On the last Sabbath of their vacation last week, Family Ministries Directors Doctors Claudio and Pamela Consuegra were invited to speak at the Senate Chambers in the Colombian capitol building in the capitol city of Bogotá. Upon arriving at the Chambers, the Consuegras were surprised to learn that their presentation would be televised live for three hours on the government’s channel with a potential viewing audience of more than 34 million people in Colombia. In addition, the signal is sent to more than 139 other countries reaching untold millions! MORE [Photo: Drs. Pamela and Claudio Consuegra with the Vice President of the Senate, the Honorable Edgar Espíndola]

Immediately following the fertilizer plant explosion in the town of West, Texas, the Texas Adventist Community Services Disaster Response team got to work. They set up a receiving center and a collection center for receiving donated goods where they were helped by students from Southwestern Adventist University. In addition, the Mobile Distribution Unit, a semi filled with prepackaged outfits of clothing, personal care kits, and blankets, was deployed to serve the survivors.

A mother and her young son brought some items for the survivors, including a Toy Story sleeping bag. When asked if he had outgrown it, she replied that it was one of his favorite things, but he wanted to share with a child who had lost everything in the explosion. MORE, Photo: Sherry Watts assists survivors in West, Tex., with clothing packets, personal hygiene kits, blankets and sheets with the Mobile Distribution Unit in the background. [Photo by Joe Watts]

AdventSource celebrated the grand opening of their new headquarters on April 17, in Lincoln, Neb. AdventSource is the main resource center for the North American Division. It is close to Union College, and that proximity is beneficial to both: It provides AdventSource with a ready source of employees, and it provides college students with needed employment. MORE [Photo: Brad Forbes, manager of AdventSource, was one of the speakers at the grand opening.]

The Lifetime Achievement Award from the Emergency Management Support Association of Kansas (EMSAK) was awarded to John Treolo, director of the Communication Department and Adventist Community Services (ACS) for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference. This lifetime award goes only to members who have served 10 or more years and held an officer position on the EMSAK Executive Committee. MORE

Retention of young adults is one of the six "building block" initiatives voted at the 2012 Special Days:

April 24, 2013

**Special Days:**
April Focus: Stewardship
April 27, Education Sabbath

May Focus: Community Services
May 4, Community Services Sabbath
May 11, Youth Sabbath
May 18, Single Adults Sabbath

Helpful Special Day Websites and Resources:
Find a full list on the NAD website

May 2, Prayer Call
May 15-19, GAiN - "It's Possible"
May 25, NY13 Sabbath Convocation
June 6, Prayer Call
June 7-29, Revelation of Hope NY13 Series
June 17-20, Nonprofit Leader Certification Program I
June 24, Math Clinic (NY13)
June 24, Art of Spoken Word Clinic (NY13)
July 11, Prayer Call
Aug. 1, Prayer Call
Aug. 6, PSI Executive Leadership

April 24, 2013

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July 11, Prayer Call
Aug. 1, Prayer Call
Aug. 6, PSI Executive Leadership
NAD Year-end Meetings, and will be led by James Black Sr., NAD Youth and Young Adult Ministries director. Following a discussion with 25 young adults, pastors and young adult leaders, seven strategies were developed. They will be based on listening, small groups, creation of high-production ministries for creativity, a "discipleship revolution," recognition of great churches demonstrating young adult retention and empowerment, mentoring, and young adult "LIFE." MORE (April Adventist World, p. 17)

Demographic research by the Barna Group points to upwards of 60% of young adults saying "You Lost Me!" about their church experience. Because of this, more than 600 ministry leaders from across the nation registered for the "You Lost Me. Live! Dallas" learning experience this past Spring, hosted at the Arlington Seventh-day Adventist® Church in Texas. MORE

Going on 104, woman loves God, family, caring for others
Westbrook Seventh-day Adventist church plans opening
Southern's Enactus Team Wins Regional Competition
OB unit at UVMC honored for lactation program

This Sabbath, April 27, is Education Sabbath and the Education Department is providing a two-and-a-half minute video and a bulletin insert to help parents and members understand the value of Christian education. It has been shown that the way a child relates to spiritual things may measurably affect their learning in school and that there is higher academic achievement among students who have a positive spiritual outlook. Watch the video.

The bulletin inserts are available from AdventSource, or can be downloaded from the NAD Education website.

A new digital magazine, Called, for Adventist clergy from the NAD Ministerial Department was approved by the Apple app store and is now available for free download for the iPad according to Dave Gemmell, associate director of NAD Ministerial. "Go to the iPad app store, and do a search for NAD Ministerial. Then download the app. It is around 750 megs so you will need a fast connection," says Gemmell.
“Meet Hiram Edson,” a new video from Adventist Heritage Ministries, tells about the early days of Adventism rising out of the days of the Millerites and The Great Disappointment of 1844. After that unbearable disappointment, Edson received a revelation from God that gave rise to the great Advent Movement. See the trailer. Order the video through the Adventist Heritage Shoppe. Like Adventist Heritage on Facebook.

“Now is the right time, the best time for our church – with intelligence and dedication – to have the biggest impact on the community and with world, that we have ever seen.” John Mathews, NAD stewardship department director, in a presentation at Beyond the Bottom Line at the Opryland Gaylord Hotel in Nashville, Tenn. on March 25.

REACH: Education for discipleship

Seven times more money than the set goal was raised by simply rocking all night. The Spencerville, Md., Pathfinders held a 12-hour "Rock-a-thon" to raise $300 for "A Hat for Harold," a charity that provides micro-grants to the homeless. Instead, they raised more than $2,100! Each Pathfinder had to get at least $25 in pledges, but many were able to gather much more. Pathfinders are learning to assist and share with ministries. Fundraisers in themselves are a great ministry that assist other ministries and charities of many kinds. MORE
2-23-13 Family Ministries Seminar Televised to Millions and 139 Countries

Consuegras invited to speak at Bogota capitol senate chambers

On the last Sabbath of their vacation last week, Family Ministries Directors Doctors Claudio and Pamela Consuegra were invited to speak at the Senate Chambers in the Colombian capitol building in the capital city of Bogotá. An Adventist member who works at the capitol secured the meeting place and invited the Vice President of the Senate, the Honorable Edgar Espíndola, who welcomed those attending and who expressed his appreciation to the Seventh-day Adventist® Church in Colombia for making the event possible and for bringing the Consuegras to make this presentation.

Pam and Claudio spoke about what they know best – marriage and healthy families. Upon arriving to the Chambers, the Consuegras were told that their presentation would be televised, live, for three hours on the government’s channel with a potential viewing audience of more than 34 million people in Colombia. In addition, the signal is sent to more than 139 other countries reaching untold millions!

"Whenever we felt overwhelmed at the task before us we remembered that our friends in the NAD were praying for us and the promise given in the Bible in Matthew 10:19: ‘…do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour,’” said Pamela.
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North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists® : 2-23-13 Family... http://www.nadadventist.org/article/1073742425/news/archived-news-sto...
Sherry Watts is assisting survivors in West, Tex., with clothing packets, personal hygiene kits, blankets and sheets with the Mobile Distribution Unit in the background. [Photo by Joe Watts]

A mother and her young son brought some items for the survivors, including a Toy Story sleeping bag. When asked if he had outgrown it, she replied that it was one of his favorite things, but he wanted to share with a child who had lost everything in the explosion.

The Mobile Distribution Unit, a semi filled with pre-packaged outfits of clothing, personal care kits, and blankets, was deployed to West, Tex., to serve the survivors of the Fertilizer Plant Explosion. Other agencies were also at the same location, offering various services. As the goods from the ACS DR truck were shared with them, some told of their miraculous experiences surviving the blast.

Friends would see each other for the first time since the explosion, would hug each other, share experiences, talk about those who lost their lives, and inquire about friends and relatives.

A group of students from Southwestern Adventist University (SWU) enthusiastically volunteered to assist at the receiving area in Hillsboro, as well as help with the mobile distribution unit in West.

The motto for Adventist Community Services is “Serving Communities in Christ’s Name.”

Donate to ACS

Sherry Watts
Texas ACS DR
Assistant Director
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AdventSource Celebrates Grand Opening

On April 17, in spite of rain showers and even hail stones, AdventSource employees, supporters and friends gathered to celebrate the Grand Opening of their new building located on the campus of Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska.

“This has proved to be a win-win situation for all of us,” said Mid-America Union Conference (MAUC) president Tom Lemon during his remarks regarding the building project. Since Lemon chairs the boards of both AdventSource and Union College he is well aware of the needs of each institution. “We wanted to keep AdventSource close to Union College since it employees so many students,” Lemon said. “The long-term land lease accomplished that.”

Gary Bollinger, vice president of finance for Union College, gave a brief history of AdventSource from its humble beginnings in the early 1980s under the leadership of Aleta Hubbard to the large-scale resource center it has now become.

AdventSource’s treasurer, Judy Glass, presented a summary of the timeline of the building project, stating that exactly six months to the day elapsed from the time they broke ground in June until they started moving into the facility a few days before Christmas. AdventSource director Brad Forbes thanked the many individuals, companies and organizations who helped and supported them during the building/moving process. “This would not have happened without Judy,” Forbes said.

Representing the North America Division (NAD) were Elders Dan Jackson, Alex Bryant, Tom Evans, Paul Brantley and Debra Brill. In her remarks, Brill underscored the value to the division of the resources produced by AdventSource. “We are so happy to be in partnership with this organization that produces such high quality resources for our ministries,” Brill said.

Prayers of dedication were offered by Tom Evans, NAD treasurer, Alex Bryant NAD secretary, and Elaine Hagele, MAUC treasurer.

Due to the weather, the event was held in the college gymnasium instead of AdventSource’s parking lot. After the celebration guests were invited to tour the new facility.

For more, visit AdventSource’s Facebook page.

News writer/photographer Brenda Dickerson is managing editor of OUTLOOK magazine.

About News Anchor

News Anchor has contributed 85 posts for OUTLOOK Online.

- View all posts by News Anchor →
- Blog
4-22-13 Treolo Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Recognition from the Emergency Management Support Association of Kansas

John Treolo, director of Communication and of the Adventist Community Services (ACS) for the Kansas-Nebraska Conference, received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Emergency Management Support Association of Kansas (EMSAK) at their annual conference in Wichita. EMSAK is a group of county emergency managers and support agencies, including ACS, who network together and work hand-in-hand during disasters.

According to Treolo, this lifetime award only goes to members serving 10 or more years and holding an officer position on the EMSAK Executive Committee. Treolo has been a member for 15 years and has served as treasurer and awards committee chairperson. “It’s gratifying when ACS is recognized by a group such as EMSAK,” Treolo said. “During disasters, it’s so important for all disaster response personnel to work together for the good of the community.”

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by Martin Weber
Mid-America Union communication director
martin@outlookmag.org / 402.617.4448
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Retention of young adults is one of six “building block” initiatives the North American Division (NAD) executive committee voted at its 2012 year-end meetings.

A process to assess needs and direction was begun by James Black, Sr., director for NAD youth and young adult ministries. He convened 25 young adults, pastors, and young adult leaders to develop recommendations for action. The dialogue was candid and bold; the participants engaged and hardworking. The discussion resulted in the following seven strategies:

**We Are Ready to Listen.** The NAD will supply each of its 58 conferences with resources to hold intentional conversations with their young adults. We want young adults to understand that “the church” is ready to listen. The NAD will also train facilitators and collect data so that when the conversations are reported, the NAD can respond with “We Have Heard,” documenting specific young adult needs and ideas.

**Small Group Communities.** While some young adults are satisfied with existing church culture, when young adults do leave it’s often because at least one of three elements is missing: authenticity, acceptance, and community. More than merely adding programs, we have to create “safe spaces,” where small groups of young adults can gather.

Conferences will select young adult leaders to receive training by young adult professionals, generating communities especially in metropolitan areas. This initiative is lay-led and grassroots, providing opportunity to create a groundswell of young adult leadership across NAD while attracting and keeping those who aren’t connecting with existing Adventist churches.

**I Create Movement.** With the exception of SONscreen and the Pacific Union Conference Web site www.visitinspire.org, few outlets exist within the Adventist Church for artists to use their gifts for God. This initiative sponsors highly trained communicators to create high-production miniseries—Webisodes—to be released on YouTube and Vimeo.

NAD will sponsor an *I Create* conference to bring together young adult artists from our global church. Financial support will be awarded to new artists/filmmakers who accept subsequent Webisode projects.

*Why Am I an Adventist?* This campaign begins with local conferences prayerfully considering young adults who are ready for a “discipleship revolution.” These individuals will participate in an NAD-sponsored *120 Conference* (based on the 120 disciples of Acts 1:15) developed by young adults for young adults. Its focus is revisiting the distinct Adventist message of “Hope and Wholeness,” inspiring and helping participants to return home with a commitment and a plan for evangelism.

**The Locals.** One of the best ways to retain young adults is by recognizing great churches. Strategies for recognition include interviews with high school seniors, measuring local churches’ mission and service activities, mentoring young adults into leadership positions (including boards and committees), and the numerical growth of young adults. This initiative partners the NAD with local conferences to give grants to congregations that demonstrate innovations in young adult retention and empowerment.

**Mentoring Starter Kit.** The NAD will develop a step-by-step guide for leaders to mentor young adults, a spiritual gifts test for mentees and mentors, a discipleship curriculum, and an attractive, user-friendly resource guide that includes online links.

**Young Adult LIFE.** Young adults find it difficult to leave congregations that offer LIFE (love, inclusiveness, forgiveness, and encouragement). Statistics show that at least 70 percent of Adventist young adult students in the NAD attend public university campuses. These are still our students, and this initiative strengthens existing campus ministries such as Adventist Christian Fellowship. Other ideas encourage young adult volunteers to spend a year of service on public campuses, congregations establishing Adventist groups, and take compelling evangelism straight to campuses.

May the Holy Spirit find fertile soil in Adventist churches so that our young adults will find safe spaces to grow.
2-23-13 That Which Was Lost May Be Found

"You Lost Me."

A difficult phrase to hear from anyone, but when the demographic research of the Barna Group points to upwards of 60% of young adults saying this about their church experience, it is a sobering sentiment indeed. The Adventist Church not spared, these statistics are finding a whole generation of young people feeling lost and disconnected from the faith community of their childhood.

Challenged by the realities facing the local church, over 600 ministry leaders from across the nation registered for the You Lost Me. Live! Dallas learning experience this past Spring, hosted at the Arlington Seventh-day Adventist Church in Texas. Barna Group President, David Kinnaman, author of the book, You Lost Me, facilitated a day's worth of presentations, conversations and interviews meant to inform and challenge attendees regarding the church experience of young adults ages 18-29, also known as Millennials.

Those who attended You Lost Me. Live! – 25% of which were Adventist leaders, pastors, parents, and young adults – came away with a renewed vision for reaching out and retaining the next generation.

"We all need to tune into the frequency where young adults are broadcasting their needs, hopes, and challenges," commented Richard Castillo, a communications consultant with the Oklahoma Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "You Lost Me. Live! helped tune me in clearly, placing me in better touch with ways we can make a difference with young adults, an important segment of God's kingdom."

In addition to union and local conference leadership, many pastoral leaders attended the gathering.

Pastor Shiphrah Fepulea'i from Garden Grove, Calif. added, "After one day in Dallas – literally, one day – I am back in SoCal with more courage to be proximal with young adults. . . that's the courage to be close enough to Millennial culture to influence it."

Pastor Dan Serns from North Dallas shared that You Lost Me. Live! "offered clean, clear, crisp challenging presentations of the needs to reach the young adult generation."

"The You Lost Me. Live! presentations spawned creative ideas that could be utilized at our local churches," observed Sharon Leukert, a pastor's wife who traveled from east Texas with husband Karl. "I wish this had come along 20 years before. There is hope for the future – as well as the here and now!"

Perhaps the most poignant feedback was shared by the young adults who attended.

"You Lost Me. Live! was great," raved James Castillo, Jr. from Houston, Texas. "I am a Millennial myself, and growing up no one really took the time to teach me how to love Christ. I am now a youth leader at my church, trying my best to show young people how to love like Christ did. You Lost Me. Live! will help my youth spiritually and help them make a stand for Christ with love."

Produced by the Barna Group, You Lost Me. Live! Dallas was a free event for all the registrants. Thanks to sponsorship by the North American Division, Southwestern Union, and Texas Conference, Adventist attendees were not only enriched by the free presentations, but were also afforded a post-event reception supper to talk with others about their insights. Then, each Adventist attendee was given the You Lost Me DVD media curriculum to take home and spark fruitful conversations with their church and young adults about helping the lost come home.

"Despite the grim reality suggested by the statistics," offered Pastor Lenworth Sealey of Lufkin, Texas, "I left with a very real sense of hope and resources to help facilitate change in my church's approach for the better."

Similar You Lost Me. Live! events have been held in Phoenix, Ariz., and Orlando, Fla., with tour stops still planned for Indianapolis, Ind., and Colorado Springs, Colo. To register, or for more information on the remaining You Lost Me. Live! experiences, go to www.youlostmelive.com.

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Costin Jordache, MA, MBA, Assistant to the President for Communication, Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
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Going on 104, woman loves God, family, caring for others

Pastor Victor Dyman of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Middletown greets Irene Wright Wednesday in her Campbell Hall home. Wright will turn 104 years old later this month.

CHET GORDON/Times Herald-Record

By Nathan Brown

Published: 2:00 AM – 04/18/13

CAMPBELL HALL — A week and a half shy of age 104, Irene Wright seems to be doing better than a lot of people much younger than she is.

On Wednesday, several people from the Seventh-day Adventist Church she attends in Middletown, and G. Earl Knight, president of the Greater New York Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, came to her home to wish her a happy birthday.

"Every time I come to see you, Irene, you are an inspiration to me personally," said Victor Dyman, pastor of Middletown's church. A devout Adventist who converted when she was in her 30s and held many church offices throughout her life, Wright thanks God for her long life.

"I give him credit for being up and able to speak with you and joke with you. ... Without him I wouldn't be here," she said.

In 1961, looking for more space and a better environment to raise their children, Irene Wright and her husband, Joseph, moved from the Bronx to the house on Bull Road where she still lives today. Her husband, commuted from there to his auto mechanic shop in the South Bronx. He died in 1966.

Wright sang in her church's choir and drove until she was 96 years old, even driving to Florida on her own when she was in her 80s, said her youngest son, 62-year-old David Wright. She is still an avid reader and tries to stay active, including cooking her meals.

Irene Wright had 10 children, eight of whom are alive today, plus 49 grandchildren, more great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and even some great-great-great-grandchildren.

David Wright lives with his wife and his mother in the house he grew up in. He credited his mother's long life to her vegetarian diet (many Seventh-day Adventists are vegetarians) and to her staying active.

"She said if she sits down, she might not get up," he joked.

David said he remembers how, as a kid after church services on Saturday, his mother would take them around to visit neighbors who were sick or hadn't made it to church.

"She would teach us how to take care of other people," he said.

Irene Wright grew up in North Carolina, living until her adolescence in a small town in the western part of the state. She met Joseph while she was living in Raleigh as a teenager, rolling tobacco leaves at R.J. Reynolds.
Joseph's mother lived in New York City; she moved there after meeting him, and they were married when she was 17.

The church is planning on honoring Wright at its service on April 27, the day before her birthday.

nbrown@th-record.com
WESTBROOK – At the end of April, the Northern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will open its doors to the community, hoping residents and church members will soon regard the center as a place to learn and worship.

"Adventists are open. We want this to be a place where people can come and use it. The downstairs is going to be a heritage center," said Mike Ortel, president of the Northern New England Conference. "God led us here without a shadow of a doubt. We’re growing and wanted to make a heritage center, a center for all Protestants, if they’d like to have a place in this building."

The headquarters is located in the former Warren Memorial Library building, at 479 Main St. In its new life, there is a service room upstairs for workshops and church services, corporate offices for the education and ministerial staff, a meeting room for the off-campus seminary that uses the building and the heritage room, expected to go in the buildings basement.

"There are three main things we wanted to accomplish with this building," said Ortel. "It houses the administrative offices, it will have a heritage center for Protestants and it will be a place where people can receive help in the area of wellness."

Ortel and his wife teach a marriage-counseling group in the service area, and the upstairs kitchen holds cooking classes, showing the Adventists’ definition of health extends far past worship.

There are some 16 million Seventh-day Adventists in 201 countries worldwide. A headquarters in the Portland area makes sense, since that’s where the church was founded back in 1863.

The Northern New England Conference covers Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and has about 5,200 members throughout the area. In all, the conference oversees 60 churches, 12 elementary schools and two high schools spread out over all three states. In addition, the conference maintains a 200-acre seasonal campground in Weld, a 48-unit 55-plus senior housing complex and the Parkview Adventist Medical Center, both in Brunswick.

Until now, the conference has managed all that from a single office on Allen Avenue in Portland. Church officials had been looking for more spacious accommodations for some time.

In 2011, the Seventh-day Adventist Church purchased the Warren Memorial Library for $900,000. The price for the building was initially $1.195 million in 2010.

The Seventh-day Adventists practice a Protestant faith that Ortel described as “middle of the road.” The church adheres to the Bible, perhaps more strictly than some, but Ortel said, the church is not as strict as other Christian fundamentalists. Like the Jewish faith, Ortel said, the Seventh-day Adventists also consider Saturday, not Sunday, the holy day of the week, and hold services then. The church also believes in living a healthy lifestyle. Ortel said church members don’t drink, smoke or use drugs, and many are vegetarians. They spend part of their day exercising and feel that fresh air and water is very important to their lives.

"I love to give hope to people. People need hope. We want to give help, give people education, give people longer lives," Ortel said.
Southern Adventist University’s Enactus team made its 7th consecutive win at the Enactus regional competition on April 2 in Atlanta. Enactus team members Chelsea Coston, junior financial management major, Nathan Clute, junior business administration major, Carlos Rosales, junior psychology major and Steven Oliveira, sophomore management major, presented the three projects the team has worked on extensively this school year.

The projects included Enactus working with Women at the Well, an addiction rehabilitation program in Athens, TN, in which the team helped to rebrand the organization’s identity, enhance their education program, and more. For their Let’s Can Hunger project, which received grant funding from Campbell’s Soup, the team committed to raising 5,000 pounds of food to help alleviate hunger in the community. Finally, for their Gen Link project, Enactus connected students with community members to meet temporary assistance needs such as yard work, errands, and tech support.

The team will be presenting their projects again at the Enactus national competition on May 21–23 in Kansas City, MO.
UKIAH, CA -- Ukiah Valley Medical Center's Family Birth Center has received the IBCLC Care Award by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners and the International Lactation Consultant Association. In fact, UVMC is one of only 20 health care facilities in California to receive this award.

The IBCLC Care Award is a special recognition given to Hospital-based facilities and community based agencies that staff an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant as part of the care team serving new families. To be eligible, the facility must have a currently certified IBCLC on staff, a professional lactation support program available five-to-seven days a week, evidence of having completed a breastfeeding or lactation consultant promotion/support project, and breastfeeding training for staff within the last two years.

"I am so proud of our lactation team," commented Donna Bauer, director of the Family Birth Center, who went on to say, "This is not an easy award to achieve and requires that the lactation team put evidence-based initiatives in place to help new mom's achieve their desire to breastfeed." Bauer also shared that the award is a reflection of how well the nursing team worked together. "Everyone wanted to help and contribute. Each of the Family Birth Center nurses is knowledgeable about breastfeeding providing education and support for mothers desiring to breastfeed."

According to Registered Nurse, Terri Curtis, and lactation consultant, "I am honored that UVMC was given the IBCLC Care Award." Curtis is a certified IBCLC lactation consultant and leads the lactation team which consists of certified lactation educators and a peer breastfeeding counselor.

"We've put several new practices in place which helped us achieve this award," shared Curtis. One of these initiatives Skin to Skin, encourages mothers to have skin-to-skin contact with their baby in the first hour after delivery. Research has shown this allows baby and mom to become familiar with each other, allowing them to form a bond which facilitates the establishment of breastfeeding.

UVMC is committed to serving the community by providing destination-quality health care services, like the Family Birth Center which offers large private birthing suites, a special care nursery (Level II NICU), breastfeeding specialists, and childbirth classes. For more information on childbirth classes, to schedule a tour of the Family Birth Center, or speak with a breastfeeding specialist, please call (707) 463-7550. A virtual tour of the Family Birth Center is also available to watch at www.bit.ly/UVMCFBC.

Ukiah Valley Medical Center is part of Adventist Health, a faith-based, not-for-profit integrated health care delivery system serving communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Our workforce of 28,900 includes more than 21,200 employees; 4,500 medical staff physicians; and 3,200 volunteers. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist health values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 19 hospitals, more than 170 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 14 home care agencies, six hospice agencies and four joint-venture retirement centers. We invite you to visit www.uvmc.org for more information.
Spencerville Pathfinders’ 12-Hour Rock-a-thon Helps Homeless Persons

Story by Lisa Saveikis Burrow Published 4/18/13

Spencerville’s Pathfinders listen intently during a worship held before their 12-hour rock-a-thon to help the homeless.

It was around 7 p.m., when something strange started happening at Chesapeake Conference’s Spencerville church. People started carrying rocking chairs of all shapes and sizes into the Silver Spring, Md.—church’s fellowship hall. At 7:30 p.m., Sherri Ingram-Hudgins presented worship along with her friend Jerry, a formerly homeless man who is now a recovering addict and a Christian. Ingrahm-Hudgins is the founder of A Hat for Harold, a charity that provides micro-grants to the homeless. Around 8 p.m., 18 of the Spencerville Polar Bear Pathfinders, wearing neon-green T-shirts inscribed with the words “I Rocked,” got into those rocking chairs. Their goal? To rock for part or all of the next 12 hours and raise $300 for A Hat for Harold. Each Pathfinder had collected pledges from family, friends and neighbors. The pledges were based on a certain amount per hour rocked or a flat amount for participating. Each Pathfinder had to gather $25 in pledges from family, friends and neighbors and make their own personal pledge toward their goal. Most far exceed the $25 minimum.

Throughout the night, the Pathfinders played some games, read books, crocheted and had some snacks. Around 1 a.m., they phoned Ingram-Hudgins and woke her up to tell her about the pledge total: $2,150! She was stunned. Throughout the night, some of the rockers retired at their pre-designated curfew time into the sleeping areas. A few ignored their curfew and kept going. Others rocked on through the night to make their goal. When the rocking slowed and stopped, the chaperones sat nearby and continued to rock the chairs to keep the Pathfinders going and going and going! At 8 a.m. the bright spring sunshine was already streaming in the windows and the Pathfinders counted down the seconds to conclude the rock-a-thon. Relieved sighs, smiles, stretches and sleepy eyes were greeted with hot chocolate and donuts and then breakfast. The idea for the rock-a-thon came from 12-year-old Aaron Burrow who is a seventh-grader at Spencerville Adventist Academy. The church’s Pathfinder leaders, who include Rochelle Swanson and Scott Kuczma, thought it was a great, creative idea that would get all the Pathfinders involved in really relevant community service. Looking back, organizers say the event showed them how incredibly giving their Pathfinders are and they hope to have a similar event next year.

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