



INSIDE CONNECTION

Holiday Edition



INSIDE THE NOVEMBER EDITION:

- Bryant's Orchard Updates
- Gala Recap
- Educating Brunswick County Youth on Substance Use
- A Team With A Testimony: Paul Wilkins
- December Celebrations

Holly, Jolly, and Celebrating 2025!

As 2025 comes to a close, it's the perfect time to reflect on an incredible year full of growth, transformation, and God's faithfulness! This month's newsletter is jam-packed with highlights, celebrations, inspiring stories, and updates from across every corner of CRCI's ministry. From our talented residents' performances and graduate milestones to exciting new initiatives, Gala celebrations, and the tireless work of our staff and volunteers, this edition captures the heart and soul of all we've accomplished together.

We've seen lives changed, programs flourish, and communities strengthened—and none of it would be possible without the dedication, passion, and love of our amazing CRCI family. So grab a cup of cocoa, settle in, and celebrate with us! Whether it's uplifting stories from the Rose House, inspiring moments from New London, or shining examples of teamwork and service at Bryant's Orchard, this newsletter is a reminder of the impact we make every day.

Let's close out 2025 with gratitude, joy, and holiday cheer, and step boldly into 2026 ready to continue transforming lives, building hope, and living out our mission. Here's to celebrating all we've accomplished—and all that lies ahead!

Santa is Coming to Shallotte



**Saturday, December 13th
from 11 AM to 1 PM**

Bring your two-legged and four-legged babies to our Shallotte Thrift Store for holiday photos with Santa! Come dressed in your holiday best and capture some merry memories with your loved ones (furry friends included)!



UPDATES



NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

We're thrilled to share that several rooms at Bryant's Orchard have been generously funded and named by our loyal donors! This incredible support brings us one step closer to opening our residential campus and transforming lives! We're excited to celebrate the generous supporters who have made Bryant's Orchard possible! Special thanks to Dan Koenitz, Shelly Keenan, Carl Gieger, Robert Dudley, Geoff Atkinson, Mike & Deb Claxton, the Schoen Foundation, and many more. Be sure to thank them when you see them next for helping us bring our residential campus to life!



HOT TO GO!

New initiative for resident meals! We did a soft launch from the new kitchen to test providing three hot meals a day for our residents. A huge shout-out to Jerry and the kitchen staff for giving us a glimpse of what's ahead Praise the Lord!



TREE-MENDOUS TEAMWORK AT BRYANT'S ORCHARD!

Bryant's Orchard Clean-Up Day: On 11/25, all hands were on deck at the campus to cut down trees, clear the land, and prepare the property for planting! We are so grateful for the teamwork, guidance, safety measures, and partners who made this day possible!



GALA RECAP

RETURN TO EVERGREEN *Psalm 1:3*



Graduate Spotlight



Powerful testimonies and inspiring graduates—celebrating hope, healing, and transformation!



Superior Court Judge Jason C. Disbrow, Brunswick County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Chism, and other prominent county officials were in attendance!



We love to see our very own Johnathan Austin with his Tidal Creek Family!



Annual Charity Gala

The theme, "Return to Evergreen," reminded us of Psalm 1:3: "That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers." This powerful metaphor reflects the journeys of recovery we celebrate at CRCI—our residents, volunteers, and staff learning to thrive in every season, rooted in hope, resilience, and God's guidance.

What a joy it was to gather together last Saturday evening for our Annual Gala! The stories of hope and restoration shared during the evening continue to echo in our hearts, reminding us of God's goodness and the incredible work He is doing through CRCI. Thank you for being part of this special night and for helping us celebrate the lives transformed through our mission.



Message from the Development Team

We are so grateful to everyone—volunteers, board members, staff, and residents—who contributed to making the evening beautiful, from filming and setup to breakdown, greeting, registration, and every logistical detail in between. Your dedication and service created a seamless and memorable experience for all. We raised over 50k thanks to all our supporters!





WORKFORCE REDEVELOPMENT



LANDSCAPING *Services*

CRCI Landscaping was thrilled to have Heartsease and Front Street Construction as our guests of honor at this year's annual CRCI Gala! After an incredible evening, CRCI is now one step closer to securing the largest contract Landscaping has ever undertaken with a development—praise the Lord!



"The guys were busy the whole time they were here. It was a joy to watch them work. Thank you for the privilege to hire them."

-Happy November Customer in Supply



CABINET & COUNTERTOP *Services*



Luke has officially completed a remodel in Myrtle Beach. This project was 95% all him. He did amazing work and CRCI is very proud of him. Attached a before and after of his work and this is a major highlight as he has come full circle which is the intended setup of our program.



THRIFT STORE Introducing CRCI Thrift #3!

Store Number 3—right on Main Street! What an amazing opening day and incredible days that have followed. Thank you to all the hardworking residents, staff, and volunteers who made this possible. We're excited for the impact this new location will make in our community!

Referencing Store Names:

- Sunset Beach Location
- Shallotte Location (Main St.)
- Holden Beach Location (Original)

"Shout out to Tina Floyd and her Team - amazing Opening Day"



CLEANING *Services*

The cleaning department met their net income budget for the year 2025 in June of 25.

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

This Month in Pictures



A huge thank-you to Brunswick County EMS for visiting our Rose House ladies today and sharing hands-on demonstrations in Stop the Bleed, tourniquet use, and CPR!



Congratulations to Trina on winning this week's Bell Award! Caught in the act of excellence, Trina radiates positivity and stays on track. She is a great leader for her peers around her.



Residents take the stage at local high school to raise awareness about substance use disorder



Beautiful ladies from the Rose House shining bright at our Annual Charity Gala, both current residents and graduates!



"I love the beach baptisms because it feels like we are under an open heaven. And the waves are washing the sins away" —Okeiya Dinnall



A big thank you to GFWC South Brunswick Islands for their generous donations!



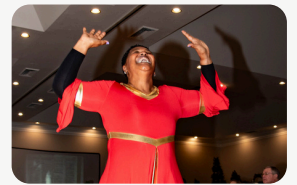
A big thank you to Sam and Feast for Families! We're so grateful for your kindness!



Congratulations to our Rose House graduates! Our alumni crew continues to grow!

Legacy In Motion: Rose House Gala Dance

Ladies at the Rose House, along with volunteer Charisse Wilson, performed a powerful, wordless dance at the gala. The movement captivated the entire room, earning widespread praise, and you could feel the emotion and strength radiating from every woman on stage! The courage and strength they showed by practicing for months before the event—and then touching everyone in the room—is truly worthy of applause! We are so proud of these



"I've never experienced something so moving without a single word being spoken. Every gesture and movement told a powerful story."

-Gala Guest



MEN'S PROGRAM



Allen Long and Scott McLeod shared their powerful testimonies with students at Tillary Christian Academy inside the Legacy Dream Center. Their stories of redemption touched every soul in the room. Pastor Wilson Moore has already received calls from students ready to surrender their lives to God! What an incredible reminder of how God is using CRCI to reach the next generation.



CRCI was blessed this month with a church van donated by Mineral Springs Baptist Church, a gift that will support the upcoming women's Moto Track House in Locust.

Pastor Wallace shared his powerful testimony of God's saving love, showing that the impact of Jesus' grace lasts a lifetime.



This Month in Pictures



Our graduates and leaders are dressed to impress—celebrating in style all that God is doing through CRCI at the Gala!



SEIC, Grants Harbor, and New London leaders in one picture truly capture the growth of our program!



Community service with the executive support team! Jon Long and Anthony Moyle connecting with Bud Myers



CRCI continues to build awareness and live out our mission of being good partners to those around us.



Educating Brunswick County Youth on Substance Use

CRCI is committed to educating youth about the risks and realities of substance use. Each year, our team visits middle schools and high schools throughout Brunswick County to deliver engaging, age-appropriate presentations on substance use disorder. These sessions provide students with accurate information, personal stories, and practical strategies to make healthy choices. By addressing prevention early, CRCI aims to reduce the likelihood of experimentation and support positive decision-making. Our team also emphasizes resources available for students and families who may be struggling with substance use. Through these efforts, CRCI fosters awareness, hope, and resilience in the next generation.



A TEAM WITH A *Testimony*



Paul Wilkins Regional Director - CRCI East

Sometimes the struggles we face begin long before we fully understand them. At the age of 11, I was introduced to pornography, and it became readily available to me. When I married Sarah in 1995, I thought that the porn would go away but it didn't. I used it as a coping mechanism for life's difficulties and as a way to "get back" when I felt hurt. It was a very selfish thing to do and severely damaged my wife and marriage. But God was in pursuit of me! In October of 1997 at a Promise Keepers event in Washington DC, Jesus met me while praying in a group of men that I did not know- and still don't. God marked me but I didn't surrender and make Him Lord. By 2006 my selfishness and addiction to pornography led to depression, suicidal thoughts, and I was an angry husband and father. I had relapsed hundreds of times and was SO TIRED OF FAILING my God, my wife, and myself that suicide seemed the only permanent solution. But God wasn't done with me! That year the Holy Spirit was working on my heart. He showed me the pain that I'd caused Sarah and He used my circumstances to bring me to full submission. God was made King in my life for the first time and for the first time I had victory over addiction. He created within me a new heart and a steadfast spirit within me.



Paul & Sarah Wilkins

I first connected with CRCI through Josh Torbich, whom I met at the Bridge to 100 Conference in 2023, thanks to a mutual friend, Lew Davis. Josh later invited Sarah and me to the Gala that same year, and my involvement with CRCI has been deeply meaningful ever since. Every day, I am honored to walk alongside individuals whom society may have given up on. Seeing Jesus transform their identity and give them hope and purpose is what makes this work so rewarding.

A fun fact about me: I once broke both of my wrists falling from a horse while riding bareback, spending three months in casts! Life has taught me to persevere, to laugh, and to trust in God's plan. Through every trial, I am grateful for the journey, for redemption, and for the opportunity to give back with faith, dedication, and a heart full of gratitude.

Proud of You!



Team Member of the Month Steve Inman

Resident Manager- Grant's Harbor

In his role as Resident Manager, Steve brings tremendous energy, dedication, and genuine care to everything he does, always placing resident well-being at the forefront. Steve's positive attitude, thoughtful support, and collaborative spirit have strengthened both his team and the residents he serves. This month, he has gone above and beyond, delivering outstanding results and making a meaningful impact on those around him. His commitment to excellence, heart, and teamwork truly inspire everyone at CRCI!

Volunteer of the Month

Debbie Gurreri

Rose House

We are thrilled to recognize Mrs. Debbie as our Volunteer of the Month! She faithfully comes every Friday, bringing homemade baked goods and engaging conversations that brighten everyone's day. Debbie goes above and beyond by attending special events, including baptisms and graduations, showing her unwavering support for our residents. The women at The Rose House absolutely love her, and her presence brings warmth and joy to our community. We are so grateful for Debbie's dedication and heart for service!



December

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Meredith Carlson

December 11



Jessica White

December 28

Dwane Richardson

December 31

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

Nathan Ramey

December 6, 2021



Steven Inman

December 3, 2024

Patrick Pierce

December 16, 2024

Annual Staff Meeting



Join us on **December 19th from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM** at Bryant's Orchard for our Annual Staff Meeting! This is a special afternoon to gather the entire staff to celebrate this year's accomplishments, enjoy lunch, have fun with games, and brainstorm ways to make next year even better. Come ready in your holiday spirit to fellowship with your team! We're also encouraging participation in this year's Ugly Sweater Contest, with a prize for the winning sweater. Don't miss it—we can't wait to see you there!

THE
SEASON



THE
REASON