

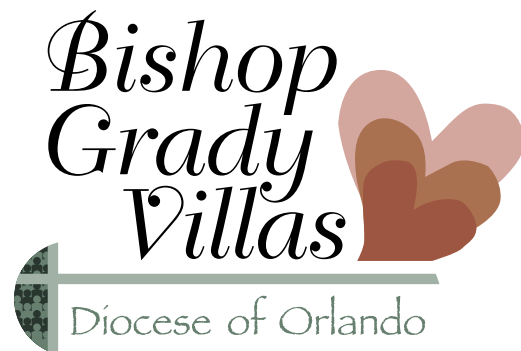


*A place for
belonging*

*Bishop
Grady
Villas*



Diocese of Orlando



BGV Mission

*B*ishop Grady Villas is the dream of Sister Elizabeth Marie Stoup, S.S.J., a lifelong advocate for individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities.



Men and women, ages 18 and older who are intellectually and developmentally disabled, find Christian homes in Bishop Grady Villas. The Villas supports the uniqueness, wholeness and dignity of each person through an environment of compassion and love. Here, our residents are treated with dignity and respect. Professional staff members assist each resident in obtaining his or her potential for personal and spiritual growth and independence.



The criteria and procedures of admission are established in response to the mission and purpose of Bishop Grady Villas: to provide for life a stable, secure, family-oriented, Christ-centered residential environment for adults who are intellectually and developmentally disabled.

A letter from *Carol Brinati, Chairperson*

To our Friends, Supporters, and Families,

When we opened our doors on January 1, 2004, we envisioned creating a Christian residential community where residents who have intellectual and developmental disabilities would continue to develop spiritually, physically, mentally and socially. I am privileged to report to you that the mission of Bishop Grady Villas is being fulfilled today in ways for which we planned, and in some cases, several new services for which we never dreamed.

Last year, we embraced many changes and a number of new opportunities for Bishop Grady Villas to grow and become an important resource within the disability community. At the same time, we stayed true to our founding mission to provide for life a stable, secure, family-oriented, Christ-centered residential community for adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Thanks to Kevin Johnson, Executive Director, and his professional staff, we realized many new programming milestones during fiscal year 2007-08, including being approved as a Medicaid Waiver provider which allows us to serve more people in need of housing, respite care, Vocational Rehabilitation, and other specialized services.

Whether our staff is helping residents who are seeking employment opportunities, nurturing their interests in computers, rallying for them in Special Olympics, or just watching them dance the night away at the Harvest Ball, our residents are treated as individuals, with dignity and respect. We believe that every life matters, and that each individual has his or her own unique contributions to make.

We pray with profound gratitude for our contributors whose investment of time, talent and financial resources helped fill the gap in funding last year. Your support—whether as a volunteer, offering your business acumen, or financially—was critical to our success and we thank you.

For the future, our goal is to achieve full occupancy of 46 residents by June 30, 2009, and to build a Scholarship Endowment to ensure that we have the resources in the future to serve everyone, regardless of their financial ability.

In keeping with our goal, I invite you to join us for one of our regularly scheduled “A Place for Belonging” one-hour lunch tours so that you can see firsthand, what makes Bishop Grady Villas so unique. Our tour dates are published on our website at www.bishopgradyvillas.org.

In the pages ahead, you will find poignant stories of miracles of our daily living and the hope planted with their telling. For our residents, Bishop Grady Villas has become, “a place for belonging.” But, don’t just read this booklet and put it down. Offer the information to another—the offer could be a door opening to a parent in need of hope or a potential underwriter for the care of one of our residents.

Sincerely,



Carol Brinati

Chairperson, Board of Directors
Bishop Grady Villas

A letter from *Kevin Johnson, Executive Director*

Fiscal year 2007-08 was an exciting year for Bishop Grady Villas as we embarked on a number of new programs and services that allowed us to serve more individuals and increase our visibility within the disability community.

All of our initiatives were directed at helping individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities achieve their full potential. For some of the individuals we serve, this included Customized Employment opportunities at local businesses such as Albertsons, Give Kids the World Village, The Home Depot, McDonald’s, Publix, SeaWorld, and the Walt Disney World Resort. Currently 50 percent of our residents are employed competitively, compared to the national average of 35 percent. The majority of our residents who are not currently employed are in the development phase and we look forward to meeting more employment outcomes in the coming year.

As a Medicaid Waiver provider, we now offer adults with disabilities residential habilitation, supported employment, overnight respite, adult day training, transportation and companion services. Through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, we contracted to provide Employment Specialist, Supported Employment, and Certified Business and Technical Assistance services. Finally, we became an Employment Network through Social Security Administration’s Ticket to Work to provide employment services. These services allow us to serve both our current and future residents as well as adults with disabilities who live throughout Orange and Osceola Counties.

We also enhanced our network of partnerships with organizations such as Second Harvest Food Bank, Heavenly Hoofs, The Down Syndrome Association, the Brevard Achievement Center, Special Olympics, the Family Care Council, the Osceola County Master Gardeners, St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce, Osceola Transition Team, the Autism Society of Greater Orlando, and Rollins College Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership Center.

In closing, I thank and recognize our exemplary staff, whose hard work and commitment to the mission of Bishop Grady Villas made it possible for us to deliver quality programs and services, build upon our network of partners, serve additional individuals in Orange and Osceola Counties, and participate in this important ministry in service of Our Lord that acknowledges the dignity and importance of every human life.

Sincerely,



Kevin Johnson

Executive Director
Bishop Grady Villas



BGV Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, as you walked on our earth
you were God-like in your compassion and mercy.
Your hands were healing hands.
You made the lame whole and fed the hungry.
You brought comfort and peace to the mentally challenged.

Dear Lord, we ask you to bless all who live in these homes
and to bless all those who work and support this place.

May these Villas be under the special care of the Blessed
Virgin Mary and her Spouse and the guardian angels.
Amen.

*authored by Bishop Thomas J. Grady
- deceased Bishop of the Diocese of Orlando*

*caring
happy
loving*

Resident *Profiles*

*loving
special
beautiful*

Russell Z.



Howdy. Good afternoon. I am very good because I have books and DVDs. I like to show movies on Saturdays. I like my classical music and going to the library.

Hometown: Cape Town, South Africa

Quotes:

“Russell is one of a kind. He is fascinated by engines, libraries, carnivals, and classical music. He has a brilliant mind and can tell you anything about his favorite composers.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

“Russell is the true definition of consistency and determination.” – *Dylan, Resident Advisor*

How have you grown from last year?

I have learned how to cook this year.

What are your goals for next year?

I want to start a library at Bishop Grady Villas. It will have its own receipt printer. There will be books, children’s books, and travel books. It will also have CD’s, tapes, cookbooks, and DVD’s. I will name it Bishop Wenski library.

What is your favorite memory?

I enjoy going to the fair and love riding the carousel at the fair. Last summer at Bishop Grady Villas we went to Old Town and we rode the carousel and the big wheel.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like watching movies, going to the library, going to Old Town, going to Blockbuster, going to Goodwill for old records, taking pictures, and going to the flea market. I like cooking chocolate pudding and making brownies.

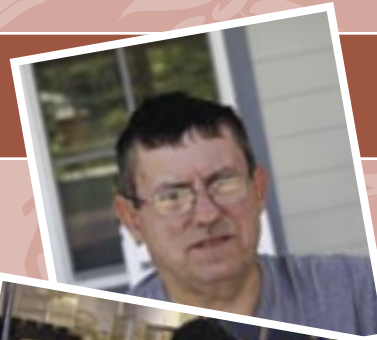
What is a typical day in your life?

At seven o’clock I take my meds. For breakfast at eight o’clock I like to eat waffles, bagels, toast, and porridge. I take a nap after breakfast. I have a cold drink after my nap. I then watch movies and read books. After I have lunch at noon I watch more movies and read books. I go to bed at nine o’clock.

What is your dream for the future?

I want to work in the library.

Greg B.



My name is Greg. Yep, that’s right. I am very committed to my job and my favorite thing to do is working. Residents I like to hang out with are Brian and Chad.

Hometown: Derry, NH

Quotes:

“Greg makes us all laugh with his funny jokes and he is very pleasant to talk with.” – *Vanessa, Resident Advisor*

“Greg loves his job and is very dedicated to it.” – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from last year?

I learned how to cook this year. I make macaroni and cheese and share it with my friends.

What are your goals for next year?

I am looking for a new job. I would like to work in an office. I want to be better at managing money and participate in more volunteer activities.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is getting an outside job and living here at the Villas.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I enjoy all these people. I enjoy cleaning the Villas. I like to go to the library and rent movies like Star Wars. I also like to go out to eat at restaurants around the Villas.

What is a typical day in your life?

I do my hygiene chart in my bedroom. I have breakfast. I relax thinking about what I am going to do. I have lunch. I find out if there is any work. I watch TV. My favorite show is *The Price is Right*.

What is your dream for the future?

Getting a job around here. My ideal job would be stacking shelves and putting groceries on the shelves at places like Wal-Mart.

Clare A.



Hello my name is Clare. I have lived at Bishop Grady Villas for 2 years. I enjoy swimming and bowling.

Hometown: Brooklyn, NY

Quotes:

“Clare always wants to learn something new.” – *Akin, Resident Advisor*

“Clare’s favorite song quote is “Let me entertain you,” I think that song was written about her. I truly enjoy spending time with Clare.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from last year?

I have learned how to be more responsible with doing my laundry on my assigned day and waiting my turn. I am also practicing emailing by myself.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to practice my typing skills and learning more skills to become more independent. I want to practice swimming more so I can swim faster. I want to learn the frog stroke, underwater. I am working with my job coach to get a new job in the community.

What is your favorite memory?

A favorite memory is going to Disney last December with my friends at Bishop Grady Villas. It was really fun riding the rides, but not the scary ones like Thunder Mountain. I enjoyed the fireworks and the parade too. My favorite ride was the Pirates of the Caribbean ride.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like coloring pictures in coloring books. I also enjoy doing latch hook of different designs. I like making things in the wood shop like plant boxes and planting seeds in the greenhouse.

What is a typical day in your life?

I do laundry on Sundays and Wednesdays. After I wake up and get ready for the day, I usually eat breakfast. I like to sleep in late. I enjoy talking to my sister, go bowling, go swimming, and watch movies during the day. I attend Mass at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday evenings.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to get an office job where I can work on a computer and collate and file papers.

Kel M.



My name is Kel. I have lived at Bishop Grady Villas for 2 years now. I like it here because people are nice to me. I have a girlfriend.

Hometown: Montgomery, AL

Quotes:

“Kel is a joy to be around.” -- *Christa, Resident Advisor*

“Kel always makes you smile no matter what your mood may be.” – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from last year?

I got 3rd place in the tennis at Special Olympics’ state games. I am looking for a new job at a grocery store or at a nursing home or hospital. I have signed up to volunteer at a nursing home.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to start gymnastics. I want to continue to learn how to take better care of myself so I can live independently, like keeping my room clean. I would like to practice and learn how to read better.

What is your favorite memory or proudest accomplishment?

My favorite memory is moving into Bishop Grady Villas, moving into this nice place. I enjoy every time when I walk to Wal-Mart or Carvel with my friends. I am also very proud of joining my own church that I attend every week.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to do bell choir, watch TV, and hang out with my roommates. I enjoy walking to Wal-Mart with my friends.

What is a typical day in your life?

I get up, take a shower, shave, make my bed, and eat breakfast. I then take it easy in the morning for now. I play basketball and go out to lunch with friends when I don’t have lunch in Dorsey Hall. I like to hang outside and go to activities and events that come up. I like riding with staff picking up and dropping off my friends at work.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to get my own apartment and find a job in a nursing home. I would like to visit with people in the nursing home.

Sarah E.



My name is Sarah. I have lived here 4 years, almost 5. I have worked at Publix for 11 years. My anniversary at Publix is on June 28. I love to work at Publix. I graduated from George Jenkins High School in 2000. I love my life. Bishop Grady Villas is my real home. I have a family here.

Hometown: Lakeland, FL

Quotes:

"Sarah is so good at expressing herself through writing – she would make a great screenplay writer!" – *Lori, Operations Manager*

"Sarah is a good example of a hard worker and dedication to her job." – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from last year?

I have learned how to ride horses with Heavenly Hoofs. I did not know how to horseback ride last year. I have also started learning how to speak Spanish.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to learn how to take the bus independently. I would also like to become more independent in the kitchen so that I can cook lunch and dinner. I want to continue staying healthy.

What is your favorite memory?

Being with my brother, Jamie, who passed away. I loved riding his motorcycle, hanging out, and telling stories together. When I was a baby he was always there with me.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to spend time with my dad. He likes to look after me and protect me. I like to have a good time and hang with my friends. I also like to write poetry.

What is a typical day in your life?

I get up, take a shower and get ready. Then I eat breakfast and talk to my friends. Then I am off to work at Publix bagging groceries for customers. After I come home I usually go to the gym and exercise with Jose and Laura. Sometimes I go to St. Mary's Garden to pray or listen to music in my house.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to live in my own apartment in Lake Wales. I want to work with the characters or somewhere in Disney. I really want to travel to Spain, England, and Rome. I love to experience and see different cultures, places, people, and artifacts.

Vicki L.



Hello. My name is Vicki. I have lived at Bishop Grady Villas since it opened. My middle name is Marie. I like to type.

Hometown: Ocala, FL

Quotes:

"Vicki is a true friend. She cannot stand to see someone upset and will do whatever it takes to help them." – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

"Vicki has heart and she shares it with everyone!" – *Lori, Operations Manager*

How have you grown from last year?

I got a job at Bishop Grady Villas helping in the kitchen. I mop, sweep, and put together silverware. I am excited about working. I get a lot of money working. I work hard in the kitchen.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to get a new purse. I would like a pink purse. I want a checkbook so I can manage my money. I also want a bank account.

What is your favorite memory?

I like going to the lakefront and getting my feet wet in the lake. I also like to swim. I like going with my friend, Beth. I eat lunch with my friends sometimes at the lakefront.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to color in my coloring book and paint pictures. I put the pictures that I paint on my walls in my room. I also enjoy typing notes and letters on the computer.

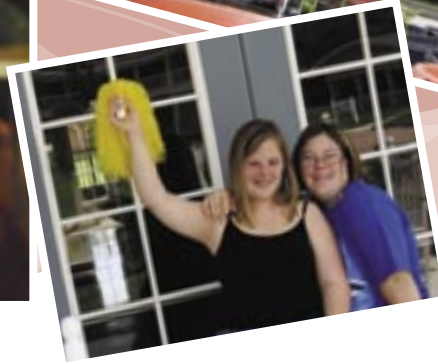
What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up between 5:00 and 5:30 in the morning. I eat oatmeal for breakfast, but I don't eat that much. After breakfast, I go back to my house and brush my teeth and start working at the kitchen at 9:00 a.m. I wear my black shoes to work. After work and eating lunch I relax for the rest of the day. I also take a nap during the day. I have a snack at 8:00 p.m., a bagel.

What is your dream for the future?

My dream job would be to work at SeaWorld and wash and clean tables there. I want to live in my own apartment in St. Cloud. I want to make a lot of money and put the money in the bank.

Caitlin S.



Hi my name is Caitlin. How are you? I work at Albertsons. People call me the fashion queen around here. I have lots of clothes.

Hometown: Longwood, FL

Quotes:

"Caitlin is a loving person. She loves to dance, sing, and is very cheerful. A pleasure to be around." – *Jack, Resident Assistant*

"Always willing to lend a helping hand in the Bell Choir. She is the sweetest lady." – *Gladys, Resident Advisor*

What are your goals for next year?

Some of my goals for next year include learning how to cook and do sign language.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is having a good time with my dad; to be with and around him, like going to Disney.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to cook and make things like pancakes, sandwiches, and soup. I also love dancing to any music. My favorite music is from Shania Twain and Sheryl Crow.

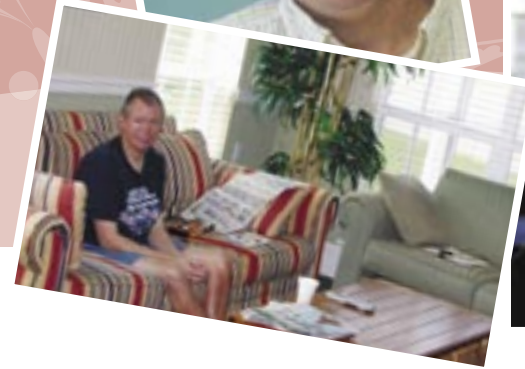
What is a typical day in your life?

I usually wake up between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. I have breakfast and do my chores. I get ready for work. At work I bag groceries at Albertsons. After work or on days off I like to go to activities and events that Bishop Grady Villas schedules. Disney is my absolute favorite, but I also like SeaWorld and City Walk.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to eventually live in Wisconsin and get married someday. I also want to dance a lot and hopefully have a career singing.

Raymond M.



My name is Raymond. I love movies. I used to live in New York.

Hometown: Queens, NY

Quotes:

"Raymond is a sweet resident, he enjoys making people happy, loves renting movies and listening to rock and roll." – *Jack, Resident Assistant*

"Raymond always has something new to show or to tell about." – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

What are your goals for next year?

I want to find an outside job washing dishes in a kitchen. I had a job before doing this and enjoyed it.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory was a vacation I took with my mother to go to Epcot Center.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to hang out and talk to my friends. I like to look at magazines and listen to music. I have a lot of CDs. My favorite type of music is heavy metal. My favorite band is Kiss. Mostly I like to chill out and build models in my room.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to work at McDonald's.

Carla M.



Hi, I'm Carla. I have lived in the Villas for more than 3 years and I really like it here. I like cats very much. I speak Spanish. My mother taught me Dutch, her native language when I was little. Sometimes I speak Dutch to her. I am still learning to speak English. I understand English more than before.

Hometown: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Quotes:

"Carla always has a smile to share." – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

"Carla is incredible. She has an amazing sense of humor and having a conversation with her is one of the highlights of my day." – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from the last year?

I have matured. I have become a better person. I can hear better now. I just got a new hearing aid that Mrs. Carmen fixed for me. Mrs. Carmen is a nice lady, she treats me very nice. My mom is happy.

What are your goals for the next year?

I would like to find a job in a pet shop or as a cook. In Puerto Rico, I went to school and graduated in learning how to make hamburgers. I worked in a convent with nuns taking care of the elderly. I would like to work again. I liked taking care of cats at Petco.

What is your favorite memory?

Living in Puerto Rico, I would go with my family to the festival of St. Sebastian.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to talk to my friends and housemates. I like to walk around the Villas and I like to do my laundry.

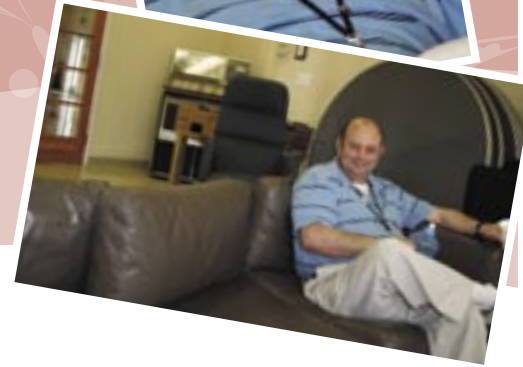
What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up at 6:00 or 6:30 a.m. every day. I take a shower, get dressed and put on my leg covers. Sometimes, Lizette or another staff helps me get dressed. I go to Dorsey Hall and eat breakfast around 8:00 a.m. I like to have cereal, bagel, milk and juice for breakfast. I didn't do anything after breakfast but now I am going to the class with Isabel. I am learning about healthy relationships and how to find a job. At 12:00 p.m. I have my lunch. I like every food the chef cooks. After lunch, I do my laundry, go to my house, or to doctor's appointments when my Mami comes to get me. And sometimes I go home with my Mami and help her with Cleo, the cat.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like for my mother to take me to Puerto Rico for vacation.

Raymond S.



Hi. How are you? My name is Raymond. I have been living at Bishop Grady Villas for 2 to 3 years. I love it here. It is a beautiful place.

Hometown: Harrison, NY

Quotes:

"He sings from the heart." – *Helen, Residential Advisor*

"Raymond is dedicated to social change. He is very aware of all that goes on around him and is a true advocate for change." – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from last year?

I have learned how to wash my clothes by myself.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to learn how to cook pasta e fagioli. I would also like to get better at budgeting my money so I can go on more activities and try new things.

What is your favorite memory?

I love Christmas. I like to see Christmas decorations. I enjoy every Christmas where my sister, Ellie, brings me presents. I also enjoy my birthday and Easter.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like bowling and swimming. I like going to restaurants with my sister. My favorite foods to order when I go to restaurants are spaghetti with clam sauce and pasta e fagioli.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up at 5:00 a.m. I shower and get ready for work. I eat breakfast at 6:00 a.m. I leave to go to workshop at 7:00 a.m. At workshop I work on brackets and screws. After a long day I like to relax. To relax I watch TV and listen to Joni James. After I eat dinner I like to participate in some of the activities and events going on such as Weight Watchers, taking walks, watching TV, talking to friends, and watching movies with Russell. I go to bed at 9:00 p.m.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to have a dinner party and cook pasta e fagioli for my friends and wash the dishes after everyone is finished. I would like to live at Bishop Grady Villas forever.

Laura T.



Hi, my name is Laura. I am from Nashville, TN. I have been here for about 2 years. I like the outings like things at the lake shore that go on around here.

Hometown: Nashville, TN

Quotes:

“A great global messenger for Special Olympics.” – *Gladys, Resident Advisor*

“Laura is always very serious about the things she plans to do and how well she does them. Thank you for the great example, Laura!” – *Lori, Operations Manager*

What are your goals for next year?

I am trying to find an outside job that is worth doing and being at. That is one of my main goals. I want to try to do more group outings with friends in the Villas or outside, either one.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

I am proud of being a global messenger for Special Olympics. I enjoy going to conferences and preparing speeches to spread the word about Special Olympics.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I enjoy latch hooking, doing word searches, playing games, and just like doing fun stuff. I also enjoy watching movies. My favorite movie is the *Parent Trap*.

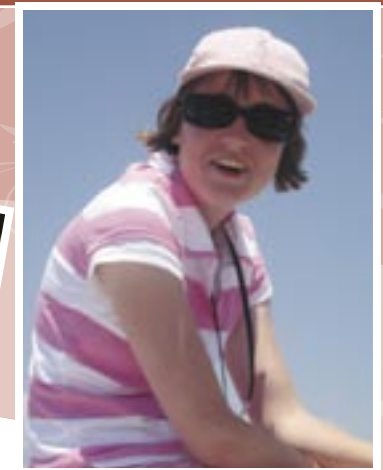
What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up sometime around 6:00 a.m., sometimes at 7:00 a.m. I am not a very fast waker-upper. I take a shower, get dressed, and usually fix my own breakfast—cereal, waffles, or whatever I can come up with. I then get ready for work—do tables and other things in Dorsey Hall. After work, I go back and take care of things around my house. Afterwards I go to the gym or Carvel or something with friends. We like to walk to places that are close. Sometimes I have parties in my house in the evenings.

What is your dream for the future?

My dream job would be stocking shelves at a place like Target. Hopefully, I can get my own apartment in Orlando someday too.

Sara G.



Hi, my name is Sara. I like to help people, hang out with my friends and resident advisors, and love to go to Wal-Mart to buy Coke and candy.

Hometown: Miami, FL

Quotes:

“Sara is a great friend. She really cares about those around her. She loves her family and her friends and would truly do anything for them.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

“GG is always helping with the hard stuff. She is the first to volunteer and the last to call it a day!” – *Lori, Operations Manager*

How have you grown from the last year?

I am smarter than before and have more friends. I feel more independent.

What are your goals for the next year?

I would like to get a job at SeaWorld and work with Karen.

What is a favorite memory?

My friends' and family's birthday parties.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to party and sing. My hobby is to listen to country music and hang out with night staff.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up at 7:00 a.m. Have breakfast close to 9:00 a.m. I go to classes. Then I like to hang out with my friends. Then I watch TV. I stay with staff in Dorsey Hall. Go to my house. Have a Coke, hang out with friends. Go out with advisors to pick up my friends from work. I go to Wal-Mart. Have dinner at 5:30 p.m. but I take a shower before dinner.

What is your dream for the future?

I dream that staff takes me out more often.

Karen C.



Hello. My name is Karen. I work at SeaWorld. I have been at Bishop Grady Villas for a long time too. I graduated from Morning Star School.

Hometown: Oviedo, FL

Quotes:

"Karen is an inspiration! She is so conscientious about her responsibilities and always has a smile!" – *Lori, Operations Manager*

"She is just a wonderful person to be around and very smart." – *Jack, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from last year?

I got a new job at SeaWorld and no longer work at ARC. I am also getting better at learning how to cook recipes like macaroni and cheese. I am also learning how to iron. I became Catholic at the Easter Vigil.

What are your goals for next year?

I want to learn how to use the oven and microwave. I also want to continue working at SeaWorld. I want to learn how to sew buttons on my work shirt when needed.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is going to Mississippi with my mom and dad for Christmas. We celebrated Jesus' birthday and did fun stuff together.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to color, read, do word searches, and latch hook.

What is a typical day in your life?

Get up, get ready, have breakfast, and get ready for work. Go to work, clean up big messes and heavy trays while helping people in a cheerful way. I then come back and have lunch with my friends. Sometimes I walk to Wal-Mart with my friends to shop. I like to hang out. I have tea before going to bed every night.

What is your dream for the future?

I want to continue working at SeaWorld. Eventually, I would like to live on my own with a friend.

Beth W.



Hi my name is Beth and I have lived at Bishop Grady Villas for 4 years. I have made a lot of friends since I have been living here. I love to listen to music.

Hometown: Philadelphia, PA

Quotes:

"Very inquisitive, funny, good friend, caring, enjoys movies, and music. Has a great memory." – *Janette, Resident Assistant*

"Beth is our mother hen to whom other residents look to for advice and friendship." – *Lori, Operations Manager*

How have you grown from last year?

I have been taking the bus independently to work. I have been getting better with learning new tasks at work too. I also take time to email my eBuddy on a regular basis.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to learn how to cook chicken. I also want to learn more computer skills including typing and spelling.

What is a favorite memory?

My favorite memory is going to the high school football games with my dad when he was still alive. We had a great time with lots of cheering on the teams. That was a long time ago.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like hanging out with my friends and gathering around the picnic tables in the evening just listening to music and having a good time.

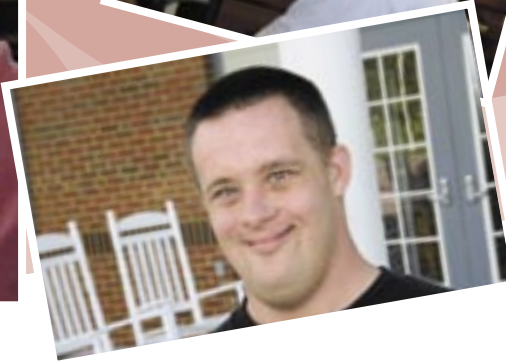
What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up at 6:30 a.m. and get ready. I eat breakfast in Dorsey Hall, take my meds, and go to work. I work at McDonald's and make salads, parfaits, sweep, mop, make sure the drink station is clean and all the condiments are filled. I take the bus to go back after work. When I get back I usually take a shower and get changed. After dinner I hang out with my friends or go to an event or activity that is going on.

What is your dream for the future?

I want to go to California and Hawaii. I also would like to move out on my own someday into someplace in St. Cloud. My dream job would be to work in an office somewhere.

Brian K.



Hi my name is Brian. Sr. Elizabeth showed me Bishop Grady Villas and I came here to live and stay out of trouble. I have a lot of friends. I enjoy helping staff when they need it. I am everywhere. Anyone can knock on my door if they need me.

Hometown: Winter Garden, FL

Quotes:

“Brian is super sweet and takes care of everyone.” – *Vanessa, Resident Advisor*

“Brian is a pleasure to be around.” – *Christina, Resident Advisor*

What are your goals for next year?

I want to continue working hard at my job. I want to help people more, like helping my friends staying out of trouble. My dad told me to “take the lead.”

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is going on camp outs and activities. I enjoy going on bowling and other fun trips.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to hang out and take my friends out once in a while. I like to save my money. “Hang out” is my favorite word.

What is a typical day in your life?

I like to sleep in as much as possible. After I wake up I listen to music and watch TV. My favorite TV shows are *Saved by the Bell*, *ER*, and *Family Matters*. I then get ready for work. After work I like to relax and take a nap—that is my favorite part. I hang out with my friends and do stuff afterwards like horseback riding and swimming lessons. I love to go to church and read my Bible every night. I am a prayer warrior.

What is your dream for the future?

I want to take it slow and don’t want to rush into anything; maybe get married some day.

cindy S.



My name is Cindy. My birthday is in August. I enjoy playing the tambourine. I enjoy my work at the workshop and am working on getting an outside job. I am a very hard worker.

Hometown: Lakeland, FL

Quotes:

“Cindy embodies the phrase, “Hard Worker.” She is dedicated to her work and to making sure that everything is running smoothly in the Villas. She keeps everyone on track.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

“Cindy always makes me laugh and is full of love for everyone.” – *Vanessa, Resident Advisor*

What are your goals for next year?

My goals to work on next year are to learn sign language and get an outside job in the community. I also want to learn to sew my own clothes.

What is a favorite memory?

I like to be happy—smile.

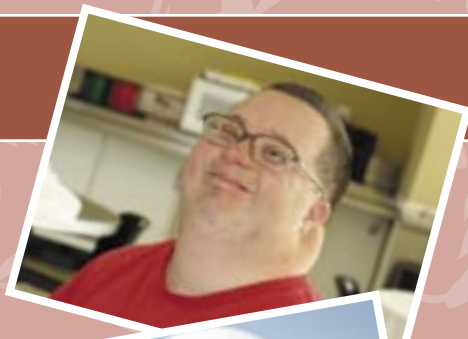
What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to go bowling. I like Special Olympics very much, softball is my favorite sport. I also like spending time in my room in my house. I like visiting my mother’s house.

What is your dream for the future?

I want a job housekeeping and cleaning.

Tommy J.



I'm Thomas. My buddies and girlfriends call me Tommy or Big T. I am smart and handsome. All of the girls like me.

Hometown: Winter Park, FL

Quotes:

"He likes to tell funny stories and make you laugh." – *Helen, Resident Assistant*

"Tommy loves wresling, singing and dancing. He is a good dresser and caring friend." – *Janette, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from the last year?

I am proud that I stopped going to the workshop and started looking for an outside job with my job coach.

What are your goals for the next year?

I would like to work with small kids doing P.E. or any sport.

What is your favorite memory?

Last year's Harvest Ball.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to sit on the couch, watch movies with my buddies Brian and Chad. We love to watch *Wrestle Mania* and play video games together.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up around 8:20 a.m., have breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Go back to my house, relax for a little bit. I go to Isabel's class at 9:30 a.m. When training is done, I go to my house and relax. I watch TV and talk to my buddy, Brian. I have lunch at 12:00 p.m. with my friends. Sometimes I work out with Richard Simmons workout video. I have dinner at 5:30 p.m., take a shower, play video games, go to sleep.

What is your dream for the future?

I want to get an outside job working at a restaurant like Longhorn Steakhouse.

Lori S.



I'm Lori. I have lived here for several years. Reading is my favorite thing to do. I do it everyday. Bishop Grady Villas is wonderful, nice, and very friendly.

Hometown: Richmond, VA

Quotes:

"Lori loves to visit the library and is passionate about books." – *Cindy, Resident Assistant*

"Lori is incredibly sweet. A hug from her can make your whole day brighter." – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from the last year?

I have started helping out cleaning around Bishop Grady Villas. I sweep and sort utensils in Dorsey Hall. I am volunteering in the St. Thomas Aquinas School library.

What are your goals for next year?

I want to get a job at Goodwill or a pet store. I would like to read more books and listen to music.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is celebrating Hanukkah with my family. I enjoy spending time with my family to celebrate all holidays. My mom gives me good books as gifts which I really enjoy.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to read and watch TV. My favorite books are *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter*. My favorite show is *Hannah Montana*. I also like to collect bird statues.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up and eat breakfast. I then read before I go to work doing things around Bishop Grady Villas. After work I read or watch TV or listen to music. My favorite activities at Bishop Grady Villas include swimming and bowling.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to work at Goodwill or work with horses.

Jessica F.



Hi my name is Jessica. I moved here in January 2006. Everybody is friendly at Bishop Grady Villas. I work at Sea World and I like my bosses. I have a dog. I have one sister who is married and lives in Charlotte. I love my friends.

Hometown: Chattanooga, TN

Quotes:

“Jessica is a great employee, punctual, and active. When she comes in to work she goes right to her station, I never have to worry about whether she is working or not. I’m willing to accommodate her at any time she wants to change her station and learn a new skill.” – *Santos, Manager at SeaWorld*

“Jessica has a way of complimenting you that makes you feel like a million dollars.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from last year?

I have joined the Council of Catholic Women (CCW) at church. Through the CCW I have been involved by helping to sell raffle tickets, helping out at church, and helping teach Sunday School. I enjoy meeting new, friendly people.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to learn how to cook healthy foods such as fish, chicken, and steak. I would like to cook dinner for my friends in my house. I really want to join a club to meet new people and perhaps get my own apartment.

What is your favorite memory?

My favorite memory is spending time with my dad. We would go places like bowling or go out to eat at places like Olive Garden.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like going to movies with friends or shopping for clothes at the mall. I really enjoy visiting my family in Tennessee any chance I get.

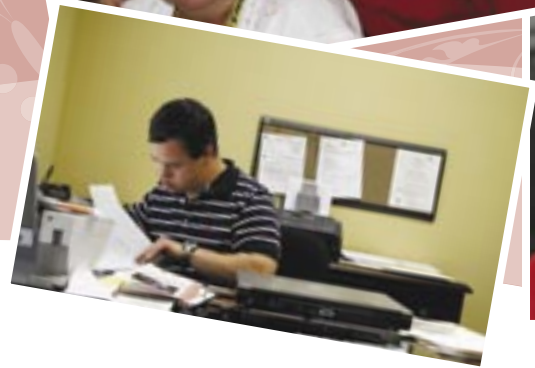
What is a typical day in your life?

I sleep in when I can, but I usually wake up early, get ready, and take my vitamins. I eat breakfast and sometimes workout before going to work. I go to work at SeaWorld stocking and putting out desserts and salads out in a restaurant in the theme park. When I get back to Bishop Grady Villas I take a shower, eat dinner, and maybe go to an event or special activity. I always talk to my mom before I go to bed and get a good night’s sleep.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to find an apartment in a safe place to live. I would like to find an apartment in Tennessee so I can be close to my mom. My dream job would be in an office doing tasks like filing papers.

Jose G.



Hello everybody, my name is Jose. I really like living here in Bishop Grady Villas. I have a lot of friends here. I really like them so much.

Hometown: Lake Wales, FL

Quotes:

“Jose works very well as a counter person. I wish all of our other staff were as enthusiastic about their job as he is.” – *Nick, Manager at Walt Disney World’s Magic Kingdom*

“Jose is a born leader.” – *Akin, Resident Advisor*

How have you grow from last year?

I am now regularly going to the gym – Planet Fitness. Also I stay active playing tennis and basketball.

What are your goals for next year?

I want to start going to karate classes. I would also like to learn more things at Bishop Grady Villas.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

I got first place in Special Olympics Tennis. I was very proud of myself for working hard. I really like to play tennis and I practice a lot.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to hang around everybody and outside. I also like going to Wal-Mart, Carvel, and Quiznos.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up around 6:00 or 6:30 a.m. and get ready for the day. I go to work after I am ready. I work behind the counter at Disney. I really love my job. After work I come back to my house very late—sometimes around 9:00 p.m. When not working, I like to help out around Bishop Grady Villas. My favorite things to do are going to the gym and bowling.

What is your dream for the future?

I am not leaving Bishop Grady Villas. I want to stay here for a long time. I really want to become a Resident Advisor here and take care of people.

Charles S.



Hello my name is Charles. My birthday is in November. I have been working at The Home Depot for 2 years and I am the head lot attendant. I carry an orange walkie-talkie at work because I am too good for the green walkie-talkie. I have lived at Bishop Grady Villas for 1 year.

Hometown: Plant City, FL

Quotes:

"Charles is a gentleman to the customers and his coworkers and he always gets all his work done. I wish the other lot attendants worked as good as he does." – *Becky, Supervising Head Cashier, The Home Depot*

"Charles likes to share his knowledge about movies with his friends." – *Helen, Resident Advisor*

How have you grown from last year?

I have learned how to be more independent. I buy my own groceries and put them away in my house. I have also lost a lot of weight.

What are your goals for next year?

I would like to get a raise at work. This is really important to me because this is the money I live on. I would like to continue working at The Home Depot and being successful there. I would like to see more of Osceola County.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

My proudest accomplishment was receiving the academic medal in fifth grade from my school in Brandon. I was the only one who received it because I got a 4.0 all year. It proved that someone with a disability can accomplish anything with dedication and hard work.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I really enjoy watching movies. I have over 100 movies in my collection. I have my own movie library with the residents at Bishop Grady Villas. I am also the first resident to have a subscription to Netflix. Besides watching movies I like working on computers. I like downloading music from iTunes and burning music CDs too.

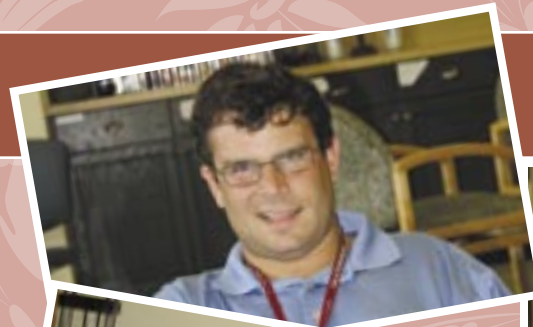
What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up before lunch because I sleep in because I work nights. I enjoy socializing with my friends and going to the gym to work out. I often go to Quiznos to get lunch. I enjoy going to the movie theater on the weekend when I am off of work. I also like to go swimming. I usually go to work at 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. I eat dinner during my break.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to build a computer and sell it in the future. Someday I would also like to go to Germany by myself. Learning how to cook gourmet foods is something I also want to learn to do in the future.

Chad W.



Hi, I'm Chad. I live in Bishop Grady Villas. I came from Orlando, FL. I am hoping to get a job at an electronics store like Best Buy. Sometimes I am a little stubborn, but I always make an effort to get along with everybody.

Hometown: Orlando, FL

Quotes: "Chad loves Rock music and telling jokes." – *Christa, Resident Advisor*

"Chad is very smart and funny." – *Jennifer, Resident Assistant*

How have you grown from the last year?

I hosted a party at the beach for all of my friends and family. I've learned how to do gardening but I've also learned that I don't like it. I have also learned to do more cooking.

What are your goals for the next year?

To work at a store like Albertson's or Wal-Mart or something like that.

What is your favorite memory?

I enjoy going on vacation with my family, especially to tropical places such as the Bahamas. I have also been to New York and saw some great Broadway shows. I have also been to Las Vegas twice, once I went for a wedding and another time I went to gamble and see shows.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to read, do word searches and watch movies, listen to music and play with computers.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up at 6:30 a.m., brush my teeth, take a shower, get dressed, shave, get my glasses, go to Dorsey Hall and eat breakfast. Then I watch TV before I start my job with Tony. I work at 9:00 a.m. I work half an hour with Tony as a groundskeeper and then go with Patty and Sandy picking up the garbage from the Villas and take it to the dumpsters. Then, I'm done by 11:00 a.m. I have lunch at 12:00 p.m. Then I go to Dorsey Hall for class with Isabel because she will help me get an outside job. Then I watch TV, play video games with my friends, have dinner and then the rest of the night is mine to do whatever I want!

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to still live at Bishop Grady Villas and would like to have a job at a convenience store or Target or someplace like that.

Jack M.

New Resident



Hi my name is Jack and I was born in Chicago, IL. I love to see plays and musicals, go shopping and eat pizza!

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Quotes:

“What is special and unique about Jack is his love for other people. He is very lively and excitable.” – *Terry, Waiver Support Coordinator*

“Jack is a character. I find him delightful, he is very independent and gets along with everyone.” – *Susan, Nurse*

How have you grown from the last year?

I now live at Bishop Grady Villas and it is much nicer than where I lived before. At the Villas it is nice, clean, there is good food and good staff. I have learned how to cook meatloaf and pot roast in the past year.

What are your goals for the next year?

I would like to have a job in the community, maybe someplace like Wal-Mart. I want to learn how to email and type better. I would also like to cook dinner for my roommates and learn banking skills so I can cash my checks.

What is your favorite memory?

I loved spending time with my brother Jimmy before he passed away.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to watch TV. My favorite shows are *I Love Lucy* and *Wheel of Fortune*. I also like to watch Disney movies, go see plays and musicals and go to Walt Disney World.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up early in the morning, shower, shave, get dressed and always make my bed before I leave my room. I then go to breakfast and afterwards, I like to relax and read books; my favorite are mysteries. I am very busy with the classes on property and am learning about the computer, the woodshop and the greenhouse. After classes I like to go for rides in the van with the other residents and staff. I enjoy hanging out with my roommates after dinner and watching TV before bed.

What is your dream for the future?

I would like to fly to New Orleans to visit my niece. I have a lot of dreams that I don't even know yet.

New Resident

Nannette K.



Hi my name is Nannette. I like doing crossword puzzles and watching movies.

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Quotes:

“I love her. She is always smiling, she is very cooperative, so easy going and so willing to do whatever needs to be done. She is one of the most even-tempered females I know. She always has a smile on her face. She is truly a blessing to be around” – *Susan, Nurse*

“Everyone tells me how glad they are to have Nannette living here at Bishop Grady Villas. She gets along with everyone and is very easy going. She is very enjoyable to be around.” – *Meagan, Residential Program Manager*

How have you grown from the last year?

I finally moved out of my dad's house and met new people and made new friends.

What are your goals for the next year?

I want to do a lot of things. Hopefully have a job in the community in retail. I would like to continue living here at the Villas and learn how to get to all of the new places in St. Cloud.

What is your favorite memory?

I enjoyed doing things with my mom when she was alive. I also liked spending time with my dad.

What do you like to do in your free time/hobbies?

I like to do crossword puzzles, puzzles, go to the movies and meet new friends.

What is a typical day in your life?

I wake up about 6:30 a.m. and shower, get dressed and make my bed. I eat breakfast, go to classes, hang out with the girls.

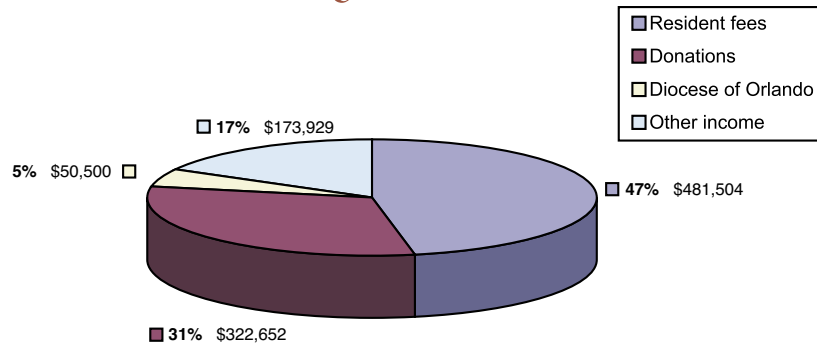
What is your dream for the future?

I want to be more independent and learn how to get to places on my own and take care of myself and my home.

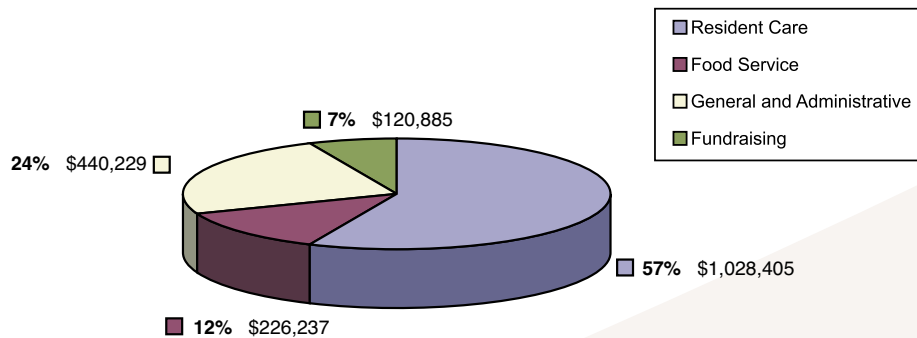
Financial Information

Board of Directors

Revenues



Expenses by Program



Executive Committee:

Carol Brinati, Chairperson, *Diocese of Orlando*

Steve Davis, Vice-Chairman, *KRG&G*

Sheridan Becht, Treasurer, *Orlando Utilities Commission*

Paul SanGiovanni, Secretary, *Shutts & Bowen*

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Lou Bruno, *Proctor & Gamble*

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Jeanne D'Agostino Rodriguez

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Sister Elizabeth Marie Stoup, S.S.J.

Jean Wilkes

Executive Director:

Kevin Johnson



Building a Future for BGV

Planting Seeds Today to Ensure the Future of Bishop Grady Villas

To those friends who wish to help assure the continuation and growth of Bishop Grady Villas, a planned gift provides donors with an opportunity to make a lasting contribution to Bishop Grady Villas. These gifts can be in the form of bequests, and many other gift planning instruments. By taking advantage of various giving plans that produce life-long income, donors can receive charitable tax benefits for their estate plans.

Leave your legacy by making a gift in your will to Bishop Grady Villas. We hope you'll tell us when you have named Bishop Grady Villas in your will. We would very much like the opportunity to thank you for your generosity. The official nomenclature for naming Bishop Grady Villas in your will is as follows:

"I give, devise and bequeath to Thomas G. Wenski, as Bishop of the Diocese of Orlando, Florida, his successors in office and assigns, a corporation sole for the use and benefit of Bishop Grady Villas."

A gift annuity is a simple contract between you, the donor, and the Diocese of Orlando. In exchange for your irrevocable gift of cash or securities, the Diocese contractually agrees to pay a fixed sum each year for life to the one or two annuitants named by you.

What to Give...

GIFTS OF CASH

This is the simplest way to give. Your cash gifts are deductible up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income for the taxable year, but any excess is deductible over the next five years.

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED SECURITIES OR CLOSELY HELD STOCK

A gift of appreciated securities is one way to make a significant contribution at a reduced cost to you. Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction for the full market value of securities on the date of your gift.

GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES

You can donate a life insurance policy to Bishop Grady Villas or simply name Bishop Grady Villas as the beneficiary. For the gift of a paid-up policy, you will receive an income tax deduction equal to the lesser of the cash value of the policy or the total premiums paid.

GIFTS OF IRAs AND OTHER RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

By donating retirement assets, those funds avoid both estate and IRD taxes, and you can be certain that 100 percent of the balance of your retirement funds will support your philanthropic objectives. The simplest way to leave the balance of a retirement account to Bishop Grady Villas after your lifetime is to list Bishop Grady Villas as the beneficiary on the beneficiary form provided by your plan administrator.

If you have any questions, contact **Kevin Johnson** at (407) 892-6078 or by email at kjohnson@bishopgradyvillas.org. Also, please consult with your tax advisor on the applicable tax savings since this may vary among individuals.



Bishop Grady Villas

*Bishop Grady Villas is pleased to welcome
the following new residents
into our community:*

Claudia
Karen
Kevin
Patty
Paul
Robert

*Bishop
Grady
Villas*



Diocese of Orlando

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St. Cloud, FL 34769
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