



THE VISIONEER

A Project Update for Our New Vision Campaign Partners

January 2012



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2011 marked an historic year for Mennonite Home Communities as we began construction on the first two Green House Homes in Ohio. Because of the strong support of partners like you, we were able to move forward with a project that has been 7 years in the making. Construction began on October 25th. The foundations are complete, the floor pads are poured and the walls are going up. Wet weather has provided challenges but construction has progressed.

The “Coming Soon” sign states, “Made possible by our generous donors!” That’s you!

Follow construction progress on our Facebook page.

The Visioneer and other MHCN news is available at mmhliving.org/news.



Garlock Brothers Construction based in Findlay, OH has made steady progress on the Green House homes in spite of record rainfall.



Doug Luginbill (Director of Development), Laura Voth (CEO), and Rhonda Wolpert (MMH Green House Guide) talk with Green House Project staff, Lisa Maxwell and Heather Marshall during a day long training for staff .

*A Grand for a Grandparent
is a Grand Success*

Over 40 individuals have committed over \$40,000 in response to the invitation to contribute "A Grand for a Grandparent" which supports the New Vision Campaign.

Many of these donors were first-time donors to Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio. As of December 29, more than \$1,760,000 has been designated, pledged or received toward the \$2.1million goal.

Thank you for moving us ever closer to the New Vision Campaign goal!

**Schowalter Foundation
Grant Funds Staff Education**

Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio received a generous \$7500 grant from the Kansas based Schowalter Foundation to be used to train staff in preparation for the opening of the Green House homes. The Green House concept is based on a three-fold transformation; 1) a physical environment that is a home, 2) a staffing model that utilizes a "universal worker" concept and 3) a focus on elder-centered care which allows for greater decision making and choice by the elder. On December 13-14, Lisa Maxwell (our Project Guide) and Heather Marshall provided workshops and informational gatherings to begin training staff and to answer questions from elders and staff about the Green House concept. A "Project Implementation Team" (PIT) has been put in place, led by Administrator and Green House Guide, Rhonda Wolpert. The PIT is tasked with preparing staff, elders, elder families, and the community for the transformation into Green House living. The Schowalter Foundation grant will help cover some of the costs associated with staff training.

**myth of
the
month**

We've heard from several elders, **"But I don't want to cook if I go to the Green House!"** None of the elders will be required to cook. But, if this is a meaningful and enjoyable activity, elders can participate in cooking, baking, or setting the table. In the Green House it is all about choice!