

OF NORTH CAROLINA, INCORPORATED PROUDLY SERVING OLDER ADULTS SINCE 1951

William B. Stillerman President February 18, 2013

Reverend Larry Hovis
Executive Coordinator
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina
8025 North Point Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Dear Larry:

I write on behalf of our institution, the Baptist Retirement Homes of North Carolina, Incorporated, in response to your request on behalf of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina for a report on our efforts in regard to missional collaboration with the churches that comprise your organization.

First, please know that our organization is grateful for the wonderful financial support that we have received this year from Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches...all of those funds being used to help underwrite the cost of providing care and services to Older Adults across the state who lack sufficient financial resources to pay for the quality long-term care institutional services they both need and deserve. As a result of the help we received from Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches in 2012, we were able to increase by \$400,000 the amount of care and services we were able to give to Older Adults who have little or none of this world's financial resources...total Benevolent Ministry allocations for 2012 exceeding \$3,000,000 or more than 10% of our operating budget.

We were also very grateful to receive a special grant from Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches in the Western area of our state that was used to purchase activity materials specifically designed to assist in the care of Older Adults living at the Western North Carolina Baptist Home in Asheville who have dementia.

With the decline in recent years of state and federal allocations of financial resources for aging services, our organization has become convinced that the future success of providing essential services (nutrition, medical transportation, housing rehabilitation, etc.) to the Oldest Old (Older Adults 85 years of age and older) who live in rural areas of our state will come as a result of partnerships with local churches...those entities that are most aware of the needs of their "home bound" constituency. In 2012, Baptist Retirement Homes partnered with a number of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches via a program called "Fellowship-To-Go"...a program that successfully provided a hot meal and a personal visit to scores of Older Adults across the state on a weekly basis. The "Homes" also has been engaged in working with Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches in the initiation of Adult Day Respite programs...programs that provide respite for care providers and socialization for "home bound" Older Adults at a very affordable cost. The first Adult Day Respite program began last year in Albemarle...the second to begin this spring in Smithfield. The "Homes" has also begun one medical transportation program for Older Adults with a church in Northeastern North Carolina and has engaged in numerous housing rehabilitation projects for Older Adults across the state...to include roof repair, ramp construction, etc.

Lastly, numerous members of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches have been involved with the spiritual nurture of those Older Adults across the state who call our organization "Home"...leading worship experiences, sharing their talents through music, and via one-on-one visitation with our residents.

We think the above is just the beginning of what we can do together to make life for the Older Adults of this state what God intended it to be...namely, The Best Of Times!

Sincerely,

William B. Stillerman

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