



# *Second Chance Bouquets*

December, 2022

Dear Second Chance Bouquet supporters, followers, and patrons;

It is the end of the year again, and as I sit down to write this letter I am amazed at how fast this year has gone by. Last year (2021) we set a goal of delivering 2,021 arrangements to residents and patients, and if you remember we exceeded that goal. This year we did not set a delivery goal, but instead we wanted to add more delivery locations to our list, and we did that. This year we added Heritage at Sterling Ridge, Harmony Court in Bellevue, Harmony Court in Council Bluffs, and Prestige Care Center in Plattsmouth.

This year we also worked towards being more environmentally friendly. Through a chance encounter this spring, we connected with Oma-Grow. We now take our plant waste to the Oma-Grow facility where they turn our waste into compost. We also connected with several florists in an effort to “pay-it-forward.” We receive many large and varied vases that we cannot use for delivering modest arrangements to residents and patients; and instead of simply recycling the vases at the glass recycling location, we take these vases, baskets, and trays to local florists for them to recycle into new arrangements for their clients. We are continually looking for ways to make better use of our storage space (our garage). This summer, we started arranging flowers in our garage rather than inside our house. It was nice to not make a mess in the house and have plenty of space to make a HUGE mess that was easier to clean.

Because of two large donations at the very end of the year (December 30<sup>th</sup>) we exceeded our delivery numbers from last year and have set a new record of 2,264 deliveries in one year. That means in our six years of operating we have delivered a total of 8,318 arrangements to local residents and patients.

As we look toward this New Year, we already have several weddings on the calendar, two bridal fairs, and a chance to pick up and deliver over 300 arrangements from our Governor’s Inauguration Ball. We are always looking for volunteers to help pick up flowers at all the lovely late night wedding receptions, arrange flowers before delivery, and deliver arrangements to facilities. Please contact us if you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities.

As with many other charities this time of year, we also need your financial support to help make 2023 another banner year for SCB. Producing our beautiful bouquets takes not only flowers and vases but also requires other supplies to aid in the preparation and delivery of our floral arrangements. If you head to our website ([www.secondchancebouquets.org/donate](http://www.secondchancebouquets.org/donate)) click the DONATE NOW button, your generous gift will be used to bring joy and happiness to many Omaha metro area people; plus 100% of your monetary donation goes directly to creating and delivering our bouquets, donations to Second Chance Bouquets are tax deductible

We could not do what we do without **YOU**; your support, encouragement, and generosity keep us going and confirm that we are doing something great for the community.

Thank you,

*Eva C. Cloward*

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