

Helping change **Lives** Heart *by* Heart

THE LIGHT OF OUR LIFE



Lisa grew up in a loving home with her parents Ed and Arlene.

Dancing, Girl Scouts, travel, and the Pittsburgh Steelers surrounded her life. She loved traveling the country with her parents and adored everything Disney. Each year they visited the Magic Kingdom, where the family made many memories. Lisa and her parents traveled everywhere together — she was the light of their life.

On most weekends in the fall and winter you would find the family on a road trip to Pittsburgh to see their beloved Steelers. “We never missed a home game,” Arlene says. “If the Steelers were playing, Lisa was in the stands. For 28 years we went to the games, and Lisa even had a coveted Steelers hard hat.

Like many parents, Arlene and Ed were concerned about the future. They reached out to Bello Machre because they wanted to



Lisa with her parents, Ed and Arlene

make sure they had a plan for Lisa. They wanted to make sure that Lisa would have a home for life. After visiting and meeting the staff, they knew that Bello Machre was the right place for Lisa.

In 2020, after a doctor’s visit, their lives were forever changed. Lisa was diagnosed with cancer.

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MISSION

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



president's message

As I reflect on the 50th Anniversary of Bello Machre, I first think of our founding families. Families who inspired a vision of loving care that remains as the foundation for our leaders, Board of Directors, and employees. I continue to be honored to carry the torch helping to fulfill this vision...



Dr. Robert T. Ireland

In the early years, there was much uncertainty for parents. Other than institutional placement, there were very limited services for people with developmental disabilities. Our Bello Machre families and community members were pioneers establishing group homes, creating educational opportunities, and pushing for community integration. These parents were motivated because they wanted to ensure a loving and caring life for their children when they were no longer able to care for them.

Fifty years later, our dedicated staff, Board of Directors, and hundreds of volunteers and supporters never stop pushing to ensure the people we support live full and rich lives. The people we serve and support are involved in the fabric of community life. We strive for every person who is connected to Bello Machre to have the opportunity to love and be loved.

Our founding families, as well as our past and current staff, families, and volunteers, have had a profound effect not only on me, but also on thousands of people who have been touched by their vision.

I thank our family of supporters and your 50 years of giving. You have helped make the vision of our founding families a reality at Bello Machre.



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Check out our new training and activity building on the Bello Machre campus. The building will provide a state-of-the-art training space for our employees as well as a large activity and gathering space for our individuals to enjoy. Stay tuned for our grand opening!

EXTRA SPECIAL SUMMER VOLUNTEERS



Over the summer, student engineers from Archbishop Spalding High School's Robotics Team designed and constructed wheelchair accessible picnic tables for the people we support!

Ryan Rich, club President, says, "Our Robotics coach has a son with autism. So, making sure we serve people with disabilities is a critical objective for us and something that's close to my heart."

Ryan and fellow team members came to Bello Machre's campus where they constructed the accessible picnic tables from wood they cut at their school workshop. Each table has two benches that can be removed so wheelchairs can roll up and comfortably fit at the table.

And of course, we love that the tables were painted in Bello Machre's blue and yellow colors. **Thank you, Cavineer engineers, for sharing your time and talents with us! The people we support are sure to enjoy your tables for years to come!**

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

OPEL ON THE GO!



Lola (l) and the ladies of the Opel Drive Home – (l to r) Mary, Joan, Carol, and Judy).

Joan, Mary, Judith, & Marie

Joan, Mary, Judith, and Marie love their community and are always on the go. They love bowling, picnics in the park, and, of course, shopping. Whether it's going to the Dollar Store or to the Annapolis Mall, these ladies were born to shop! But when it comes to their favorite activity, there is no competition: it's Lori's Book Club.

"Each month we set up a calendar of community events," says Lola, the Family Living Director at our Opel Road home. "It could be a movie, bowling, shopping, or out to dinner. The ladies will give input, and then we decide together our plan. Lori's Book Club is always on the top of the list."

Lori Skalitzky, an avid volunteer at Bello Machre, comes out to read various books with the ladies. Lola, says, "The ladies love when Lori comes in to read, as she transports them to another time and place." They are so excited about what adventures lie ahead for the characters they hear about. Lori chimes in:



Lori (center front) and her book club ladies.

"I absolutely love my time reading with **Lola's Ladies!** I so look forward to their smiling faces and our chats about the story. We just happily finished *Little House in the Big Woods*, and now we will be jumping into not one but two new books: *Harry Potter* and *Heidi*." Lori continues, "Lola is wonderful at scheduling my visits, and I can really feel the love in the house."

You would not know by looking at the photos and the schedule they keep that all the ladies are considered seniors — aged 55+. Lola laughs, "They all love to keep busy and be out and about. They like to keep me on my toes."



THE LIGHT OF OUR LIFE...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Arlene said, "We were heartbroken and could not believe this was happening to our dear Lisa." Additionally, Arlene and Ed had to navigate doctor's visits and going in and out of the hospital during COVID-19.

Tragically, last year Lisa lost her battle with cancer. Ed and Arlene were devastated. Through their grief and broken hearts, Ed and Arlene Warzel continued to think of Bello Machre and the many meaningful experiences Lisa had through our programs. They wanted to give back. They did so with an exceptionally generous gift to Bello Machre in their will. The gift was given in memory of their precious Lisa. Because of their very generous gift, others with developmental disabilities will have the opportunity to live life to its fullest. 🌻



Special moments at the Magic Kingdom.



Lisa was the life of the party.



Lisa getting ready to board the Disney Cruise.

THE LISA MARIE WARZEL HOME

In honor of the memory of Lisa and the generosity of Arlene and Ed, Bello Machre proudly dedicated its Otis Drive Home in Hanover, Maryland on Tuesday August 9th as The Lisa Marie Warzel Home — or, as it will be better known: "Lisa's Home."

Local dignitaries, employees, family members, Board members, neighbors, and friends were there to bear witness of this important occasion. Tears of joy were shed as stories were shared about Lisa's life.

Ed and Arlene reflected, "The dedication was beyond joyful. It was a wonderful tribute to our beautiful Lisa. Knowing that she will be remembered for a LONG, LONG, LONG time and helping so many individuals fills our hearts with joy. It was a pleasure to meet some of the residents and families and to see



their rooms and the happiness there is in each one. Thanks to all of the Bello Machre family for the wonderful tribute that was given for our beautiful Lisa."

Look on our social media for the Warzel Video Story!



Ed and Arlene at the dedication with Dr. Ireland.

every step counts 2022



Our amazing community of Bello Machre sponsors, volunteers, and supporters came together to make Every Step Counts 2022 one of the best to date. To celebrate Bello Machre and the people we support, we held two concurrent Every Step Counts Events on June 11, 2022 — one at Anne Arundel Community College in Anne Arundel County and one at Manchester Valley High School in Carroll County. Collectively, we raised over \$150,000! Approximately 300 people came out to walk at our two great locations. Despite the rain, the enthusiasm was contagious and the generosity over the top. It was a great day for the Bello Machre family and community! 🌟



Dr. Ireland greets Mark Glover - longtime friend of Bello Machre!



Kathryn with her Skyline family.



Rain or shine in Carroll County!



Bello Machre family unites at Every Step Counts 2022.



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**Check out our Every Step Counts 2022 video on
our Website, Facebook, and YouTube!**



*Kelly (I) takes a break from her emcee
duties at ESC Carroll County.*



*Courtney (I) with mom and dad
getting ready to walk.*



Bello Machre volunteers rock!



Carroll County crew.



The Sage Home never misses an ESC celebration!

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Asbury United Methodist Church

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2022 has and continues to be a time of celebration for Bello Machre, marking 50 years of caring and changing lives — heart by heart. Your generosity helps pave the way for the next 50 years as we celebrate our staff, donors, volunteers, and the people we love and support.

Thank You

Fall begins the Bello Machre Holiday Season

Ways to Help or 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 keep the people we support company while doing the things everyone enjoys — taking walks, doing puzzles, baking, watching TV, etc.
- Adopt one of our community homes' Amazon Wish Lists and provide the items that will make dreams come true.

CONTACT US TODAY: Email Lindsey.Norris@bellomachre.org or call us at 443-702-3000 to schedule a donation or to volunteer!

Please be on the lookout for our **Holiday Giving Opportunities.** See how you can help to brighten the holidays for those we support.



Thanks to Brianna Knight who delivered baskets of hearty Thanksgiving food to Bello Machre homes.

upcoming events



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Bello Machre's 38th Annual Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 14, 2022

Queenstown Harbor Golf Course in
Queenstown, Maryland

Sponsorships Welcome
www.BelloMachre.org/golf-tournament

2022 Golden Anniversary Gala

Friday, October 21, 2022

6:30-11:00pm
Maryland Live
Hanover, Maryland

Sponsorships Welcome 
www.BelloMachre.org/50

PLEASE JOIN US!

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Help is a Phone Call Away!

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Email questions to:
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