolina, raising our kids and being involved in our local Methodist church. After the housing market crashed, we moved to Georgia, and I prayed for a purpose-driven life. That's when God led me to Atlanta Mission, where I spent 11 years managing their thrift store and mentoring people facing homelessness and recovery. This experience taught me about operations, but more importantly, about the people behind the struggles—people don't choose homelessness, and many battle addiction, something I understand personally.

My brother, an addict, has been sober for 20 years, thanks to God and a recovery program called TROSA.

That journey gave me a heart for addiction recovery and for families struggling with it. After moving to Virginia, I worked with Mercy House, another nonprofit helping the homeless. I also got involved with our church, serving people in need. I truly believe everyone needs to be seen and known, as they matter to us and to God. Two and a half years ago, we moved to Ocean Isle Beach. I took time off to volunteer and care for my aging family members. But my heart still longed for purposeful work. When I heard about a new thrift store opening in Sunset, I knew it was God opening a door. I applied, and here I am. This isn't just a job—it's a calling. Everything we do here belongs to God. He restores lives, and I'm grateful to be part of that process—whether through a conversation or giving new life to an item. God is a God of restoration, and that's why I've always loved thrift stores. It reflects what He does in our lives.

**And I believe He's called me here—for such a time as this.**





# Events



Hosted at the scenic St. James Community, the event brought together over 400 guests for a fun-filled evening dedicated to supporting the mission of Christian Recovery Centers, Inc. (CRCI). With the soulful sounds of live bluegrass echoing through the park, attendees mingled, shared stories, and celebrated the incredible work being done to support individuals on their journey to recovery.



The fundraiser brought in just under \$45,000—an amazing achievement that nearly met the ambitious \$50,000 goal. Organizers are already looking ahead to next year with high hopes and exciting plans to surpass that milestone.

"We are so incredibly blessed by the turnout and generosity of this community," said organizers. "It was a night of joy, connection, and purpose—and we're already looking forward to an even bigger celebration next year!"

A heartfelt thank you goes out to Rick Margin and his wife, who served as the event's Mr. and Mrs. Chairpersons. Their leadership and support were instrumental in guiding the team through the planning process, offering invaluable insights and tools for future success.

Special recognition also goes to Shelly Keenan, who spearheaded the event's promotion and even went the extra mile by teaching a group of women to line dance—resulting in a delightful performance that had the whole crowd cheering. The CRCI Board of Directors played a crucial role in welcoming both new and familiar faces, helping to spread the word and foster deeper community connections. A special thank you is extended to presenting sponsor Dan Koenitz, whose support helped make the event possible and provided CRCI with the opportunity to share its mission with the broader community.



On May 1st, CRCI hosted a special National Day of Prayer event at Grant's Harbor, where our residents and community came together in a meaningful and powerful moment of unity and faith. It was a beautiful morning dedicated to lifting up our nation in prayer, and the atmosphere was filled with hope, reverence, and connection. As part of the event, we prayed over seven key areas that deeply impact our nation: military, education, families, churches, government, media, and business. Each prayer was heartfelt and intentional, lifting up those who lead, serve, and influence these vital parts of our society.

We are also extremely grateful for the men—and women—who showcased their vocal talents in leading worship and singing the national anthem, beautifully accompanied by guitar. Your music added a powerful and uplifting element to our time together.



Thank you to everyone who attended and helped create a truly special and memorable day of prayer and unity.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Joe Reilly, Jimmy Hobbs, Jennifer Sherman, Catherine Cooke, Pastor Chase Jon Howard, and Okeiya Dinnall for leading us in prayer and reflection. Your words and presence made a lasting impact, and we are so grateful for your leadership and spirit.







## TEAM MEMBER OF THE MONTH

Okeiya is simply the best—her team spirit, dedication, and ability to uplift those around her make her an invaluable part of every project. Recently promoted to Assistant Director, she has continued to lead with heart and excellence, proactively managing logistics and keeping everyone informed and connected. From supporting alumni initiatives to scheduling residents, and her active involvement in the church, she consistently goes above and beyond her role. Her collaborative nature and attention to detail have strengthened our team's unity and elevated the overall success of our program.

## OKEIYA DINNALL ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



## BETTY PEARL ROSE HOUSE VOLUNTEER



## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Betty Pearl is a truly special soul whose kindness, honesty, and deep spirituality have touched the hearts of everyone around her. She's not only beautiful and encouraging, but also incredibly genuine—always keeping it real while offering words that uplift and inspire. Whether it's through sharing Bible verses or simply being present with a sweet and comforting spirit, Betty has a way of making people feel seen, valued, and loved, especially on their hardest days. Her wisdom, faith, and heartfelt encouragement leave a lasting impact wherever she goes.

JUNE**Birthdays!****Karli Renee Maness**

June 15

**Annamarie Santoliquido**

June 15

**Jacob Starr**

June 17

**Andrew Michael Ramey**

June 23

**Okeiya Dinnall**

June 25

**Chad Sellers**

June 28

**Work Anniversaries!****Laura Gentile** – WRP

6/3/2024

**Benjamin Reeves** – WRP

6/4/2024

**Carol Ayers** – WRP

6/5/2024

**Melissa Hill** – WRP

6/10/2024

**David Koch**– Programs

6/10/2024

**Richard William Kirk**– WRP

6/17/2024

**Chris Smith**– Programs

6/24/2024

**Meredith Carlson** – WRP

6/29/2024

**Dear CRCI Staff,**

As we wrap up this newsletter, we want to leave you with a gentle challenge: consider stepping outside your routine. Maybe it's volunteering for something new, sharing your personal story, sitting down for a meal with one of our residents, or simply checking in with a co-worker you haven't connected with in a while.

If something's been on your heart—no matter how small—take the step. Act on it.

Small gestures often make the biggest impact.