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FEATURED

Nutramax donates \$30,000 to House of Pearls

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Nutramax Laboratories celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2022. To commemorate, it donated \$30,000 to House of Pearls. The traditional symbol for a 30-year anniversary is the pearl. From left are HOP Director Delois Carpenter; Brennan VanLaanen, Anna-Grace Langley and Athena Ciulla, all with Nutramax; and April Thomason with HOP.

Nutramax Laboratories Inc. celebrated its 30th anniversary this month by donating more than \$1.9 million to local organizations and companies.

Of the \$1,945,372 total in contributions, \$30,000 went to House of Pearls (HOP), a drug-addiction assistance center for women in Lancaster and neighboring counties.

Stefanie Stacks, director of corporate affairs for Nutramax, said the 30th anniversary symbol is the pearl, prompting Nutramax's connection to HOP.

“The House of Pearls is an organization that we just absolutely love, we believe in that what they're doing, and they're really making changes in lives across our county, and then some neighboring counties as well,” she said. “When the idea came with the pearl earlier this year, we thought, what better way to commemorate our 30th anniversary.”

However, a pearl symbol is not the only connection between the two.

HOP graduate Shannon Herlocker now works in Nutramax's customer service department and has been a “fantastic asset at Nutramax,” according to Stacks.

“Nutramax has always been a believer in second chances,” Stacks said. “We’ve had several different folks (employed) that have had various backgrounds and things that might have been speed bumps for them and their lives.”

HOP is a nonprofit Christian ministry dedicated to helping women rebuild their lives through the love of Jesus Christ, according to its website’s purpose page.

It works with women struggling with drug-addiction and offer pathways to heal. Women who live at one of HOP’s locations will learn multiple life skills, such as budgeting and communication, and also get career-relevant experience like resume workshops and job-application assistance.

Herlocker said the Nutramax donation means a lot to her to see Nutramax and HOP interconnected.

“I look at it (the donation) as other lives, other women’s lives that are going to be changed through their generosity (Nutramax),” Herlocker said. “To work there, too — it’s just such a privilege because they just treat me like family.

“To go to an organization that has those same values, those same core values, and that they just, you know, praise God, that we’re able to work and able to use our gifts” Herlocker said. “It’s just exactly what I needed.”

HOP Director Delois Carpenter said the \$30,000 donation takes a lot of pressure off of the organization’s fundraising efforts going into next year, as it operates solely off of donations.

“Within the next couple of months, we are opening a third house, but it’s in Peachland, N.C., and that money has already been raised from past banquets and events,” Carpenter said. “This money will go toward hopefully getting a bigger house in this area. The house we’re currently in, we can only house five women in it, so we need something

bigger.”

Carpenter said Nutramax has supported HOP since they started in Lancaster at the beginning of 2021.

“We are a Christian company, so we believe that God’s given us blessings and blessed this company for the past 30 years,” Stacks said. “It’s our job to get those blessings back to other people. This donation is just one way that we can accomplish that.”

Nutramax’s \$30,000 donation to HOP was among the top five largest donations out of the \$1.9 million in the 2022 giving season. Other larger gifts included: \$25,000 to HOPE in Lancaster, \$25,000 to A Father’s Way, \$20,000 to Women’s Enrichment Center and \$10,000 to the Lancaster Children’s Home.

Nutramax donated to 123 local organizations and 46 local businesses this year.

Haley