

2025
FALL/
WINTER

Helping change *Lives* Heart *by* Heart

Lily's Life with Loving Care

When Katie and Jeff Heyman began thinking about their daughter Lily's future, they knew they wanted more than just a program. They wanted a place where she could truly thrive.

They found that place in Bello Machre.

"When Lily turned 18, we started the process of trying to figure out what adult life was going to look like for her," Katie shared. "She graduated from the Harbor School when she was 21, and it was really important to me that transition be as smooth as possible because I knew it was going to be so different from what she was used to. In high school she had girls club, outdoor club, dances, and plays — all of these wonderful things that come to a screeching halt after graduation. From that moment forward we knew that's where we wanted to be," she recalled.

The Heymans explored other service providers, but those environments didn't feel like the right fit for Lily. That changed when the family connected with Moonlit Acres, an organization that works closely with Bello Machre, and met Holly and Todd, who introduced them to Bello Machre.

Since joining Bello Machre, Lily has discovered new passions and gained confidence through Community Development Services and the



Lily with her fun-loving family

Skills Tree Program. She volunteered at Carroll Lutheran Village's gift shop, explored employment opportunities, and continues to grow through meaningful activities that bring her joy. Even when something wasn't the right fit, staff listened closely and worked with her family to find new opportunities that matched her interests.

Her dad, Jeff, has seen the difference every day. "Watching her come home happy has been incredible," he said. "When Lily's happy, we're all happy."

For Lily, the joy comes from the people she spends her days with. "Ashley helps me when I'm feeling upset," she said.

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MISSION

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





Dr. Robert T. Ireland
PRESIDENT & CEO



Use the QR code to watch Spike and me share more about Bello Machre's mission on CBS Baltimore.

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I wish you could see what I see every day.

You would see the pride on someone's face as they fold their clothes for the first time, the joy of a person learning to feed themselves, and the confidence that comes with moving freely in a wheelchair. You would hear laughter echoing through our homes and feel the warmth of friendships growing stronger with each shared moment. These quiet victories fill Bello Machre with life and remind me how love and opportunity transform the world around us.

Without Bello Machre, many of these moments might never happen. For some, daily life means working toward skills many take for granted. For others, like Spike, featured on CBS Baltimore, our mission looks different. Spike receives support from Bello Machre and takes great pride in his job at Royal Farms, where he enjoys helping customers and being part of his team. His story reminds us that independence has many forms and that every person deserves a meaningful life filled with purpose and belonging.

In this newsletter, you'll meet Lily, who is reaching new milestones and building lasting connections, and Zachary, a bright five-year-old finding his voice through specialized therapy made possible through our Ray of Hope program and your generosity. These stories show what a lifetime of loving care looks like in action.

This fall, we gathered for special occasions including the 41st Annual Golf Tournament, the Heritage Society Luncheon, and Art in the Park. Each was filled with laughter, gratitude, and hope, reminding me that we cannot do this work alone. The strength of our community sustains us and makes it possible to keep our promise to hundreds of individuals and families across Maryland.

We know these are challenging times for many families, and Bello Machre shares in those challenges. Even in the face of rising costs, our focus remains clear: to provide a lifetime of loving care and opportunity. Your generosity ensures that children like Zachary continue discovering their voices and that young adults like Lily keep growing in independence and confidence.

Because of you, people are living, growing, and thriving every day. I am deeply grateful for your partnership and the hope you bring to so many lives. I look forward to all we will accomplish together in the months ahead. 

Robert T. Ireland

Visit www.BelloMachre.org



Learn how you can help.

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

Lily's Life with Loving Care

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Lily has connected with so many new friends

"Patty and Christy make me happy. Haley helps me think about jobs I want to do." Each name brings a smile to her face and reflects the trust and love she feels from those around her.

Katie added: "Ashley's communication is unmatched. She's always there with answers, resources, and encouragement. Everyone at Bello Machre treats Lily with kindness and respect. They see her for who she is and help her shine."

The Heymans say Bello Machre is more than a provider — it feels like family. Her sister Maddie has also been inspired by Lily's journey. "Watching Lily at Bello Machre has inspired me to want to work in this field," she said. "Seeing a community where the staff truly care makes me feel like I have a purpose in going to school for human services. Bello Machre has changed my whole perspective and showed me the good that exists in this work."

Katie describes Lily's growth as happening in "leaps," moments where things suddenly click. "I feel like she's in one of those moments now, and Bello Machre is helping," she said. "She's really coming into her own. She's more mature, helping out around the house, and taking on new responsibilities. Bello Machre plays a huge part in that."

Looking ahead, the Heymans feel both hopeful and grateful. "We really don't have anything but gratitude," Katie said. "Bello Machre has supported us in every way, and we are so happy with everything they have done for Lily. She has taken big steps forward and we know Bello Machre will be by her side as she continues to grow."

For the Heyman family, this is what a lifetime of loving care looks like. 



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 financial 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.

Community Development Services — We offer adults with developmental disabilities fulfilling, community-based day opportunities through our Community Development Services (CDS) program. Support is provided in both small group settings (1 staff to 4 individuals) and 1:1 opportunities, depending on individual needs. Participants explore their interests through activities such as creative arts, fitness, volunteering, job readiness, and more. CDS helps individuals build independence, form lasting friendships, and develop essential life skills — all while engaging with the world around them.

Employment Services — We provide Employment Services to help adults with developmental disabilities find meaningful work in their communities. Through job coaching, skill development, on-site training, and continued support, individuals are empowered to achieve success in the workplace. Transportation is coordinated through local transit services, and temporary 1:1 coaching is available as needed. With our guidance, the people we support can gain independence, confidence, and lasting careers.

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.

Please visit BelloMachre.org for more information.



MEET

Zachary

Finding his voice and touching lives

Zachary is a sweet, funny, and creative five-year-old who adores the beach, dinosaurs, monster trucks, math, art, and The Lion King. His joy and energy brighten everywhere he goes.

At just two years old, Zachary was diagnosed with apraxia of speech, a neurological disorder that makes it difficult for the brain to coordinate the muscle movements required for speech. Because the neural pathways between his brain and mouth hadn't developed properly, he spoke almost entirely in vowels. His speech was difficult to understand.

Determined to help him find his voice, his family sought out a PROMPT-certified speech therapist—a specialized hands-on therapy that they were able to pursue thanks to support from Bello Machre's Ray of Hope Program. Progress came quickly. Sounds began to emerge, and Zachary soon started communicating more and more. He initially relied on a communication device, but as therapy continued, he gained sounds at an incredible pace and began to depend on it less.



Nothing beats time spent with his favorite furry friend.

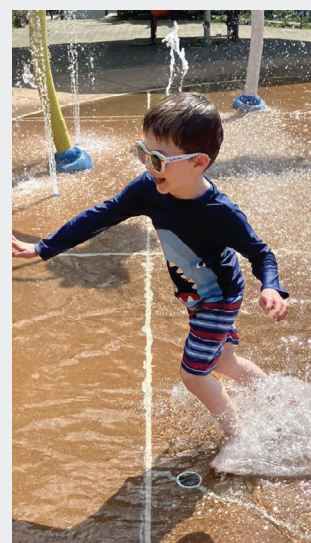


Now, three years later, Zachary continues to amaze. While he still works hard to make his speech clearer and learning to read brings new challenges, his determination never wavers.

This type of therapy is not covered by insurance and comes with significant costs. But with help from Bello Machre's Ray of Hope Program, Zachary has had access to this life-changing intervention.

"Bello Machre's support has lifted a huge financial burden," his family shared. "It has opened the door to a future full of possibility for Zachary. We are profoundly appreciative of their commitment to children like him. Their generosity has made a lasting impact on our family, and we carry that gratitude with us every single day."

The families of those we support are always welcome through our open-door policy, and we encourage loved ones to be part of appointments and activities.



Zachary's happy, adventurous nature is infectious! He's all smiles as he runs through the water, soaking up every splash of fun.

To learn more about our Ray of Hope Program, scan the QR code.



Live with us!

NOW WELCOMING *new* RESIDENTS INTO OUR BELLO MACHRE COMMUNITY HOMES!



Our Residential Services program provides welcoming group homes in Maryland for seniors and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities, including autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, neurological disorders, traumatic brain injury, Rett syndrome, muscular dystrophy, epilepsy, and more.



Each home is staffed by trained support staff and designed to foster independence, safety, and community living. Families are always welcome through our open-door policy, and we encourage loved ones to join for appointments and activities.



To learn more about our Residential Services, scan the QR code.





41st Annual Golf Tournament Raises \$110,000

Bello Machre's 41st Annual Golf Tournament at Queenstown Harbor Golf Course was a day to remember. More than 140 golfers joined us to help raise over \$110,000 in support of the individuals and families we serve. "Our Annual Golf Tournament is about so much more than a day on the course," shared Bello Machre President & CEO Dr. Robert Ireland. "Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and partners, we can continue providing a lifetime of loving care for people with developmental disabilities."

This year's success was made possible through the dedicated support of our sponsors. A special thank you goes to **Lead Sponsor Tential** (Shane Ireland and Quinn Salamandra) for their extraordinary commitment. We are also grateful for our **Platinum Sponsor A.R. Builders**, our **Gold Sponsors Bancorp Leasing, Cattail Construction, Kelly Benefits, and Skyline Technology Solutions**, and the many Silver, Bronze, Beverage, and Tee/Green Sponsors who made this event possible. Golfers enjoyed perfect weather and plenty of fun along the way. One player came within inches to the \$25,000 hole-in-one challenge, but no one claimed the prize this year. Spirits were high as laughter and cheers echoed across the course. Development Director Tracy Lynott shared, "We are so grateful to all of our incredible sponsors for making this tournament such a success. Your generosity makes a lasting impact on the lives of the people and families we serve."



FAIRWAY TRIBUTE

Remembering those we love! A tribute in honor of or in memory of a cherished family member or friend.

In Honor of...

Taborie Fisch
Peggy Wohlgemuth
Kathryn Wynkoop

From Ruby & Dan Noble
From Norie Wohlgemuth
From David Wynkoop

In Memory of...

Anne & John Adams
& Mary Therese
& Tom Lynott
Cheryl Downs-Meyers
Charles Hamm
Tommy Horvat
Jo Beth Ireland
John Frederick Klunk
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Travel by Lu Anne

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our volunteers, vendors, and partners who helped make this event such a success. We cannot wait to see you on the course again next year.



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR 42ND GOLF TOURNAMENT • SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

Heritage Society

HONORING LEGACY, BUILDING TOMORROW



This fall, Bello Machre welcomed several members of our Heritage Society for a special luncheon celebrating the generous friends whose planned gifts and leadership support sustain a lifetime of loving care.

"Planned gifts help ensure not only tomorrow, but a brighter future for generations to come." — Dr. Robert Ireland

During the gathering, Dr. Ireland shared news of an expanded pledge, increasing both his estate commitment and his annual giving. His heartfelt remarks reflected what so many in the room expressed: a deep sense of gratitude, purpose, and belief in the future of Bello Machre.

These gifts of legacy and love are already shaping tomorrow. They help us build fully accessible homes, provide essential supports, and ensure that the people we serve have safe, beautiful places to live and thrive.

To every Heritage Society member and friend — thank you. Your generosity ensures that the promise of a lifetime of loving care will be kept for generations to come.



UPCOMING EVENTS

EVERY step COUNTS



Rain or Shine!

Saturday
June 13
2026



Visit us at BelloMachre.org/ESC

VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Check out our new Volunteer Portal and our upcoming volunteer opportunities!

- Create Baskets of Joy for the Holidays
- In-Home Decorations, Baking or Karaoke
- Mailing the Annual Appeal



Use the QR code to access the portal.