



Cascade Christian Services

newsletter

Ashley Groen, Editor

131 W. King Tut Rd., Lynden, WA 98264 • (206) 398-2052 • June 1990

President's Report - Marlo DeYoung

In the past five months since I have been president of the C.C.S. board, I have come to know and respect a whole new group of people. I have watched the residents express their happiness and contentment while living at Cascade and the staff has impressed me with their professionalism and genuine love for the residents. The administration is to be commended for keeping a high level of morale, and I am thrilled with the parents support group's desire to assist Cascade in any way possible. And the board of directors is as fine a group of Christian people, dedicated to a cause, as I could ever hope to work with.

I am also pleased to announce some administrative changes that have taken place recently. Mark Mouw, who joined Cascade in 1981 as administrator of the Home and subsequently became the Executive Director for Cascade Christian Services with respon-

sibility for the Home, the Duplex and Crestview Children's Home, has indicated a strong desire to limit his activities to the Group Home and the Duplex. The board then formulated a new job description for the position of Executive Director and began to accept applications for this position.

In January this position was offered to Ben Mulder who recently retired after 35 years in banking. Ben brings a long list of experience in the area of working with non-profit organizations. In addition to having served on the boards of Salem Christian Home, Elim Christian School and Calvary Rehabilitation Center, Ben was associated with Cascade Christian Services from 1977 to 1987. He served as president of the board during two different terms and also served as Developmental Consultant during the early stages of our organization. He assumed his new duties as of May 1

and will be the chief administrative officer of C.C.S. He will also be in charge of public relations and fund raising. We are thankful to have someone of Ben's abilities and concern for Cascade to be able to fill this new position.

On behalf of Cascade's board of directors, I would like to say a big "thank you" to Mark Mouw for his leadership role and at the same time say "welcome aboard" to Ben Mulder.

Cascade Christian Home - Ten Years of Service

by Ben Mulder

It is difficult to believe that ten years have gone by since we opened up our home on the King Tut Road in June of 1980. Many things have happened during that time, some sad, but also many good things. And we thank God for His goodness and His care in allowing us to minister to these special children of His kingdom. We are also thankful for the wonderful staff, the Christian atmosphere and the continued support of parents, family members, and volunteers.

It was July 1, 1980, when the first residents moved into Cascade Home.

By July 25, all twelve had moved in and settled down to a routine that included residential care, training programs and personal development programs. Much progress has been made during these past ten years and it has been wonderful to watch these residents obtain a level of development that is unique to each person. Of the original twelve residents, four remain in the home, three have subsequently moved into the Duplex, three others went on to live in less restrictive programs and two were

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10th Anniversary Open House

Cascade Christian Services will celebrate its tenth anniversary with an open house at their three facilities in Lynden and Mt. Vernon.

- **Crestview Children's Home**
Sunday, June 24
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
1430 Sunset Place
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
(206) 424-5584
- **Cascade Christian Home**
Sunday, July 1
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
131 W. King Tut Road
Lynden, WA 98264
(206) 398-2052
- **Cascade Duplex**
Sunday, July 1
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
6468/6470 Martins Place
Lynden, WA 98264
(Next to Cascade Home)

Cascade Christian Services - Since 1977

The Articles of Incorporation, originally filed in December of 1977, was in the name of Cascade Christian Home. The purpose was to establish and conduct a Christian group home for the care, nurture and education of developmentally disabled persons. With that in mind, plans were made to build a home for twelve developmentally disabled adults on the King Tut Road between Lynden and Bellingham. This home was finished in June of 1980 and the following month twelve residents from Whatcom, Skagit and Island counties were selected to be the original residents. Before long it became very evident that consideration should be given to several individuals to direct them into a less restrictive living arrangement, then known as Tenant Support Program. This was an exciting time, but not without reservations.

What if they were not ready, what if they should fail? But before three years were finished, three of them had already moved out of the Home, ready to be integrated into the community, live on their own in an apartment and hold down a steady job. This provided new opportunities for those families looking for placement in Cascade

Home. During the past ten years a total of nine residents have "graduated" out of the Home and have gone on to a more independent type of living arrangement.

While several of these "graduates" were excellent candidates for the Tenant Support Program, some were

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ready to move out of the Home with modest supervision. It was then that the board of directors started thinking about the possibility of constructing apartments next to the Home and provide supervision along with programs presently at Cascade Home. Two women and two men moved into the duplex in May of 1986 and set up housekeeping with nominal support from C.C.S. staff. This program has been and continues to be a real success.

When the Duplex was finished and occupied in 1986, the board of di-

rectors wanted to take a look at new opportunities. Financially Cascade was solvent, having paid for the group home in about five years with one more year to pay for the apartments. God had provided well, in excess of \$500,000 was collected during those first six years of operations. It was about this time that the name change from Cascade Christian Home to Cascade Christian Services took place, indicating that the board was interested in serving the needs of more than one facility.

For several years, the State of Washington had considered Cascade as a prime candidate to provide a children's program, but never had the operating funds at their disposal to initiate the program. This opportunity came in 1986 and gradually plans were made to construct a children's home for six multiple handicapped children in Mount Vernon. This six bed facility opened in June of 1986 and accepted the children shortly after that. There are five permanent beds and one bed is reserved for respite care (short term or temporary). The original five residents are still there and presently average about fourteen years of age. The home is called Crestview Children's Home as it is located on a bluff or a crest, overlooking the Skagit River and Valley. This home has been a real blessing to all who have been associated with it. The staff is totally dedicated, treat the children with loving care and provide a homelike atmosphere for each of the residents.

There are still many needs in the community which are not being met at this time. The state has encouraged Cascade to seek out new opportunities, either in children or adult services. The board of directors has decided to first work on reducing the present debt of about \$280,000 before launching any new programs. However, anyone with a specific need is encouraged to contact Cascade Christian Services for future placement. We know that the God who so abundantly has blessed us in the past will also provide the means to build new programs in the future.

Cascade Christian Home - Ten Years of Service

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called home to be with their Lord. Each one of them has been a blessing to the staff at Cascade Christian Home and each resident in his or her own way has enriched the lives of those that cared for them in the home, in the sheltered workshops or in the community of which they were a part.

Of the original staff members that opened the home ten years ago, George and Jana Beanblossom are still with us. George has been our Program Director for he past eight years and Jana is a part-time employee. Mark Mouw joined Cascade in November of 1981 and continues as the Administrator of

Cascade Home and the Duplex. We thank God for the many years of service that Mark and the Beanblossoms have given to Cascade Christian Services.

What the future will bring us, no one knows. But we know that God cares for these, His special children in our Home, and will continue to direct and guide us in the care of these individuals in the years to come. May we all be able to assist these residents in achieving their utmost potential, whether that be physically, emotionally, socially or spiritually. To God be the glory!
