MISSION STATEMENT

Responding to the call of the Gospel, Christopher Homes, Inc. strives to provide decent, affordable housing to vulnerable members of our community. All who are associated with Christopher Homes, Inc. have the right to respect, dignity and a sense of well being. Therefore, through the service and commitment of our staff and volunteers, we will enable our residents to grow spiritually, socially, and intellectually, empowering them to develop their optimal potential.

Christopher Homes is a senior living ministry of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.
Many men don’t get routine health checkups. But the best way to stay healthy is to visit your doctor regularly, so you can watch for—and even prevent—the following conditions.

**Colorectal Cancer** happens when tumors form in the colon or rectum. Men ages 50 to 75 should get regular colorectal cancer screenings. Ask your doctor what kind of screening is best for you and how often to get it.

**High Cholesterol** can lead to heart disease and stroke. Men ages 35 or older should get their cholesterol checked once every five years, or every year if they have high blood pressure or diabetes.

**High Blood Pressure** raises the risk for heart attack and stroke. Men should get their blood pressure checked at least once every two years. Usually, a normal blood pressure reading is less than 120 over 80. Your doctor can help you set your blood pressure goal.

**Diabetes** is a life-long disease that has no cure. It can also lead to other serious health problems. Get tested for diabetes if you have: • High blood pressure • Increased thirst, urination, tiredness and blurred vision • Family members with diabetes

National Men’s Health Week is June 11 through June 17. Now’s the time to talk to your doctor about taking care of your health.

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**BEST PLACES TO WORK**

For a second year, Christopher Homes has been named a Top Workplace by The Times Picayune. The award is earned by the best places to work in the Greater New Orleans area.

The list is based solely on employee feedback and is based on anonymous survey that measures several aspects of workplace culture.

Only 50 companies in our area won this award and Christopher Homes is the only agency within the Archdiocese of New Orleans to be named a top workplace.

Thank you!
SENIOR RESOURCE FESTIVAL

The Castine Center in Mandeville took us back to the 1950’s for the 19th annual Senior Resource Festival. COAST and Lifestyles Health & Wealth held the festival which drew hundreds of people. Christopher Homes was a sponsor of the event. Representatives from Nazareth Inn, Annunciation Inn and Rouquette Lodge were on hand to answer questions about Christopher Homes and the various services we offer.

STUDENTS SPEND FINAL DAY OF SCHOOL GIVING BACK

Students and staff from Kipp Leadership Academy are starting their summer off with some service to others. They arrived at Annunciation Inn to play bingo and paint with the residents. All of that happened on May 23rd, their last day of school. We have the Visual Arts teacher, Ms. Natalie Cooper to thank for reaching out to activity coordinator Donna Prevost.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

Saint John the Baptist
Feast Day June 24th

Prayer to St. John the Baptist

O God, You raised up St. John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ. Fill Your people with the joy of possessing His grace, and direct the minds of all the faithful in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant that as St. John was martyred for truth and justice, so we may energetically profess our Faith in You, and lead others to the Way, the Truth, and Eternal Life.

Amen.
Hurricane season is here and our managers have been preparing all year long to make sure staff and residents are safe in the event of a storm.

If a mandatory evacuation order is issued, all residents and visitors must leave. If an evacuation is not ordered, it’s up to you to decide to evacuate or shelter in place.

**Orleans Parish**
In the City of New Orleans there are four “evacuspots” specifically for seniors. If you cannot get to an evacuspot because of medical needs, you might be eligible to be picked up from your home. In Orleans Parish call 3-1-1 to register.

If you cannot sign up on your own, a family member, caregiver or friend can register for you.

**St. John the Baptist Parish**
Residents with medical disabilities or special needs are asked to call the Office of Emergency Preparedness at (985) 536-4955

**St. Tammany Parish**
Alert St. Tammany is a public safety service provided to the residents of St. Tammany parish. People are urged to access the self-registration page at www.stpgov.org

On that page you can enter multiple contact numbers in the event of a storm.

**Jefferson Parish**
Jefferson Parish has implemented an alert system to let people know of possible emergencies. You can sign up for JPALERT by going to www.jeffparish.net and clicking on the JPALERT icon or by calling (504)349-5360.

**St. Bernard Parish**
In the event of an evacuation, St. Bernard Parish is urging residents to go an “evacuation staging” area located at the St. Bernard Civic Center Grand Ballroom or to any of the following sites:

- **Celebration Church**
  7500 W Judge Perez Drive
  Arabi, LA 70032

- **Chalmette High School**
  1100 E Judge Perez Drive
  Chalmette, LA 70043

- **Corinne Missionary Baptist Church**
  5620 E Judge Perez Drive
  Violet, LA 70092

- **F. Gauthier Elementary School**
  1200 E LA-46
  St. Bernard 70085

- **Fanz Mobile Home Park**
  2100 W Fanz
  St Bernard, LA 70085

- **Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church**
  2320 Paris Road
  Chalmette, LA 70043

*In order to be eligible for this program you must have a valid ID or driver's license. If you do not have one of those you will be processed by the St. Bernard Parish Sheriff’s office for identification purposes.

Those with special needs should pre-register with the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to ensure transportation. For more information please contact (504)278-4268

We have compiled a list of important parish websites on www.christopherhomes.org. It’s on the home page in the section called “hurricane season preps”.
The Office of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a near-perfect inspection report for Christopher Inn. The property, which is located on Royal Street, was one of the first Christopher Homes properties to open. The HUD REAC inspection was held on March 5th, 2018 and Christopher Inn scored a 96 out of 100 possible points. Community Manager, Deacon Graylin Miller says the high score comes from hard work from dedicated staff.

Metairie Manor I was also awarded a 96 on its HUD REAC inspection. That inspection was held on May 7th. The 5 main areas that are reviewed are:
- Health & Safety Issues
- Exterior
- Site
- Units & Common Areas
- Systems

We congratulate our properties as they continue to get high scores on these inspections.

ST. TERESA’S VILLA IS BEAUTIFUL

The “Keep Slidell Beautiful” committee has recognized St. Teresa’s Villa, a Christopher Homes property, as a beautiful business for the month of May. A sign was placed outside of the property on Gause Boulevard at the beginning of the month. Some of the things on the checklist are landscaping, cleanliness and overall maintenance. Community Manager, Deacon Norbert Billiot says that residents have been pitching in by weeding and keeping everything clean.

The Executive Director of “Keep Slidell Beautiful”, Bill Mauser, sent a letter to the property, which reads in-part, “Thank you for helping to make Slidell a beautiful place to live”.

St. Teresa’s Villa provides affordable housing for 75 seniors. It is the newest Christopher Homes property, and it is one of more than 21 properties across the New Orleans metro area.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

“I grew up with the company.” – Sharline O’Brien

Sharline has been with the Christopher Homes family for 29 years. She says that focusing on the needs of residents is her #1 priority. Her favorite day is move-in day. Sharline says, “I know we are providing affordable housing for them. I know they’ll love it here. We have so much to offer.”

Sharline O’Brien - Nazareth Inn Assistant Manager

FATHERS DAY - JUNE 17TH

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gulf Coast Elder Abuse Conference
Several Christopher Homes staff members will continue their education during Gulf Coast Elder Abuse conference held on June 25th and 26th. Christopher Homes is a sponsor of the event which will be held at the Northshore Harbor Center in Slidell.

The Gulf Coast Elder Abuse Conference is presented by the St. Tammany “SALT” Council, Seniors and Law Enforcement Together.
SOCIAL MEDIA 101

Christopher Homes Director of Communications, Marcy O’Leary is making the rounds to various sites to give information about social media and the various platforms that Christopher Homes utilizes to better serve employees and residents.

FACT: Social isolation and loneliness are health risks.

FACT: Keeping socially engaged is good for your health.

Schedule:
June 4th, Rouquette 2 p.m.
June 5th, St. John Berchman’s 10:30 a.m.
June 6th, Place DuBourg 10:30 a.m.
June 7th, St. Bernard 10:30 a.m.
June 8th, Metairie Manor 2 p.m.
June 18th, Mater Dolorosa 1:30 p.m.
June 19th, Villa St. Maurice 10:30 a.m.
June 20th, St. Martin Manor 10:30 a.m.
June 21st, Annunciation Inn 10:30 a.m.
June 27th, Delille Inn
June 28th, Wynhoven 10:30 a.m.
June 29th, Christopher Inn 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. O’Leary has more than a decade of experience being an administrator on social media platforms and websites. She spent the last 10 years working in TV newsrooms across South Louisiana and Mississippi. Her work as a television news producer has garnered regional and national awards, including two Emmy awards. Mrs. O’Leary served as the executive producer for a documentary detailing 10-years after Hurricane Katrina, and her work won a regional Edward R. Murrow award as well as a Sigma Delta Chi award, one of the highest awards in journalism.

RED NOSE DAY

Metairie Manor Community Manager Marie Letellier held a friendly competition at her facility. Staff was provided a red nose, and the person who was able to get the most residents to take a picture with them got to leave work early. This contest came along with an employee appreciation luncheon.

MEMORIAL DAY CRAWFISH BOIL

The staff at Wynhoven boiled up some mudbugs in honor of Memorial Day. The event was held on May 24th.
New Orleans is known for its history and traditions and is rooted deeply with Catholicism. Catholic devotees all over the city flock to Good Friday traditions from the Stations of the Cross to the walking Church tours.

St. Roch Cemetery has a rich history of devotees dating back to 1874. Its tale begins with Rev. Peter Leonard Thevis who became pastor of Holy Trinity Church beginning in 1868 after Rev. Ignatius Scheck was stricken down by the yellow fever epidemic which plagued the New Orleans area.

Rev. Thevis had a vision to develop a cemetery for his parishioners and promised to dedicate a chapel to St. Roch if none of his parishioners perished during the next year of the yellow fever epidemic. Rev. Thevis carried out his promise by having the St. Roch Campo Santo Chapel and Shrine constructed. Its official dedication was on August 16, 1876, and its first Mass was on All Soul's Day, Nov. 2, 1876.

From then on the deep traditions of St. Roch Cemetery began with Masses regularly held in the St. Roch Chapel and the Way of the Cross services conducted on Good Friday to commemorate the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Another vision of Rev. Thevis was to eventually replace the 14 terra-cotta Station features with solid marble. It wasn't until 1948, long after the death of Fr. Thevis in 1893, that his dream became a reality when the solid marble, almost life-size Stations of the Cross were delivered from Italy. The 14 marble statuary features, donated by several families, are located in niches surrounding St. Roch Cemetery #1. When praying the Way of the Cross, devotees will walk the one square block perimeter of the cemetery ending near the beginning.

MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Several Christopher Homes properties celebrated Mother's Day. Annunciation Inn's celebration came complete with a raffle and hat contest. It was held on May 7th and featured a meal complete with fried fish, pasta, salad and cake. Reverend Earnest Salsberry the university chaplain for Dillard University blessed the meal. Upon arrival Rev. Salsberry had just returned from the inauguration of Latoya Cantrell, the Mayor of New Orleans.

Also on May 7th, the mothers at St. Martin Manor were also celebrated. Beautiful handmade corsages were handed out. The corsages were a donation from resident Marilyn Woullard and the music was donated by another resident Wayne Odom. Opening prayer was said by resident Albertina Rhyamns.

Then on Wednesday, May 9th Reverend Earnest Salsberry made his way to St. John Berchman's to speak with the mothers there. That Mother's Day celebration also came complete with a meal. Activity coordinator Donna Prevost organized the events at Annunciation Inn as well as St. John Berchman's.

To see the full prayer and song from Rev. Salsberry please like the Christopher Homes facebook page. That's where you can find videos from the event. The events were organized by Donna Prevost.

Metairie Manor also celebrated its moms with a party. The dining hall was packed while a DJ played tunes and residents danced the afternoon away. The event was organized by Zina Smith.
Dear Residents and Staff,

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve” Mark 10:45

The structure of our culture and economy is such that, as responsible citizens, we often spend more of our waking hours at work and with our fellow employees than we do at home with family. And yet, the family is the core of our society and its most basic unit which holds humanity together. While family life and activity is or should be the essence of what we do and who we are, work generally fills our day.

With work captivating so much of our life and making such a demand on our time, I believe that it is important that we find meaning and significance in the work we do. This is where the mission and ministry of Christopher Homes, the housing agency of the Archdiocese of New Orleans comes into play. As management and staff of this very important ministry, which provides much needed housing and services to some of the most vulnerable members of our communities, we have the opportunity to receive more than we are called to give. At times, our work can be challenging but I know our seniors are most grateful and feel blessed to have such decent, affordable housing administered and maintained by caring staff.

I am reminded of the great saint of the 20th Century, St. Maximilian Kolbe. St. Kolbe was a Polish, Catholic priest whom in the German death camp of Auschwitz gave his life so that another prisoner, a husband and father may live. When Kolbe was canonized a saint more than 40 years later, the prisoner for whom Kolbe gave his life was in attendance, he lived to age 93. While I’m not suggesting that we give our life in service to our seniors, I do point out St. Maximilian Kolbe as an example of service to others and how that service can make us great in the eyes of those we serve and more so in the eyes of our Creator.

In all aspects of life, we find a relationship between efforts expended and benefits gained. In school, if we study more we receive better grades. In life style, if we eat better and exercise, we feel better, our clothes fit better, and we have more energy. If we spend time in prayer, read Scripture and acknowledge God’s blessings in our life we are better able to deal with adversities. And so it goes for our Christopher Homes ministry of serving seniors. The more we put into our work, the more we treat our residents with respect and care, the more we strive to make our area of responsibility a shining example of excellence; the more we will find joy, peace, and pride. It is in serving others that we bring meaning to life, both our own and that of those we serve.

For the second consecutive year, Christopher Homes has been named as a Top Place to Work in New Orleans. We should all take pride in that designation. This is an award each and every one of us have received by virtue of our service to the seniors we serve and the joy we are able to find in that service to others. In doing so, we are following the teaching and example of our Lord, “not to be served but to serve.”

God’s blessings upon each of you and your families.

With God’s Blessings,

Deacon Dennis F. Adams
Executive Director, Christopher Homes