



THE CONNECTION

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Founded by Sister Patricia Ann Kelley, CCVI

TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

As you may have already read in a letter from Ed Cronin, the Chair of EnergyCare's Board of Directors, Dennis Kelley is retiring as Executive Director. Dennis has served as EnergyCare's Executive Director since the tragic death of Sr. Pat Kelley nearly 30 years ago. It goes almost without saying that if not for Dennis' dedicated effort EnergyCare would not be here today. On behalf of everyone at EnergyCare we want to thank him for his service to our organization and community. We are delighted to welcome and introduce Tim O'Dea who has been selected to be the new Executive Director!

GOODBYE, FAREWELL, AND AMEN



Looking at my career at EnergyCare with the benefit of thirty year hind sight, I consider myself to be a very lucky guy.

When Sr. Pat invited me to join her in her work, she gave me a life long gift. A gift that gave me the opportunity to not only provide for my family

and myself, but also to have a career that was never boring, always challenging and brought with it an enduring sense of purpose and personal satisfaction.

As I write this on the eve of my retirement, I want to thank everyone who generously gave of their time, talents or fortune to continue Sr. Pat's dream and to grow her vision. Together we've been able to save and enrich the lives of the most vulnerable people in our community and for that I am most grateful.

My fond, departing wish is for the agency to continue to succeed - to help more people, and help people more. I have great confidence that Tim and the Board of Directors will do just that.

Thank you and God bless.

Dennis

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS

I appreciate the opportunity to become part of the EnergyCare team, and to help build upon the impressive legacy begun by Sr. Pat that EnergyCare has continued for more than 30 years. Dennis and the staff have done a great job in developing effective solutions to help EnergyCare's vulnerable clients survive the frigid winters and blazing hot summers in St. Louis.

This position is natural progression for me, as I have focused most of my nonprofit management career on developing and implementing educational opportunities for low-income families. I feel a strong connection to the mission of EnergyCare, and I am impressed with the wide range of services we provide for the people who rely on us.

EnergyCare has a great tradition and reputation and serves a much-needed niche in helping low income seniors, those with chronic illness and families with small children survive in an often brutal climate. I am honored to join EnergyCare and look forward to working with the board, staff and supporters to provide essential help to those most in need.

Tim O'Dea



THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

Deborrah is a real person who has received assistance from EnergyCare. She is representative of the many low-income elderly, disabled, ill or very young people EnergyCare helps year in and year out. Development assistant Justine Collum describes her conversation with Sylvia about the services EnergyCare provided.

To combat the cold this winter, Deborrah shut off most of the rooms of her house and used a space heater and blankets to keep warm in just one room. "That's my winter chateau," she joked.

On the day we visited Deborrah, it was 14°F outside. A thermometer on the wall in her kitchen read 58°F. The National Institutes of Health warns that hypothermia can occur in older people when the temperature inside their home drops to just 60-65°F.

The bitter cold this past winter was miserable for all of us, but it's particularly troublesome

for people like Deborrah. "The weather got my arthritis all flared up. I got severe arthritis all over; it limits my mobility."



The cold in her house, much of it due to drafty older windows,

"keeps me under the covers most of time," Deborrah said.

Deborrah is really looking forward to getting her new windows, thanks to EnergyCare and the Lutheran Foundation. Before being referred to EnergyCare, it was difficult for Deborrah to find resources to help her. "These last few years, a lot of people's available funds have diminished."

We're so lucky to have dedicated people like you who generously help us continue to assist people like Deborrah. "EnergyCare is very necessary in my life," she says.

Helping More People, Helping People More

That's what's at the heart of EnergyCare's plans for 2015.

Over the fall and winter of 2014-15 we began offering low-income, senior home-owners a new service: where absolutely necessary to keep their home safely warm, EnergyCare has been providing minor repairs to make homes warmer.

At the time of writing EnergyCare is coming to the end of our first "class" of 30 households (of which Deborrah - mentioned above - is one). The feedback has been extremely positive so...

In 2015 we are growing this service to help as many as 60 families. This is only possible because of the support we receive from you.

Thank you!

A WINTER'S TALE...

...Of compassion saving lives!

This winter was not a warm one - no sir! 19 days had a high below 32°F (and many more in the 30s) so there were plenty of people feeling the cold this winter!

Everyone saw the snow, freezing rain, sleet and slush. Everyone felt the chills. But fortunately you also saw and felt the need of our vulnerable, poor neighbors - and you acted!

Because you felt compassion and acted on it lives were changed -- as one lady, who returned to a freezing home soon after a kidney transplant, put it: "I think you saved my life."

With the winter thankfully behind us we are excited to report that this winter you achieved some amazing things:

- You weatherized 96 homes, and provided 123 weatherization kits to families able to install them.
- You gave the warmth of heaters and blankets to over 168 families.
- You repaired the furnaces of 46 older adult home-owners.
- You enabled EnergyCare to make 69 utility pledges - restoring heat where it was needed most.

THANK YOU!!

MEMORIALS

Aloisia Bartolowits
 Robert J. Bergman
 Paul Coulter
 Robert Kaiser, Jr.,
 Lucille Kaiser
 Arthur Campbell
 Daniel A. Nerviani
 Robert and Rose Silies
 Lucille Chukorin
 Frances Laramie
 Pat Kenny
 Jean and Al Bonnett
 Mary and Jack Bante
 LeAnn Pate
 Jim and Tom Kelley
 Laura Witte and Leonard J.
 Kopsky, Sr.
 Barbara Zetcher Lowry
 Tom and Betty Ann Clancy
 Tom Mullen
 Gene Kroupa, Sr.
 John Jack Pimmel
 Kelly Ann Proskey
 Don Reilly
 James H. Seamon
 Ben and Molly Tobolowsky

Joseph and Frances Laramie
 Sr. Patricia Kelley, CCVI

TRIBUTES

Incarnate Word Academy
 Championship Basketball Team
 Sr. Beverly Flynn, for healing
 Mary Ann Hilgeman, CSJ
 Steve, Liz, Bill, and all the staff at
 A's Heating and Cooling
 Avigail Raul, for complete
 recovery to health
 Betsy Ford, for wonderful service
 Happy Birthday to Liza Skroska
 Ronald Zetcher
 Phil and Hazel Merker
 God's graces
 Les Folz congratulations on your
 90th birthday!
 Will Lentz - Happy Birthday!
 Cardinal Raymond Burke -
 "Always a good shepherd"
 Cosimo R. Zucchero

**Thank you to all the people
 who gave in honor of Dennis
 Kelley's retirement!**

NEWS AND NOTES

- As part of the transition between Executive Directors there have been a few other changes at EnergyCare. On the Board, Brandi O'Kelley has been elected as President, and Liza Skroska has joined the Executive Committee as the Secretary. James Owen has been promoted to Director of Development. Congrats all!
- EnergyCare's Trivia Night was held in March. We had a great deal of fun hosting the event and want to thank everyone who helped to make it such a success.

WORDS OF THANKS

- A huge thank you to all of EnergyCare's volunteers this winter! This winter we benefited from a big boost in volunteer help - this special thanks to the LDS Lindell Ward Congregation and the Wash U Graduate Professional Council.
- Thanks to St. Louis University Hospital and Cass Bank for sponsoring Trivia Night 5!

"I was back and forth at children's hospital." said Theresa...

BUT NOT THIS YEAR!

Last year didn't win any records for hot weather! Compared to 2012 it was even relatively mild. But for Theresa and her family it was a nightmare.

Theresa's son, Franklin, suffers from asthma and the heat and humidity were causing him real problems with his breathing. Theresa had to take him to hospital more than once - a frightening ordeal for any parent.

Fortunately, because of the generosity of people like you EnergyCare was able to put an air conditioner in Franklin's bedroom.

"It made a complete 360° turn around - it helped a lot!" If you donated last year, thank you!

Even during a relatively mild summer like last year, people who are poor and sick face real danger. We can't be sure what this summer will hold, but the Farmers' Almanac is predicting above average temperatures.

With your help, this summer EnergyCare will be there for hundreds of medically at-risk families like Theresa's. Our package of services includes: window air conditioners, AC servicing, help

with bills and counseling about how to stay safe. And - new for 2015 - central air repairs for vulnerable home owners!

When we asked Theresa if she had a message for our supporters, she said, *"Keep up the good work - people really need you guys! And Thank you!"*

This year Theresa and Franklin are protected from the heat to come and don't need to worry. However there are many more who are not. Please consider making a donation today to ensure help is available!

THANK YOU! to all the members of the Angels in Action Society. We are blessed to have so many Angels in Action that we had to print them quite small - for a list in larger type or to find out more about the Angels in Action visit www.energycare.org.

Sr. Pat Circle: Hugh & Ann Bergman, Rosemary Hoehn, Keith & Cheryl Kowalczyk. **President's Circle:** Edmund C. Albrecht Jr, Susan Barrett, Mr. & Mrs. Irl Engelhardt, Mary Louise Ernst, Mary Ferguson, Aldo Guidi, David & Roberta Imig, Nancy Kalishman, Carol King Peck, Joanna May, Lawrence & Susan Nordmann, Thomas Rheinberger, John Sprague & Carol Kohfeld, Simon & Mary Tonkin, Carol Wells, Ken & Nancy Winkler. **Chairman's Circle:** Steve Baer, Robert Bartolowits, Frederic Brown III, Margaret Mary Clancy, Joann Collum, Lawrence & Sandra Cramberg, Francesca Di Rollo, Betty Jane Donahoe, Janice & Bill Forsyth, Alice Geary Sgroi, Sara Jean Glickert, Gerald & Mary Holschen, Sid & Julie Holthaus, Lynne Johnson, Stephanie Kardasz, Dennis Kelley, Rev. Donald Koch, Richard & Judith Laitman, Donald & Joyce Lamkin, Susan Lammert, John & Maryfrances Lang, Francine & Joseph Leritz, Dan & Bobbie Lodes, Janet McMahon, Bill & Kathy Molitor, Dr. Blanca Perez, Vincent & Margaret Proskey, Rosalynn & Bernard Purcell, Laura Ray, Julie Reilly, Marjory & James Russell, Sally & Frank Sandy, Chris & Judith Shamel, Joan Slay, Mary & John Straub, Daryl & Janice Thake, Clarence Zacher. **Angels in Action:** Brian Bateman, Carole Ann & Frederic Brown, Allen & Jean Burns, Carol Cahalin, Elizabeth Carver, Carole Warnhoff, Victor & Maureen Clever, Judith & Anson Coverdell, Edward & Katie Cronin, Warren & Sharon Danziger, Ginger Denneen, Victoria Dillon, John & Sue Gates, Doris Gibbons, Kathleen Gund, Mary Ellen Harrison, Cathy Horneyer, Margie Imo, Robert & Andrea Jackson, Kevin & Kristina Jenkins, Susan Poirot Kapetanovic, Kay Karras, M E. Kramer, Joyce & George Kraus, Martha Lanese, Michael Lowell, Stephen & Margaret Mager, Barbara Malchow, Virgil Malmberg, Gregory McCray, Mary McManus, James & Elaine Miller, Mary Lou Mullen, Margaret Murphy, Mary Naeher, John & Sheryl O'Shaughnessy, Jeanne & Dave Puettmann, John & Olivia Rasp, Edward & Carol Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Ritter, William Rogers, Sr. Louise Roseman, Steven & Jacqueline Rouff, Krista Santucci, Vicki Sauter, Judith & Daniel Schnitzmeier, Mr. & Mrs. Phillip Schorr, Chris Yaros, Jeanette Seamon, Gregory & Kathleen Sicard, Norman & Meida Steele, Joan Stepzinski, Suzanne & Daniel Struempf, Michael Thomas, Virginia Uhlmansiek, Barbara Valdes, Judith Willard, Jean Wilmering, Marilyn Woebeking.

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Saving Lives By Degrees...

Inside the Connection

A farewell message from Dennis Kelley

Meet our new Executive Director

Find out how you kept Deborah warm this winter

Read about what summer has in store

And much, much more!