

## **Report of the Friends Home in Kennett for calendar year 2012 with 2013 updates for Western Quarter Meeting, September 2013**

The Board regularly refers the stated mission of the organization which is quoted below to also remind others what we are striving to provide:

*Mission Statement: The Friends Home in Kennett is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality care in a homelike atmosphere for older men and women of modest means. We encourage independence and we respect the individuality and dignity of all in keeping with the values of the Religious Society of Friends.*

This year continued with significant changes at Friends Home in Kennett. Renna Van Oot, who had been appointed as Interim, accepted the permanent role of Executive Director as of September 2012. She continues to make changes in the infrastructure of the organization to create stronger and more efficient services with an emphasis on resident care. She also has been supporting the board in its role to contend with the changes in the field of aging, and how the Home needs to strategically adapt to remain successful.

In 2012, Carol Bernard succeeded Ken Lomax as Clerk, Ken Lomax succeeded Wright Horne as Treasurer, and Shirley Annand remained Recording Clerk. The Board revised its by-laws this past year to include a provision that emphasizes Quaker governing practices, but reduces the requirement of number of Quakers serving to 51%. This allows the board more freedom to recruit based on needed skill sets, and affords non-Quakers the opportunity to experience a Quaker governance structure. Of the current 12 people serving on the board, only three are currently non-Quakers. Most recently, Bob Frye, Jim Reamer, and Peter Wygant joined our board. Kathy Hahn also served for a short but very productive period of time.

Grants and gifts during the year helped with improvement projects as well as with resident support. Some of the improvements were continuing renovations to convert shared baths to private baths, new counters in both dining rooms, and a new floor and nurses station in the nursing home.

Our investments, managed by Wells Fargo, have been increasing in value – which is good as we needed to withdraw funds to support operations. For 2012, the number of residents in the personal care side (Friends Home) was close to budget for the year, but the number of residents at Linden Hall was lower than expected. In 2013, we've continued to see our numbers drop. We experienced an inordinately high number of deaths in the first quarter of the year, and have not "caught up" to our budgeted census.

Friends Home is currently expanding its Marketing and development efforts. We hold open houses once a month just to invite the community in to see what we are doing and why we are passionate about our mission. We encourage Quarterly Meeting attendees and readers of the newsletter to attend. Or if you know of someone who could consider moving to the Home – please encourage them to visit.

Finally, we are celebrating 115 years of service this fall. On October 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-7, we'll be having a special celebration where we'll be unveiling our new "look" with an updated website and logo. We invite you to come by.