

Helping change Lives Heart *by* Heart

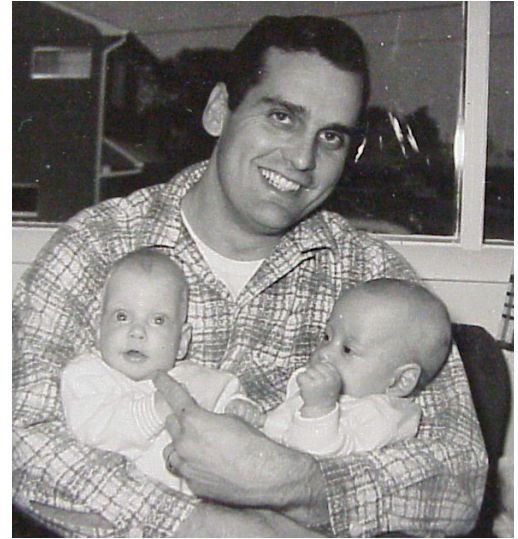
A FATHER'S LOVE

“My dad was focused on the future,” says his daughter, Deb Watkins.

“He always said, I’m not going to live forever, and I need to find a safe place for Marcia and Doug to live. They need to establish their own lives.”

“My dad, Melvin, was in the Navy and got married in 1950. Two years later I was born and within months, my mom was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma. There was little known about treating cancer in the 1950s and the doctors only gave my mom five years to live. Although the news was devastating, joy came into our lives with the announcement of my mom’s pregnancy.”

In April of 1958, Marcia and Doug arrived in the world. Before the ambulance arrived at their home, Melvin had already delivered twin babies. “Dad said each could fit across the palm of his hand. Because they were two months premature, the babies were rushed



Melvin with Marcia and Doug

to the hospital with serious, life-changing disabilities. My mom was also rushed to the hospital and died two weeks later.”

When the twins came home after a long stay in the hospital, Melvin was also caring for five-year-old Deb, and working full time.

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MISSION

To provide a lifetime commitment of *loving care, opportunity, and guidance* for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland.



What a night! As I stood at the podium at our 50th Anniversary Gala, I felt honored and proud to be a part of the Bello Machre family. I saw the familiar faces of people who were an integral part of our story 50 years ago and so many who advocate and carry on the Bello Machre mission today.



Dr. Robert T. Ireland

How thankful I am to be associated with an organization that makes such an impact on the lives of people with developmental disabilities — and their families.

Marcia, who is featured in our cover story, lived at Bello Machre from the beginning. As you will read, Bello Machre was there for her family in their greatest time of need. Now, these 50 years later, we continue to provide Marcia with lifelong loving care.

I hope you know that your involvement over the years has been critical in our journey. As we embark on our next 50 years, your ongoing support will be vital to our success.

Accordingly, I'm pleased to share with you our plans for a \$10 million initiative that will help grow our **Legacy Fund** and will provide the financial safety net for generations to come. This initiative will also secure funding to help us build new homes and provide more opportunities for those we support. By securing our financial future, we can keep our promise to families that we will be there for their loved one – **today, tomorrow and always.**

I'm so grateful for your past contributions and support and I'm looking forward to your participation in the next chapter of the Bello Machre story.

Sincerely,



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Visit [www. BelloMachre.org](http://www.BelloMachre.org)
Learn how you can help.



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and Carroll Counties

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1972-2022



“What I loved about Bello Machre from day one was the feeling of family. The fact that we had live-in caregivers, some who were parental, others who were like older siblings. But most importantly, it was the feeling of loving care that I felt from the day I started. I loved the fact that Bello Machre had been started by family members whose vision spread throughout the whole organization.”

– Dr. Robert Ireland



PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Bello Machre means *home of my heart* in Gaelic. This meaning is reflected in our mission: a lifetime commitment of loving care, opportunities, and guidance for people with developmental disabilities in Maryland. For over 50 years, we have provided residential and community-based services that help those we support live rich, fulfilling lives. Each person served by Bello Machre will always enjoy a meaningful day based on their needs and desires. Learn more about our programs and services below.

The Jesse and Hertha Adams Ray of Hope

Program — We provide assistance to help meet the needs of individuals and families. From specialized summer camp to physical therapy and adaptive equipment expenses, Bello Machre will help families no matter the challenges they face.

Personal Supports Services — We offer people with developmental disabilities the opportunity to achieve their personal goals in a meaningful way that allows them to live as independent a lifestyle as possible. Direct Support Professionals work with individuals to access community-based social, educational, and leisure activities. Day-to-day living supports are provided as needed.

Respite Care is an add-on service to Personal Supports that provides planned or emergency relief for primary caregivers. We can arrange for community-based or in-home care for an extended period of time, up to 21 days.

With Personal Supports, your loved one will grow and thrive in the community

Meaningful Day Services — We provide community-based adult day services, including Community Development Services and Supported Employment Services, for people with developmental disabilities ages 21 and above.

Community Development Services include social, recreational, and volunteer opportunities in a 1:4 (staff to individuals) setting so that individual needs and desires are met.

Employment Services focus on helping your loved one find a job in the community. Employment specialists assist the people we support to explore career options and provide job development, training, and coaching services.

No matter what, our focus is to enrich the lives of those we support through activities within the community that promote your loved one’s personal and/or professional growth.

Residential Services — We care for people in Bello Machre-owned homes where they feel safe and loved. A Family Living Director (house manager) and other Direct Support Professionals guide and help those we serve so they can grow, develop, and live life to the fullest.

Share Your Life — Contact us today to find out how you can develop a meaningful connection and have a direct impact on the people we serve.

Bello Machre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization registered with the Maryland Secretary of State. It serves children and adults with developmental disabilities without regard to race, religion, gender, or national origin.

Visit www.BelloMachre.org for more information



bello machre
50th
ANNIVERSARY

gala

Bello Machre celebrated its 50th Anniversary Gala at the stunning Maryland Live Hotel and Casino on October 21, 2022.

Sponsors, donors, staff, individuals, and family members gathered to enjoy an evening of celebration. Guests were embraced by Bello Machre’s signature blue and gold décor along with posters showcasing snapshots of our journey throughout the years. Capital City Swag serenaded guests with sweet harmonies as they danced, dined, and reminisced. The beautiful commemoration was fit for five decades of hard work, commitment, and community building.

As we reflect on our rich history, we cannot wait for the bright future ahead!



Celebrating
our Dream

The founding parents of Bello Machre had a dream for a better life for their sons and daughters. In the 1960s and early 1970s, parents often cared for their children at home knowing that the only other option for help was institutional life. Many parents, however, could not fathom their children sleeping in a 50-bed ward, having to openly share bathrooms and showers, without any opportunity for organized activities and enrichment.

Bello Machre’s founding parents had a vision. They knew that the possibilities were endless if their children were afforded a safe and loving environment where they could learn life skills and be given opportunities to flourish and live as independently as possible. As special education schools were created and opening across the country, our founding parents were further inspired to open our first campus homes in 1972.

By the early 1980s, instead of expanding the existing campus program, Bello Machre opened its first community home in Glen Burnie. This was truly the start of the movement for full social inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental



50th Anniversary Gala SPONSORS

Platinum

SCLogic

Gold

Civitan Club of Glen Burnie, Inc.
Mullen, Sondberg, Wimbish
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Ms. Ella Smith & Mr. Paul West

Entertainment

Bank of Glen Burnie
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J&H Power Equipment, Inc.
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Tential



Gala emcee, Connor, is the life of the party at our Golden Anniversary celebration.



Bello Machre's Dr. Robert Ireland receives the Governor's Citation from Carol A. Beatty, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Disabilities.



Staff and guests enjoy the live music and spending the evening together.

disabilities. The dream of our founding parents — for all people with developmental disabilities to live joyfully, feel love, and find meaning in the communities in which they live — was now a reality.

Today, 50 years later, Bello Machre has 50 fully-accessible homes throughout Anne Arundel and Carroll Counties supporting 200 people, providing around the clock loving care. In addition to providing assistance and support to families in the community, Bello Machre has a successful, ever-expanding Community Services Program. This program includes our Meaningful Day and Employment Services, both providing opportunities for independence, productivity, and personal growth.

Bello Machre proudly continues the legacy of its founding families, fulfilling their mission and vision of providing a lifetime of loving care and opportunities to people with developmental disabilities.

The Golden Anniversary Gala celebrates and commemorates the milestone. Thank you for your support and generosity. 🌟

1972

From the first campus home to living life to the fullest.

2022

"All I can say is THANK YOU – thank you for making Bello Machre possible! What a 50 years it's been for the people we support." – Dr. Robert Ireland



50th anniversary memories





Norma and Tom Hoff, Legacy Donors, enjoy the photo booth as they enter the Gala celebration.



BOOKMARK THE EVENT

As our 50th Anniversary Gala came to a close, guests were treated to goodie-bags as a parting gift. Inside of each goodie-bag was a special bookmark designed and created by one of the wonderful people we support. These beautiful bookmarks featured the name of its artist, as well as a statement of thanks from Bello Machre. We hope all guests enjoy their bookmarks as a remembrance gift in honor of our 50th Anniversary Gala!



Thank you all for celebrating this important milestone with us.

Check out our 50th Anniversary video on YouTube! youtube.com/bellomachreinc



Bello Machre is grateful for its

SUPERSTAR STAFF!

Loving Care Lifts Spirits



“It’s been incredible to see the bond between Joey and Nene grow stronger every day,” says Fillie Faboe, Residential Program Director. Recently, Fillie shared that Joey celebrated an incredible success thanks to the support and love from his Family Living Director, Nene. It had been 7 years since Joey last used the Hoyer lift in his home. Staff had made countless attempts to help him feel more comfortable with using the lift, but to no avail — until Nene joined his home as the new Family Living Director.

Nene and Joey’s connection seemed instant. In almost no time, Nene had Joey smiling and trying things outside of his comfort zone, including using the Hoyer lift! Fillie concludes, *“Bello Machre truly means it when they say that we provide loving care — Nene is the perfect example of that!”*

A Direct Support Professional Celebration — THANK YOU!



“Our Direct Support Professionals are truly the backbone of Bello Machre,” says Doctor Ireland, CEO.

In recognition of the selfless, amazing work that our caring support staff do each and every day, Bello Machre hosted Food Truck Friday at both their Anne Arundel and Carroll County locations in September. Direct Support Professionals enjoyed the beautiful fall day with a delicious lunch and lots of mingling. Everyone took home a cozy Bello Machre fleece, too.



Halloween Traditions

“You’re never too old to enjoy Halloween!” exclaims Carly Huezo, Program Manager. Over the course of October, our fun, supportive staff helped the people we support find their Halloween spirit through decorations, costumes, and sharing sweet treats. *“We look forward to decorating our home for Halloween every year,”* says Tayborie. *“[Family Living Director] Jennifer is really good at helping us make everything look perfect!”*



A FATHER'S LOVE...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

There were many struggles early on as there were very few services to help moms and dads who had kids with special needs.

As Marcia and Doug became teenagers, Melvin heard about a movement in Anne Arundel County where parents had gotten together to develop group homes for people with developmental disabilities.

“I remember visiting the campus with my dad and feeling such a sense of family. Dad knew from the start that Bello Machre could provide the help our family so desperately needed.” He saw in Bello Machre a loving, caring environment that would provide a lifelong home for the twins.”

Marcia and Doug moved into two of Bello Machre's first community homes in 1972 when our doors opened. Melvin was a big part of their lives until his passing in 2016.

“I wish my dad could have seen Marcia and Doug at the Anniversary Gala where we celebrated 50 years of life and love at Bello Machre. Bello Machre has been a true blessing for our family,” Deb concludes. 🌻



Marcia (left) supports her friends at Every Step Counts.



Marcia (right) and her Bello Machre family at one of our first community homes.

A MEANINGFUL SIBLING CELEBRATION AND MEMORY AT THE GALA!



Deb and her husband Xxxx celebrated to the fullest with Marcia and Doug.

GOLF TOURNAMENT GIVING TOPS \$125,000!

Bello Machre hosted its 38th Annual Golf Tournament at the picturesque Queenstown Harbor Golf Course on September 14. Sponsors, players, and volunteers came together to enjoy a beautiful day of fall sunshine on a peaceful golf course complete with views of water and wildlife. As usual, everyone devoured the delicious food at our famous Sausage Stop and had a blast awarding their weakest link at our Worst Drive Hole. We want to thank everyone who made our 38th annual tournament a triumphant success!



Commercial Insurance Managers with Dr. Ireland.

We hope to see you on **Wednesday, September 13, 2023**, for our 39th Annual Golf Tournament! 🌟



VIP registration with a smile.



Tential group gathers for a photo.



SCLogic's perfect line up!





Sausage Stop



Cattail Construction



Awardees!



A sausage break for this foursome!

Golf Tournament SPONSORS

Presenting Sponsor

Commercial Insurance Managers

Platinum

SCLogic
Skyline Technology Solutions
Tential

Gold

Absolute Fire Protection
Cattail Construction, Inc.
Community Bank of the Chesapeake

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Bronze

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Awards

Murray McGehrin Group - Merrill Lynch

Beverage Hole

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Five Star Painting

Tee/Green

Arundel Federal Savings Bank
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Bay Engineering, Inc.
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Kelly Benefits
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Travel by LuAnn

In-Kind

Bello Machre Employees
Costco Wholesale Club
Queenstown Harbor Golf Course

Check out our Golf Tournament 2022 video on YouTube!
[youtube.com/bellomachreinc](https://www.youtube.com/bellomachreinc)



Absolute Fire Protection



Worst Drive Hole



'Tis the Season to Volunteer...and Give!

- Donate a \$25 grocery store gift card to purchase a Thanksgiving turkey for one of our community homes.
- Bring holiday excitement to one of our homes by joining those who live there in adorning it with festive décor.
- Donate airline miles or tickets to movies, sporting events, or amusement parks.
- Spend quality time with one of the people we serve.
- Adopt-a-Home – be partnered with one of our community homes and commit to friendly monthly visits, purchasing items from their Amazon wish lists, and more!

Are you shopping with Amazon Smile?

You can give back while doing your holiday shopping! Simply visit smile.amazon.com, shop to your heart's content, and choose Bello Machre as your charity of choice. A portion of your eligible purchases will automatically be donated to Bello Machre!

CALL OR EMAIL US TODAY! Contact Lindsey Norris to volunteer or donate. **443-702-3064** or volunteer@bellomachre.org

“For it is in giving that we receive.”

- Saint Francis of Assisi



Skyline Technology Solutions, one of Bello Machre's amazing business partners, loves helping the people we support decorate for the holidays.

upcoming events

Bello Machre's Walk & Bike EVENT



Every Step Counts

.....
**SATURDAY,
JUNE 10, 2023**
.....



Bello Machre, Inc.
7765 Freetown Road
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Help is a Phone Call Away!

Phone: 443.702.3000
Fax: 410.360.5049
Email questions to:
tlynott@bellomachre.org
www.BelloMachre.org

