# Helping change Lives Heart by Heart

# Handmade with Love

"Kelly has been so fulfilled having her own business," explains mom, Carolyn Sigmon. "She enjoys making the products, discussing new ideas, and interacting with people."

Running a business might not be everyone's calling in life, but it sure is Kelly's! Kelly Sigmon is a member of our Meaningful Day Services in Carroll County, and has her very own business, Kelly's Homemades.

Kelly's Homemades is a beauty business that sells homemade bath bombs, sugar scrubs, whipped body butter, and more, all with natural ingredients!

Recently, Kelly was featured on CBS Baltimore to talk about her business and its impact on the community.

"The experience of being interviewed was very exciting for us. We received many orders after the story aired. It was so rewarding, and Kelly has even said it was the biggest event of her life. She loves that she inspires other people, with and without disabilities, to start their own businesses."

Kelly started her business shortly after graduating postsecondary school with help from Mom and Bello Machre Employment Specialist, Ashlie Pack. If you missed Kelly on CBS Baltimore, you can find her and her fabulous products at local craft fairs and farmer's markets in Carroll County.

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Kelly selling her handmades!

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Upcoming Events

# MISSION

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

2023 SPRING/ SUMMER



Dr. Robert T. Ireland PRESIDENT & CEO

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Larry Cate Andrew Cooch, Esq. John S. Goldthwait, Jr. Quinn Salamandra Jimmy Rey Tadlock, III Micky V. Thomas I want to share some exciting news with you. We are experiencing a period of explosive growth, allowing us to touch even more lives and support more families. There's a buzz emanating from Bello Machre, and it's spreading out in the community as we continue our journey of loving care and opportunity.

At the beginning of the summer, Teia, Barbara, and Suzanne burst with pride as they showcased their new home to local community leaders, staff, and board members at our Phillips Home Dedication & Open House. This wonderous occasion was made possible thanks to the Phillips Charitable Foundation, whose generous grant helped build this fully accessible, state-of-the-art home — something that will leave a lasting impact for years to come. You can read more about the dedication on page 5.

Our commitment to providing a lifetime of loving care and opportunity for the people we support is deeply rooted in our staff, who are the cornerstone of Bello Machre. In recognition of their importance, and to attract and keep outstanding staff, we have a responsibility to provide them with the compensation they deserve. With this in mind, we announced a 20% pay raise for our Direct Support Professionals. These efforts reflect our commitment to supporting the 450 amazing individuals who touch the lives of those we support.

I hope you know that we are able to share this exciting news and continue on this journey of growth because of your generosity! I cannot say it enough — THANK YOU. Thank you to our generous supporters, amazing staff, inspiring Board of Directors, friends and partners out in the community, and the wonderful individuals and families it is our honor to support. We could not do it without you.

Rit J. Jull

Visit www. BelloMachre.org



Learn how you can help.

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube. *Share your connection.* 



## **COMMUNITY SOCIAL**

We salute Mike Saldi, Bello Machre Board Member, who continues to share the Bello Machre story. Mike was introduced to Bello Machre through our Employment Services Program. Since 2019, SCLogic has employed an individual through our Meaningful Day Services.

Last winter, Mike and several members from the SCLogic team visited Bello Machre's Roseanne Home. He and his team met with the residents and saw firsthand how each of the individuals live independent and full lives. They also felt the love and joy shared not only between the residents, but through the care and support of their family living director. Mike wanted to share his experience and thought — people NEED to see and feel this!

In June, Mike invited friends and colleagues out to meet Dr. Ireland and learn more about Bello Machre. During the informational event, Dr. Ireland presented an educational video on Bello Machre's community homes and opened a Q&A session.

"Mike brings an enthusiasm for Bello Machre's mission which he has generously shared in the community. As a very successful entrepreneur, Mike's background is invaluable as Bello Machre continues to grow and expand," says Griff Hall, Chair of the Board of Directors."

It's wonderful events such as these that allow Bello Machre to spread the word about the amazing people we support, our amazing caregivers, and why community involvement is so important. Thank you, Mike, for your continued support and advocacy!



## **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 adoptive 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 in a 1:1 setting to support them in accessing community-based social, educational, and leisure activities. Although Personal Supports Services focus on providing supports in the community, 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 the people we serve can be active members of the community.

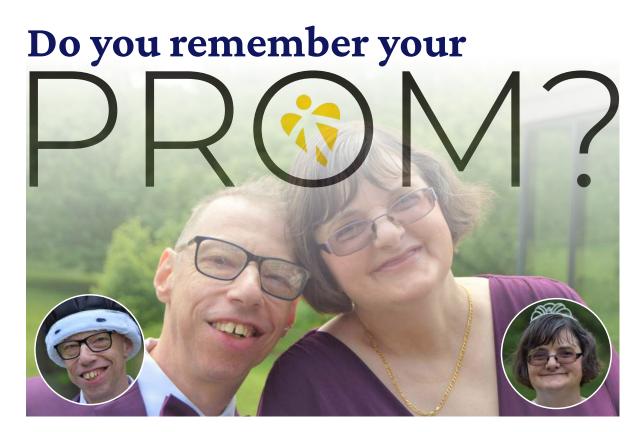
Employment Services focus on helping your loved one find competitive employment opportunities in the community. Employment specialists assist the people we support to explore career options and provide job development, training, and coaching services.

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.



Bello Machre residents David and Candice will never forget theirs. Crowned King and Queen of the 2023 Prom, David and Candice danced the night away.

The 2023 Prom was put on by Therapeutic Recreation a division of Baltimore City Recreation and Parks. Their smiles radiated as they posed for photos showing off their crowns. Many other Bello Machre participants had an equally exciting night — Kenny, Ryan and Courtney were awarded Prom Court.





# Handmade with Love

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Other Bello Machre entrepreneurs include Brianda Plendel and Todd Valway who are also part of our Meaningful Day Program.

Brianda runs Puzzled Pet Treats LLC, a pet treat company that goes by their motto, "People Tested. Pet Approved." Tracy Lynott exclaims, "The treats are really good! Our dog Bodie absolutely loves them and he could not get enough!"

Another entrepreneur enjoys selling his custom art! Crafts by Spike owner Todd "Spike" Valway creates wooden art pieces in a variety of styles and designs. These wooden masterpieces feature fun characters, animals, funny quotes, and more!



Brianda showing off a tasty dog treat!



Spike and his wonderful woodworks.

If you want to stay on top of these entrepreneurs and their upcoming events, you can follow Kelly and her business on Facebook at Kelly's Homemades, and Brianda's business at Puzzled Pet Treats LLC.



## PHILLIPS HOME

On June 1st, Bello Machre proudly opened its newest fully accessible community home located on Wright Road in Hanover, Maryland. Named the "Phillips Home," the house receives its name from Howard W. Phillips, Jr., the namesake of the Phillips Charitable Foundation.

The opening of this home was made possible thanks to a generous \$116,500 grant presented by the Phillips Charitable Foundation.

Eileen Gross, founder and president of the Phillips Charitable Foundation, explains, "We've had six years of great partnership with Bello Machre and this project is really special. When you say, 'lasting impact,' it really is."

To celebrate the joyous occasion, Bello Machre welcomed staff, family members, Board members, and community leaders to the home's opening.

"It's really my honor to be here today. I'm so proud of the work that Bello Machre does," expressed Senator Pam Beidle.

Senator Pam Beidle, as well as Delegates Sandy Bartlett, Mark Chang, and Mike Rogers, were present to welcome the home into the community and present congratulatory citations from the Maryland General Assembly.

After commencements, attendees enjoyed home tours and meeting with the home's new residents, Teia, Barbara, and Suzanne, who were all extremely excited and proud to showcase their new home.



Phillips Founder and President, Eileen Gross; Development Director Tracy Lynott; Jennifer Good from Phillips Foundation; and Dr. Ireland



Delegate Chang, with Residential Program Director Jackie Hutton and Vice President Julie Provan



Delegate Bartlett presenting a Delegate's Citation to Dr. Ireland



Delegate Chang, Board Member Jimmy Rey Tadlock III, Senator Beidle, and Board Chair Griff Hall



# Fundraising surpasses \$225,000!

Bello Machre's biggest fundraising event, Every Step Counts, was held in two locations again this year: at Manchester Valley High School in Manchester, MD, and in front of the new Health & Life Sciences Building at Anne Arundel Community College in Arnold, MD, on June 10, 2023. It was a picture-perfect day full of smiles, positive energy, and good vibes. An estimated 300 people came out to walk and celebrate and donate to the cause. There was no shortage of generosity, as giving surpassed \$225,000, making ESC 2023 one for the record books!

"I have not seen or heard this much excitement and enthusiasm surrounding Every Step Counts in a long time," shares Vice President & COO Julie Provan. "It's amazing!"

The top three individual fundraisers for ESC 2023 were Lynn Zephir (\$4,715), Shane Ireland (\$4,600), and Janis Ellis (\$3,764).

The top three fundraising teams for ESC 2023 were Tential (\$9,945), AA Residential (\$6,415), and Westview Drive Home (\$4,545). EVERY steps counts 2023









Bello Machre would like to thank its generous sponsors, donors, and volunteers who helped make Every Step Counts a giant success!



Check out our Every Step Counts 2023 video on our Website, Facebook, and YouTube!



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 33RD ESC · JUNE 8, 2024

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Ms. Lawanda Stewart

#### Gifts In Kind & Event Participants

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Ms. Tina Marie Brown-Evans

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Matthew LaMartina Ms. Valerie Gaspari

Dorothy Long Mr. Steven Askew & Ms. Joni Dietrich

Jerry Matiz NSA Civilian Welfare Fund

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Mary Honora Wohlgemuth Ms. Mary Bauer Ms. Sandi Blasetti Ms. Gracie Burger Ms. Gretchen Calvert Ms. Marilyn Coolidge Ms. Andrea Gretsky Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kaplan Ms. Amanda Lanciano Ms. Anne Marculewicz Ms. Bane McCormick Mr. & Mrs. Dan Mellin Ms. Martha Merz Mr. Sean O'Donovan Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Oudens Ms. Nancy Prendergast Ms. Alexandra Rentschler Ms. Betty M. Reynolds Mr. & Mrs. M. Delmar Ritchie Ms. Kellie Schindel Ms. Amy Watson Ms. Lindsay Webb Mr. Daniel Wohlgemuth



### Honor Gifts

Annick Dolard

Mr. & Mrs. Francis Dolard

Ms. Carol Graham

#### Joe & Grace LaMartina

Mr. & Mrs. Susan & Jim Gallion Mr. & Mrs. Anthony A. LaMartina Mr. & Mrs. John LaMartina Mr. & Mrs. Mac & Debra McCoil Ms. Kelly Morris Ms. Tammy Turpin Mr. Todd Voorhese

#### Tracy Lynott

Mrs. Mary Lynn Fisher

Daniel & Tonya Mathias Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Mathias

Jennifer & Timothy Miller Mrs. Audrey Miller

Rob Morgan Ms. Margaret Morgan

Michael Reynolds Mr. & Mrs. Steven A. Marshall

Gary Schiren Mr. William R. Schiren, Sr.

Katherine Zorn Ms. Maryse Maillochon Petassis

# Thank You!

## **A GIVING PARTNERSHIP**

Audrey Miller and her late husband Charles have been very generous donating over \$76,000 over 30 years. Their children, Jen and Tim have been a part of the Bello Machre family first through our community services program and now living together in a fully-accessible home.

Helping to secure Bello Machre's future, Audrey made an incredible donation of \$40,000 through a Charitable Gift Annuity. This gift will provide her with a secure source of fixed payments for life and a charitable income tax deduction. She made this gift as a Perpetual Tribute in honor of her children, Tim and Jen.

Thank you, Audrey, for your continued support and generosity for over 30 years.





"Bello Machre has taken care of my kids for many years, and I know they will continue to do so over their lifetime." -Audrey

#### CONTACT US TODAY

Email tracy.lynott@bellomachre.org or call 443-702-3016 to donate or answer any questions.

## AMAZING! 1,236 Volunteer Hours

Ms. Pam Abbott Ms. Peggie Solley Ms. Karen Agee Mr. Jody Allen Mr. Abdulraheem Alshanegiti Mr Michael Amwoga Asbury United Methodist Church Mr. Gregory Avara Mrs. Laura Avara Ms. Mashaal Awan Mr. Jamison Beck Dr. David Bittings Mrs. Randon Bittings Ms. Aristin Bittings Ms. Felicia Blackman Ms Crystal Brownlee Mr. Todd Harris Ms. Ronita Brown Mr. Thomas Byrnes Mr. Nick Caleo Mr. Larry Cate Ms. Alicia Chamblee Mr. Andrew Cooch, Esq. Ms. Ellen Daihl Ms. Deena Dib Mr. & Mrs. James & Krystal Dorsey Ms. Candace Dukes Mr. & Mrs. Chip Elgert Mrs. Janis Ellis Ms. Tameka Estwick Mrs. Juanita Evans Mr. Ife Fadele Ms. Michelle Fadele Ms. Destiny Fleming

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Ms. Kiara Moore Ms. Candice Mumpower Ms. Cecilia Okpodu Ms. Brenna Palmer Ms. Kendra Parker Mr. Rich Saad Mr. Quinn Salamandra Mr. Michael Saldi Mr Wilfredo Sanchez Ms. Gracie Soloman Mr. Connor Skalitzky Mr. & Mrs. Robert Skalitzky Skyline Technology Solutions Ms. Elizabeth Spearman Mr. Jimmy Rey Tadlock, III Ms. Micky Thomas Ms. Patricia M. Timmons Ms Cheryl Umana Mr. & Mrs. Stan

& Stephanie Walder Mr. Robert Welenc Ms. Pamela West Ms. LuAnn Wilkins Ms. Tamara Williams Sky Word Mr. David Wynkoop Mrs. Lynn Zephir



Skyline Technology Solutions continually supports Bello Machre and adopts Crest Lane. Janice Holsonbake and Nick Caleo lead the charge to prepare Crest Lane for a beautiful summer. As a team, they took on yard work, planted flower beds, fixed dinners, and accompanied individuals on relaxing strolls. Skyline is an active sponsor and has been a loyal supporter for over 12 years. Thank you for your dedication and supporting our individuals. Your time with us truly impacts the Bello Machre family.

## WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

- Decorate the outside of a Bello Machre home for Halloween, Thanksgiving, or the holidays!
- Rake leaves and plant fall flowers to prepare the yards of our homes for the winter season.
- Donate Thanksgiving dinner baskets including a grocery store gift card to help with the purchase of a turkey or ham.
- Visit one of our community homes and accompany the people we support by taking walks, doing puzzles, baking, and watching the Ravens and Orioles play.
- Adopt one of our community homes' Amazon Wish Lists and provide the items that will *make dreams come true*.

#### CONTACT US TODAY

Email alexis.jaynes@bellomachre.org or call 443-702-3064 to volunteer.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

p 443.702.3000 f 410.437.3749



p 443.821.3386 f 667.367.2462