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The Danish Home of Chicago

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Dear Friends and Family of The Danish Home of Chicago:

Alex Haley said, "In every conceivable manner, the family is the link to our past, bridge to our future."

That is a concept that we firmly embrace at The Danish Home of Chicago. *Family*, in all its different connotations, is everything.

Most obviously, family means one's ancestors and descendents. At The Danish Home, we honor those who came before us and anticipate those who will follow.

Within our doors, *family* represents the residents, staff, boards, donors and volunteers of The Danish Home, all of who share a devotion and commitment to each other.

Family, in a more extended view, means those with a shared background or tradition. The Danish and Scandinavian-American community at large, is family...with whom we share mutual respect and dedication.

At The Danish Home, we are committed to all delineations of *family*. We are dedicated to upholding and preserving the proud legacy of the Danish and Scandinavian-American heritage and future, and all that they represent.

As always, we thank you for your interest, friendship and support of The Danish Home.



Technology Brings the Family Closer Together



The wonders of modern technology allowed residents of The Danish Home to

visit streets in Copenhagen, which they haven't walked for decades. With the help of our donors, Robin Decker, resident life director at The Danish Home purchased It's Never 2 Late (IN2L), a technology system that allows seniors, regardless of experience or ability, to use the computer and Internet easily and engagingly. 'I like everything about this system. Everything," said Robin. Created specifically for seniors, It's Never 2 Late, which is mobile, utilizes touchscreen technology and can be projected on large screens for easy viewing.

One of her favorite features is IN2L's ability to make Google Earth accessible to the residents. "We've 'gone' to Denmark on Google Earth. We 'went' to a street in Copenhagen where one of the residents lived 40 years ago. They were amazed," Robin said.

She also loves to be able to use Skype to help residents stay in touch with their loved ones. "There's a resident whose daughters have moved to Arizona. We brought the system into her room so that she can Skype with them. There are a lot of residents with families that live in other states and even in Denmark. We can set up the system so that they can all Skype. Previously they may have been connected via letters or email. Now they can be face-to-face," Robin said.

Family Ties

The theory of *six degrees of separation* contends that all 6.6 billion people on earth, are linked by chains of acquaintances.... and that each of us are within six introductions away from any other person on the planet.

The Scandinavian-American population is only a small fraction of that number. Nonetheless, it is very exciting for us to see the social connectivity, or in this case, the familial connectivity, within our organization, especially how it relates to our Women's Auxiliary.

The Women's Auxiliary is integral to our operations. It's wonderful to see how the core of The Danish Home is largely tied through this strong group.

From bottom, clockwise Photo 1 - Women's Auxiliary Photos 2, 5, 8 and 9 - Elna Lorentzen, founder of the Women's Auxiliary (photo 2). Elna is the mother to Joan Hoexter (photo 9 left),Women's Auxiliary membership

chairperson; grandmother to Cheryl Anderson who is married to Jeff Anderson, chairman of the Board of Directors (photo 5); sister to Stella, former resident (Photos 8 and 9), and aunt to Sandy, board member of the Women's Auxiliary (photo 8, left). Photo 3 - Evelyn Stolfa, current resident, and Ellen Stolfa, vice president of the Women's Auxiliary.

Photos 4 and 7 - Paul Roge, son of former resident Astrid Roge and vice chairman of the Board of Directors, and Sharlene Roge, sister of current resident Vicki Birdsell and board member of the Women's Auxiliary, pictured with their family. Photo 6 - Bebsie Jensen (daughter of former resident Ester

Nielsen), Women's Auxiliary member, daughter Dawn Jensen, member of the Board of Directors, and Erik Jensen (brother of former resident Edna McLain), a former member of the Board of Directors. Photo 10 - Janice Sanchez, Jane Rider, former member of the Women's Auxiliary and Ruth Rider, current resident and former Women's Auxiliary member.



The Danish Home Foundation

The Danish Home Foundation, which is the fundraising arm of The Danish Home, was launched in 2011 in order to help preserve our 124-year old legacy of providing care for seniors. The Foundation carries out our founders' foresight, and works to ensure that their tradition of caring for the seniors in our community continues.

The Danish Home Foundation communicates our mission, and coordinates fundraising as well as identifies and solicits gifts, bequests and opportunities for estate planning. The Foundation's role is crucial to the community as it moves forward. Funds raised through the work of The Danish Home Foundation will be used to provide charitable care for those eligible residents who have exhausted their own financial resources and for capital improvements at The Danish Home.



Peter Orum, above right with his family, is a new member of the Danish Home Foundation.

The Danish Home Foundation

Annual contributions help The Danish Home to sustain its 124-year old mission of providing care for seniors, and ensures that we are positioned to remain strong for the future. More than ever, broad-based support is vital to the successful operation of all Foundation programs and activities.

ANNUAL GIVING AND PLEDGES

We ask that these be fulfilled by the close of our fiscal year on September 30th. Pledges may be made over several years.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

This supports charitable care of our residents.

MATCHING GIFTS

This permits doubling or even tripling the dollar value of your annual gift. Please check to see if you or your spouse are affiliated with a matching gift company or organization.

SECURITIES

Gifts of appreciated securities are always welcome and may offer significant tax advantages to the donor.

BEQUESTS/PLANNED GIFTS

We welcome the opportunity to review different planned giving alternatives including bequests with you.

Donations can be made via our website at DanishHomeOfChicago.org

The Danish Association Selective Information Statement September 30, 2015

Statement of Financial Position:

Current assets Investments - Foundation Current liabilities Reserve for Life Care costs	\$	458,765 7,284,018 319,178 1,592,005
Statement of Activities: Operating revenue from residents services Operating expenses * Operating - net loss Revenues from Foundation activities (net) Deficiency of Revenue over expenses	\$ - \$	2,503,421 3,164,992 <661,571> 227,594 <433,977>

Census:

Independent living	22
Catered living	7
Healthcare	13
Total	42

* Note: Our operating fund's net loss is a measure of The Danish Home's historic charitable mission, and is covered by our Foundation's investment earnings, contributions and bequests.







2015 Essence Award



The Danish Home of Chicago's Annual Benefit

The Danish Home's Annual Benefit Brunch was held at the beautiful Arlington Park Racetrack. The event, which drew more than 150 friends of The Danish Home, included a fabulous brunch, exciting horse races and more.

More than \$42,792 was raised from the event. The Danish Home is yet again reminded that the health of the organization and our community is largely due to our generous benefactors and the tireless efforts of our volunteers. The Essence Award, which was first introduced in 2012, is bestowed annually on a person, organization or group of people integral to preserving the legacy of the Danish community...the essence of The Danish community, through their commitment, compassion, caring and giving.

The 2015 Essence Award was dedicated to three couples: Herta and the late Al Iversen, Shirley and Jerry Andersen and Arleen and Robert Nielsen, in recognition and appreciation for their generosity of time and support.

With well over 100 years of combined service to The Danish Home, the recipients of this year's award have

served on either the board of directors or the women's auxiliary.

In addition, they have helped out at The Danish Home, wherever needed. "We still go and play games like Bingo and Bunco with the residents, and help out with the birthday parties," said Jerry Andersen.

Some of the couples have long family traditions at The Danish Home. "Jerry's mother entered The Danish Home in about 1990 when she was 85 years old," said Shirley Andersen.

"Bob's mother and uncles all volunteered at The Danish Home and his aunt was the founder of the Women's Auxiliary," said Arleen Nielsen. "Our ties go really far back. I'm just carrying on a tradition of my family being involved," Robert Nielsen said.

Herta and Al Iversen were drawn to helping The Danish Home largely because his mother was in a home for elderly people in Denmark. "He always felt bad that he wasn't there to help her, so was happy to become involved with The Danish Home of Chicago," Herta said. Al was still serving on the board of directors at the time of his death in July.

"The Danish Home is a wonderful place and the residents are all happy and well cared for," Jerry noted.



Our Community Impact

We are committed to the Norwood Park Community in Chicago, which has been our home for more than 124 years. Our dedication to having a positive impact is reflected in ways that include the following:

Charitable Care

In Fiscal Year 2015, The Danish Home and The Danish Home Foundation paid in excess of \$515,000 in charitable care for residents who have outlived their financial resources.

In 2015, The Danish Home paid a Long Term Care Provider Assessment Fee of over \$20,300 to the State of Illinois. These funds are used to support the Illinois Medicaid Program, which provides healthcare coverage to low-income families lacking health insurance, children who are wards of the State, low-income senior citizens, individuals with disabilities and elderly individuals receiving care in skilled nursing facilities.

Community Care and Beautification

The Danish Home's elegant campus has graced our community for generations and strives to be a good neighbor to the community it serves. The grounds and facilities are meticulously maintained so that neighbors and visitors can enjoy our beautifully landscaped, park-like atmosphere. In addition, The Danish Home hosts two events each year that are open to community members: Summerfest and Fall Fest.

Volunteer Destination

Many groups and individuals are drawn to The Danish Home to work among our warm and welcoming residents. Volunteer opportunities include engaging our residents in various activities, coordinating Summerfest and Fall Fest, serving on the Women's Auxiliary and Board of Directors and more. The Danish Home facilitates almost 3,600 volunteer hours/year.

We are proud of our community and welcome Scandinavian and other not-for-profit organizations to have meetings and gatherings in our home.







Our Generous Donors

Honors

Neil Andersen Ellen Andersen 90th Birthday Per Bogehegn 80th Birthday Irum Orum Hedy-Ann Richards Ruth & Phil Rider Jean Weichbrodt

Memorials

Kari Andersen Genevieve Bagger Anthon Bang Helene & Hjalmar Bertelsen Louise Blumenthal Marion Boettner Howard Christensen Tova Craig Margaret Dobbs Lottie Ellis John Eriksen Edith & Palle Friis Dorothea & Jens Hansen Ellen Haukedahl Erik Haxager Richard Hellyer Sally Hoppe Ahlmann Iversen Jenny Jensen Pauline Jensen Edith Jorgensen Karen Kramme Kittie Lapointe-Peterson Arthur Larsen Iette Lilleback Herman Madsen Glenn Nielsen Herta Nielsen Marie Nielsen Elaine Pichler Astrid Roge Muriel Schick Metha Spear Chris Steffensen Robert Steffensen Anna Thorup Antonette Torske Marjorie Tracy Shirley (Miller) Turner Doris & John Wegener Margaret & Emil Westergaard Marie & Carl Wogelius

Annual Benefit Title Sponsorship \$8,000

Mr. & Mrs. Christine Haxager & Randy Gaynes Mr. & Mrs. James Gould Mr. & Mrs. Erik Jensen Dawn Jensen Mrs. & Mrs. Warren Rasmussen The Wojack Family

Matching Title Sponsorship \$8,000 Anonymous

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LEVEL OF GIVING

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\$10,000 to \$99,999

Richard L. Knudsen Trust – D Lochrie Trust - D Mr. & Mrs. Peter Orum - DS Mr. & Mrs. Paul Roge - DS

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Peter Hansen Trust – D Peter K. Nielsen – D Anonymous – S Women's Auxiliary of The Danish Home – D

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