



2025

FALL NEWSLETTER

THE QUARTERLY UPDATE



★ From the Executive Director: Honoring 50 Years of Impact
Dear Friends,

As we step into the final quarter of this remarkable year, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude and pride on the journey that has brought us to this milestone—our 50th anniversary. This year has been more than a celebration; it has been a reaffirmation of our mission and a tribute to the countless lives we've touched together.

Throughout 2025, we've marked our golden anniversary with events that honor our past and inspire our future. From our Viva Las Vegas event in the spring to the Carnival themed annual picnic in September, each gathering has brought reflection of our past and a reminder of our purpose looking towards the future. We're expanding programs, deepening partnerships, and investing in tools that help us serve more people, more effectively. The next 50 years begin with bold vision and unwavering compassion.

★ Your Impact in Action

Thanks to your past donations, we've been able to fund life-changing programs and critical infrastructure:

- 🎨 Therapeutic recreation that fosters creativity, confidence, and healing
 - 🐾 Equine therapy that builds trust, emotional regulation, and joy
 - 🎵 Music therapy that nurtures expression and connection
- ⚡ Emergency generators installed in all GRS homes to ensure safety and continuity of care
 - 🛖 Ceiling lifts that provide safe and dignified mobility support
- 🚲 An adaptive bicycle that empowers independence and outdoor exploration

These investments have transformed lives—and they are only possible because of you.

❤️ Giving That Lasts All Year

As we enter the holiday season, we invite you to support the Brandon Towery Gift Fund. This special fund helps provide Christmas gifts and essential items throughout the year for the individuals we serve. Your generosity ensures that no one is forgotten during the holidays—and that dignity and care continue long after the decorations come down. Visit www.grsinc.org to donate- or checks are also welcome!

🙏 Thank You

None of this would be possible without you—our supporters, partners, volunteers, and staff. Your belief in our mission sustains us. As we close this celebratory year, I invite you to continue walking with us into a future where every person has the opportunity to thrive.

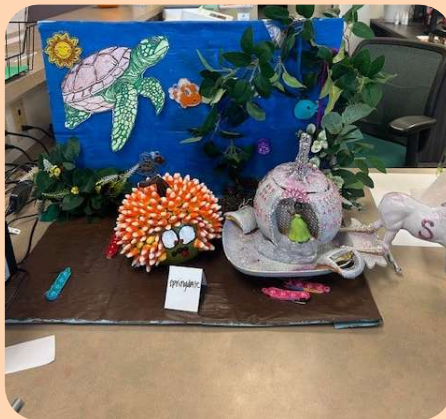
With gratitude and resolve,

Darlene

Darlene Norton
Executive Director

Pumpkin Painting Events

This fall season was filled with pumpkin painting events with the Recreation Therapy Department. We hosted a pumpkin painting event at CMG and "The Great Pumpkin Paint Off" competition. Congrats to Springdale Household for being the winner!



Halloween Crawl

GRS ADMIN STAFF HOSTED A "HALLOWEEN CRAWL" THAT INCLUDED EACH HOUSEHOLD COMING TO THE OFFICE TO SEE THE DECORATIONS OF EACH DEPARTMENT AND RECEIVE SOME HALLOWEEN CANDY!



CARNIVAL PICNIC

This year we held our 50th anniversary annual picnic that was carnival themed at Southminster Church!



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 SPONSORS:

CRAFTSMAN GLASS AND DOOR
MOBILITY WORKS
REBORN KITCHEN AND BATH
MORRIS MECHANICAL
RICK'S BODY SHOP
ARANDA'S GARAGE
SHARP BUSINESS
ORKIN
GSM



ADVISORY COUNCIL

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

GRS Advisory Council hosted it's annual Operation Christmas Child shoebox drive. They were able to make 79 shoeboxes to mail out this year!



ADAPTIVE BIKE



From the donations over the years, the Recreation Therapy Department was able to purchase an adaptive bike to empower and enhance quality of life for our people served.

CMG RESOURCE FAIR



On October 22nd, representatives of CMG participated in a Community Resource fair. Students with IDD from area high schools attended this resource fair to learn about what opportunities are available after high school. CMG was able to provide information about what job and community networking opportunities are offered.



Happy Workiversary

5+ years

Amanda Cardona
Tania Campos
Angela Hammond
Tara Gardin
Kathy Endicott

10+ years

Millette Mills
Chip Funderburk
Levy Henderson
Lisa McCurry
Wendy Hughes

20+ years

Teresa Dunovant
Sherry Thompson
Alisan Carter
Angie Guill
Bless Rider

30+ years

Tonda Stillwell



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WWW.GRSINC.ORG



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CMG >>>
Expectations. Drive. Performance.

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DEC, 2025

"CHRISTMAS PAST" BALL

SOUTHMINSTER CHURCH
1401 HOFFMAN RD, GASTONIA, NC 28054
6-8PM
*RSVP BY DEC 5 AT 704-861-9280



GRS IS GREEN! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE
THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL. PLEASE EMAIL
AESPE@CAREERMANAGEMENTGROUP.ORG

SAVE THE DATE 2025

