

## 2017 REPORT TO FRANCONIA/EASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCES

The mission of MHS is to strengthen and extend Anabaptist-affiliated health and human service organizations. The following organizations belong to our network of 78 ministries and serve the communities surrounding Franconia and Eastern District Conference congregations:

- Peaceful Living (nationally sponsored by MHS since 2002)
- Frederick Living (nationally sponsored by MHS since 2016)
- Living Branches (Dock Woods, Souderton Mennonite Homes, Dock Meadows)
- The Community at Rockhill, part of Grace Inspired Ministries since 2017
- Indian Creek Foundation
- Penn Foundation
- Advanced Living

### Activities

- The Values-based Leadership Program welcomes 28 leaders in the 2017-2018 class. Participants gain self-awareness and an Anabaptist perspective on leadership. Registration for the next class opens in December at [www.vblp.org](http://www.vblp.org).
  - Mennonite Health Assembly met in Jacksonville, Florida in March 2017 with the Mennonite Education Leaders Gathering. The 2018 Assembly will be March 8 - 10 in Pittsburgh. Using story-telling, worship and visual arts, attendees will learn how to be resilient Anabaptist organizations and leaders, in addition to practical governance and leadership skills.
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Character Collaboration  
Culture Change
- ValuedLeadership.org is a website framed around themes of Character, Collaboration, Culture and Change to help leaders explore what it means to be an Anabaptist organization today. Webinars and resources on the website are free and available to anyone who is interested.
  - Around the Globe - We partner with China Christian Council for workshops and an Executive Residency Exchange program to support developing senior care services. MHS members in Pennsylvania will host a group of Chinese leaders in October. We also participated in a spring interfaith eldercare conference in Lebanon.

### For Thanksgiving and Prayer

- We are grateful for the contributions of staff leaders and volunteer board members who are stewards for the missions of the organizations listed above.
- We pray for the leaders of our member organization Sistema de Salud Menonita in Puerto Rico as they provide patient care and recover from Hurricane Maria.
- We give thanks for the wise counsel of our national board which includes Ertell Whigham, associate pastor at Nueva Vida Norristown New Life and Ed Brubaker, CEO at Living Branches and a member of Souderton Mennonite Church.