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 people don’t talk about urinary incontinence because they feel embarrassed, but the condition is common. According to the National Association for Continence, about 25 million American adults have symptoms.

Urinary incontinence is leaking urine when you don’t mean to. It can range from slight leaking to severe, frequent wetting.

Common symptoms include:
- Being unable to urinate
- Pain when the bladder is full or when urinating
- Weakening of the urinary stream
- Having to urinate more often
- Needing to rush to the restroom and losing urine if not reached in time
- Urine leakage that prevents activities or causes embarrassment
- Urine leakage that began or continued after surgery
- Frequent bladder infections

Some symptoms may be similar to other conditions or medical problems. That’s why it’s important to talk to your doctor if you are having any of these symptoms and get a checkup. You may be referred to a urologist, a doctor who treats diseases of the urinary tract.

If urinary incontinence is affecting your life, you and your doctor can work together to set up a personalized plan to stop or manage it.

To follow the Health Habits blog online head to www.christopherhomes.org
You’ll find this article as well as previous health-related articles.

Also, follow Christopher Homes on: Facebook: @christopherhomesano  Twitter: @chi_archno  Instagram: @christopherhomesinc
**JULY 4TH CELEBRATION**

Wynhoven celebrated America’s birthday with a BBQ. Activity Coordinator, Denise Batiste, organized the event that attracted more than 100 residents. They were treated to hot dogs and hamburgers as well as a DJ. The event wouldn’t have been complete without a second line around the main dining area.

**METAIRIE MANOR - BEARS BRING SMILES TO THE COMMUNITY**

More than a dozen Metairie Manor residents rolled up their sleeves for a good cause. The group gathered in the dining room at the York Street senior living facility to create bears, those cuddly creatures will be given away.

Each creation is hand sewn and stuffed. The outfits are also made by hand.

“They are for any adult who has lost a loved one, facing a surgery or someone who’s facing a tough time”, said Frances Munaco, Metairie Manor Resident.

The philanthropic endeavor is the brainchild of a member of the Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club.

Meladie Munch, the Dawn Busters Kiwanis Club President, was on hand as busy bear builders were stuffing and sewing the more than dozen bears that are set to be given away.

Ms. Munch said that she likes the idea of the bears because while the residents are helping people, the activity helps the participants as well.

The boy bears are called Sunny Bears while the girls are called Share Bears.

“We are going to have a bear population explosion,” said Mrs. Munaco after seeing how many people came to help.

The group started with just 3 or 4 people about a month ago, but has grown to more than a dozen. They are all Metairie Manor residents who wanted to give back.

The residents gather on Thursdays and Sundays. As for the future, the group has big plans for specialty bears for Saints football season.

**NEW EVENTS AT ST. MARTIN'S MANOR**

There are exciting things happening at St. Martin's Manor. Residents will soon be able to enjoy several new classes, which include chair yoga and Zumba

Two additional activities were also added this past week. St. Martin's Manor residents now have Line Dancing, and Bingo has officially started with the residents’ Bingo committee overseeing it.

The residents at St. Martin's Manor are highly pleased with these activities that are being provided for them. Ms. Lynn Johnson, St. Martin's Manor employee, spoke with several of the residents who said the activities make them feel active and alive.

In the upcoming weeks, the residents will have their dedication of the new agency T-Shirt.
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

“I feel like it’s my purpose, and it’s an honor to serve. I enjoy talking to the residents. There is never a dull moment.”

- Tanisha Goodman, Community Manager
  (Villa St. Maurice, St. Martin Manor, St. Martin House)

Outside of Work - Tanisha loves to cook. She says she’ll even make gumbo when it’s hot outside. BBQ shrimp is her specialty.

NEW HIRES AND LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Nazareth Inn has gained a new community manager. Shevelle McCrary joined the Christopher Homes team back in June. She will manage Nazareth II.

Mater Dolorosa has a new porter/housekeeper. We want to welcome Arnol Miranda, who started on July 10th. Welcome aboard!

A familiar face has taken managerial duties at St. Teresa’s Villa. Sharline O’Brien is former assistant manager at Nazareth Inn and has worked for Christopher Homes for 29 years. We look forward to her new role as Community Manager at St. Teresa’s Villa in Slidell.

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION PICNIC

Christopher Homes staff were honored with an employee appreciation picnic at the Audubon Zoo on July 28th. Staff and their families were invited to the all-day event. There was plenty of food and snowballs for all of those in attendance. More than 200 employees and their families enjoyed the event.

The picnic was in recognition of Christopher Homes’ designation as a best place to work in the New Orleans area for a 2nd year in a row.
RTA CONTINUES TO GET FEEDBACK FROM RESIDENTS

A representative from the RTA visited Delille Inn and Nazareth Inn last month. It’s all part of a continued effort to get feedback from community members to enhance RTA services.

Jennifer Brady, Community Outreach Manager with Transdev the Private Operating Partner of RTA, spoke to several residents and was able to help the download of the new Gomobile App with the RTA.

SENIOR HEALTH FAIR

Christopher Homes is participating in a fair hosted by St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in New Orleans
When: Saturday, August 4th 9:30 a.m – 10:30 a.m.
Where: St. Francis of Assisi - New Orleans
Lycee Francais Cafeteria,
5951 Patton St. New Orleans, LA

SENIOR HEALTH

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

CHI’s Director of Pastoral Care, Vincent Scozzari, held a spiritual renewal on June 22nd at Rouquette Lodge. Vincent held the event to educate those in attendance more about the Blessed Mother.

IGIVECATHOLIC - NOVEMBER 27TH

Christopher Homes will participate in #iGiveCatholic on #GivingTuesday on November 27th, 2018. This is an opportunity for people to make a difference in the lives of our seniors.

Please spread the word about this important cause. We will have more information on how to donate on our website www.christopherhomes.org

CHRISTOPHER HOMES SPONSORS “WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S” ON BOTH SIDES OF THE LAKE

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

NORTHSHORE
Saturday, November 3rd
Fontainebleau State Park
Mandeville, LA

METAIRIE
Saturday, November 10th
Baby Cakes Field
Metairie, LA

Go to www.christopherhomes.org for information on how to register.
CHRISTOPHER HOMES STAFF ATTENDS CONFERENCE

The annual Louisiana Affordable Housing Management Conference (LAHMA) was held at the Hyatt Centric Hotel in New Orleans. The theme - “Our Unique Affordable Housing World”.

Metairie Manor Assistant Manager Dawn Royes and Contract Administrator Debra Stepter were in attendance. They were graciously invited by Landlord Shield's, Alberto Castillo.

ROUQUETTE LODGE RESIDENTS HEAD TO THE OLD STATE CAPITOL

On Friday, July 13th, several Rouquette Lodge residents took a step back into old Louisiana history and politics.

Louisiana’s Old State Capitol building is a National Historic Landmark. It sits next to the mighty Mississippi River at 100 North Blvd., and houses the Old State Capitol Museum of Political History. There are several state of the art exhibits at the site.

The museum of open Tuesday – Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, 9 a.m – 3p.m.

Admission is free.
NEW ORLEANS CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

For many years now, an annual prayer service for the unborn has been held in St. Patrick Cemetery #3 by a small, white marble monument dedicated to the babies killed by abortion.

After the prayer service in 2017, Archbishop Gregory Aymond asked a simple question “why isn’t the prayer service held by the mausoleum where the babies are buried?” It was a fair question and one that needed more thought than to simply move the modest marble monument over to St. Patrick Cemetery #1. Along with director Debbie Shinskie of the Archdiocese of New Orleans Respect Life office, we knew this vision was important, and Debbie suggested the new prayer location be dedicated to all the babies lost by abortion, miscarriage, or stillbirth.

We now had the opportunity to envision a dedicated location for the unborn prayer garden which became Holy Innocents Prayer Garden. The garden consists of a bench, a Rachel statue, and a tree all surrounded by a garden. The interior of the garden has inlaid bricks in the concrete forming the shape of a cross.

The garden was ready for the prayer service on January 22, 2018, to coincide with USCCB Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. While the clouds loomed, we were spared the down pour as we prayed for the unborn and Archbishop Aymond blessed Holy Innocents Prayer Garden.

As we continue to pray for an end to abortion and for all grieving parents, let’s rejoice in knowing God’s presence can lift us and heal our hearts.

For those who were not able to memorialize their unborn, we offer baby plaques that can be installed in the prayer garden. For more information, please contact Catholic Cemeteries at 504-596-3050.

Provided by

SAINT SPOTLIGHT

Saint Pius X
Feast Day: August 21st

Prayer to St. Pius the X

Glorious Pontiff, Saint Pius the X, devoted servant of Our Lord and loving child of Mary, I invoke you as a saint in Heaven. I give myself to you that you may always be my father, my protector and my guide in the way of holiness and salvation.

Aid me in observing the duties of my state in life. Obtain for me great purity of heart and a fervent love of the interior life after your own example. Pope of the Blessed Sacrament, teach me to love Holy Mass and Holy Communion as the source of all grace and holiness and to receive this Sacrament as often as I can.

Gentle father of the poor, help me to imitate your charity toward my fellowmen in word and deed. Consoler of the suffering, help me to bear my daily cross patiently and with perfect resignation to the will of God. Loving Shepherd of the flock of Christ obtain for me the grace of being a true child of Holy Mother Church. Saint Pius the X beloved Holy Father, I humbly implore your powerful intercession in obtaining from the Divine Heart of Jesus all the graces necessary for my spiritual and temporal welfare.

I recommend to you in particular this favor… (mention your request)

Great Pontiff, whom Holy Mother Church has raised to the honor of our altars and urged me to invoke and imitate as a Saint, I have great confidence in your prayers. I earnestly trust that if it is God's Holy Will, my petition will be granted through your intercession for me at the throne of God.

St. Pius the X pray for me and for those I love. I beg of you, by your love for Jesus and Mary, do not abandon us in our needs. May we experience the peace and joy of your holy death. Amen

Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be, 3 x each
Dear Residents and Staff,

“For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother.” Mt 12:50

Family has always been important to me. It is a sentiment deeply engrained in my psyche. Perhaps this is because of my Sicilian ancestry through my mother. My father has always been a great example with his devotion to family. His love of family comes from the tragedy of losing his mother at a very young age which left him longing for the family life he did not have. My parents created a beautiful family environment for my five siblings and me. I have given much thought to family in the past several weeks and one truth keeps returning to me, one that I have often use in wedding homilies.

The family is the root of our society, its most basic unit which, in itself, when lived to its fullest potential has the power to bind all humanity together.

Family life can be a challenge. My siblings and I were often at odds; we fought with each other and were often punished for those clashes. However, we also stood up for each other and protected our younger brothers and sisters. That is what families do. Pope St. John Paul II once wrote, “All members of the family, each according to his or her own gift, have the grace and responsibility of building day by day the communion of persons, making the family ‘a school of deeper humanity.’ This happens when there is care and love for the little ones, the sick, the aged; where there is mutual service every day, when there is a sharing of goods, of joys and sorrows.”

In the family, we discover a good, which can only be realized within a relationship of love for one another. Living such a close relationship is not always easy and as in my family, there will be issues and disagreements but if the family is founded upon the love of husband and wife and based upon kindness, patience, mercy, and most especially generosity any issue can be resolved. As St. John Paul said life will consist of “building day by day the communion of persons” wherein we become a tightknit group joyfully bound together in loving union.

When we consider family, we should acknowledge many types of family units. Our extended family may include grandparents, in-laws, cousins, lifelong friends, work friends, and associations with common goals to which we belong. In the past several weeks, I have had the joy of getting together with many of such family groups.

Recently, I attended and cooked for my niece’s high school graduation party. The time spent with my Atlanta in-laws was joyful and diverse. Last week, my extended family including my parents, siblings, their spouses, and children gathered for a family reunion including some 80 members. This was our third year and I cannot begin to say how wonderful this annual event has become in our lives and I recommend it to all families. Also, last week I was able to gather with 2,800 members of my family of Deacons to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the renewal of the order of deacons in the Catholic Church. This was an incredible gathering hosted in our fine city by the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

Finally, this past Saturday our Christopher Homes family gathered at the Audubon Zoo with our individual families for a wonderful outing and picnic. This was truly special and one that I hope we are able to do annually going forward. Coming together to celebrate family in its many forms can bring great meaning and joy to our lives. We need to do this often and we need to recognize just how important family is, not only to our lives but to those around us and to the whole of humanity.

“God bless us, everyone.”

With God’s Blessings,

Deacon Dennis F. Adams
Executive Director, Christopher Homes