



## From the Desk of Our President & CEO

Summer is often a season of movement, long days filled with activity, bright moments with family and friends, and plans that carry us into the second half of the year. But it is also a season of reflection. The warmth of summer invites us to slow down, take a breath, and notice the good work happening all around us.

Here at DDM, we've experienced just that. Volunteers have poured their time and talents into our homes, blessing our residents with improvements that make daily life brighter. Our HomeREVIVE10 capital campaign has been building momentum, reminding us that safe, well-cared-for homes are the foundation for dignity and independence. And as we prepare for our much-loved Resident Retreat, beginning September 17, we are reminded that joy, fellowship, and spiritual growth are at the very heart of our mission.

As I reflect on these moments, I am grateful, not only for the dedicated staff and volunteers who make them possible, but also for each of you. Your prayers, your support, and your presence in this ministry allow us to continue growing in our call to serve.

I encourage you, in these remaining days of summer, to take time to pause. Celebrate what has been accomplished. Notice the blessings that are right in front of you. And look with anticipation toward the fall, as DDM steps into another season of service, care, and community.

With Gratitude,

*Ryan Whitnire*, President/CEO

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# BIG REVEAL BIG REVEAL BIG REVEAL BIG REVEAL BIG REVEAL



**FLIP TO THE NEXT PAGE AND FIND  
OUT THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S  
RESIDENT RETREAT!**



# TEAM UP WITH DDM FOR THE HOMERUN!

This year's resident retreat theme was proudly ideated by our Resident Council. This incredible group of residents came together to think of a fun idea that represents the spirit of DDM and its residents!

We are so excited! Check out the t-shirts too!







*impact*



**Our Jasper gentlemen have recently had their windows replaced! This was a long time coming, and we are so grateful to our friends of DDM for making this possible!**



# RESIDENT HOME HIGHLIGHTS

## Bringing DDM Core Values from the Outside-In

*Benjamin, the nephew of Mark, one of our Jasper residents demonstrated kindness and service when he came by to trim up the bushes.*

*As you can see from most of our Jasper photos, our Jasper guys love to sit on their porch and enjoy the views! Thanks to Benjamin, the guys are back to enjoying their view, completely unobstructed!*

*From your friends at DDM, thank you Benjamin!*

**before**



**after**



If you are ever interested in helping out at one of our 18 homes, please reach out to Jazmin at [jvitale@ddmga.org](mailto:jvitale@ddmga.org)



# ORGANIZATION & RESIDENT HIGHLIGHTS

## Proxy Care Training & Disaster Preparedness: A Day of Learning and Preparation

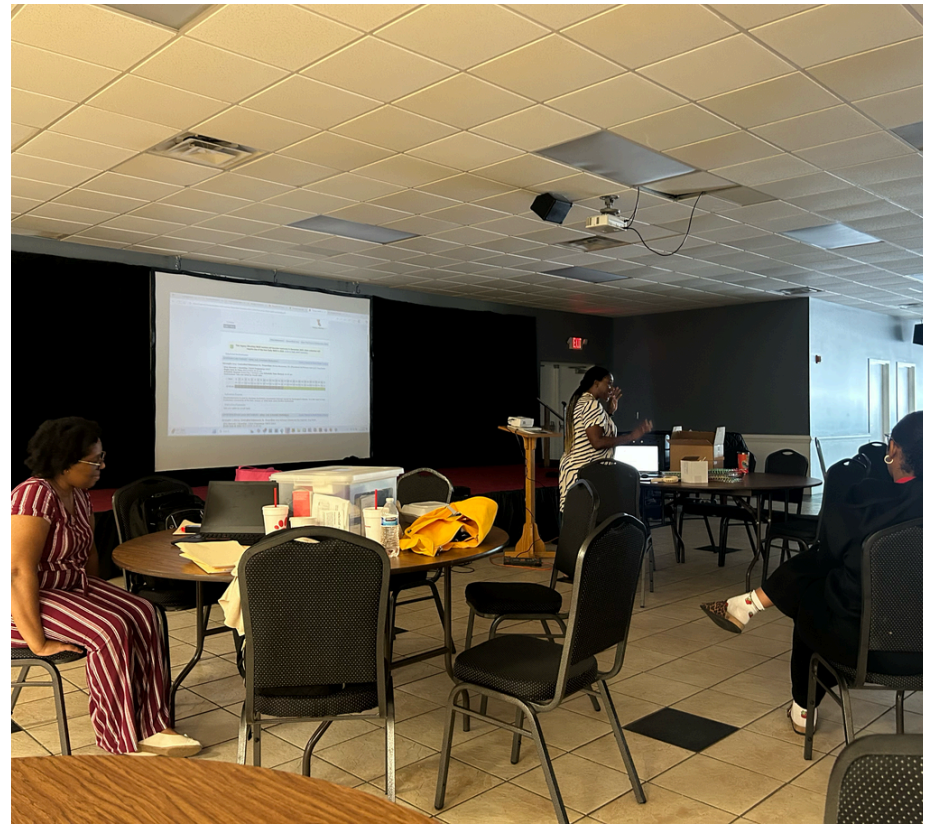
At DDM, ensuring that our residents live safe, supported, and dignified lives is always our top priority. This summer, 25 of our residents joined Program Managers (PMs) and Residential Service Coordinators (RSCs) for a full-day Proxy Care Training & Disaster Preparedness session designed to equip both staff and residents with essential knowledge and skills.

The training focused on proxy care, a specialized skill set that allows approved staff to assist residents with certain medical tasks, ensuring that individuals receive the highest standard of care in their homes. By investing in this training, DDM continues to strengthen our team's ability to meet the growing needs of the people we serve.

Equally important was the disaster preparedness portion, which covered what to do in the event of an emergency such as severe weather, fire, or other crises. Residents and staff walked away with a greater sense of confidence, knowing they are better prepared to stay safe and protect one another in any situation.

The day wasn't just about instruction, it was about community and teamwork. Having residents, PMs, and RSCs all in the same room highlighted the shared responsibility we carry in making DDM homes secure, compassionate, and ready for anything.

This training is just one example of how DDM continues to go beyond day-to-day care by providing resources, education, and opportunities that empower both staff and residents.



Thank  
you

to our team for making this possible!



# 2025 RESIDENT RETREAT

DAYS                      HOURS                      MINUTES

**1 5 : 1 4 : 3 2**

**INTERESTED IN  
JOINING? CLICK  
HERE!**

**Members of Smoke Rise Baptist and First Baptist of Eatonton will be joining our retreat! If you want to come along, please reach out!**





# Major Project Alert

**This past Saturday, 27 amazing volunteers from HomeAid Georgia and Northview Church of Roswell gave their time and energy to bless our Cherokee home in Canton with a fresh coat of paint. For DDM, this is no small gift—painting a home can cost upward of \$10,000, making this project an incredible blessing of magnitude for our residents. We are deeply grateful for the generosity and servant hearts of HomeAid and Northview Church, whose efforts help ensure our homes remain welcoming, dignified places to live.**





**RECORD SPONSORSHIPS THIS YEAR!**

**THANKS TO YOUR GENEROSITY, ALL TEN RESIDENTS IN NEED HAVE RECEIVED SPONSORSHIPS FOR OUR 2025 RESIDENT RETREAT!**

**TO ALL WHO GENEROUSLY GAVE, THANK YOU FOR BLESSING OUR RESIDENTS THIS YEAR!**



Read Online

**YOUR GUIDE TO DDM'S ANCHOR FAMILIES PROGRAM**

# Be the Anchor with DDM

*A Host Home Program*



**Support**

**Belonging**

**Connection**

**Open Your Home. Change a Life.**

DDM's Anchor Families Host Home Provider Program connects compassionate individuals and families with adults with developmental disabilities in need of a safe, supportive, and loving home. Think foster care, but for adults! This is a chance to build lasting relationships and provide meaningful stability!

**REGISTER FOR AN INFORMATION SESSION**



Anchor Families can be individuals, couples, or families from all walks of life. What matters most is your willingness to provide a safe, supportive, and loving environment for an adult with developmental disabilities.

DDM provides training, support, and a stipend. You won't do this alone. Anchor Families receive comprehensive training, ongoing guidance, and financial support to help cover the cost of care.



# Wall of Giving 2025

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Adam Koskovich	David Arnold	Kirk Sieder
Amy Rouse	Dawn Callaway	Laura Terry
Amy Ruhl	Devon Suter	Lea Ann Slotkin
Andrew Futrell	Diane Williams	Lee Beth Burge
Andrew Taylor	Elizabeth Morgan	Leigh Braley
Anthony Lankford	Ellen Repasky	Linda Green
Bettye Alexis	Fredrick Braswell	Molly Marrah
Boyd Baker	Gavin and Jazmin Vitale	Nancy M. Thurman
Brenda Marsh	Gerald Hutchinson	Nancy Woodall
Brian and Susie Spear	Gretchen Maulsby	Nita H. Epting
Bryon Roberts	Jamie Carnes	Patrick Cline
Carl Dressler	Jared Neal	Peyton Spear
Caroline Smart	Jerry Gentry	Ray Jarvis
Carolyn Booser	Jill Jordan	Robert Sparks
Carrie Wheeler	Jill McKinnon	Roger Sundy
Celane Selvaggio	Jillian Palmiotto	Ronnie and Kay Jowers
Cheryl Howard	John Spear	Ryan Whitmire
Chris Green	Joseph Booth	Susan and Joel Gilbert
Chris Flinn	Joshua Walker	Thomas Byars
Christina Blair	Karen Mann	Varion Spear
Christina DePippo	Kelly Wade	Wilberto Diaz
Chuck Adkins	Kim Dickie	Yury Pyekh

**Thank you, to our *70 incredible donors.***

And thank you for being a vital part of the DDM family.  
Your generosity is felt in every home, every smile, every  
moment of joy.  
Together, we're building lives of dignity, purpose, and love.



# RECIPE OF THE MONTH: Summer Corn & Tomato Salad with Basil

## INGREDIENTS

- 3 EARS OF FRESH CORN, HUSKED
- 2 CUPS CHERRY TOMATOES, HALVED
- 1 SMALL RED ONION, FINELY DICED
- 1 CUCUMBER, DICED
- 1/4 CUP FRESH BASIL LEAVES, TORN
- 3 TBSP OLIVE OIL
- 2 TBSP RED WINE VINEGAR (OR LEMON JUICE FOR A FRESHER TASTE)
- 1 TSP HONEY (OPTIONAL, FOR BALANCE)
- SALT AND PEPPER, TO TASTE
- 1/2 CUP FETA CHEESE, CRUMBLLED (OPTIONAL)

## DIRECTIONS

1. **COOK THE CORN:** BRING A LARGE POT OF WATER TO BOIL AND COOK THE CORN FOR 3–4 MINUTES. DRAIN AND LET COOL, THEN CUT THE KERNELS OFF THE COB. (TIP: YOU CAN ALSO GRILL THE CORN FOR A SMOKY FLAVOR!)
2. **PREPARE THE VEGGIES:** IN A LARGE BOWL, COMBINE THE CORN KERNELS, CHERRY TOMATOES, CUCUMBER, AND RED ONION.
3. **MAKE THE DRESSING:** IN A SMALL JAR OR BOWL, WHISK TOGETHER OLIVE OIL, RED WINE VINEGAR (OR LEMON JUICE), HONEY, SALT, AND PEPPER.
4. **TOSS IT TOGETHER:** POUR THE DRESSING OVER THE SALAD AND TOSS GENTLY TO COAT.
5. **FINISH WITH BASIL AND FETA:** JUST BEFORE SERVING, FOLD IN THE FRESH BASIL AND SPRINKLE WITH CRUMBLLED FETA IF DESIRED.

