



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

Caswell Center

2415 West Vernon Avenue • Kinston, N.C. 28504-3321 • Courier 01-21-04

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Beverly Vinson, Center Director
(252) 208-4222

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For more information contact:

Sherrri Scharf, Media & Development Specialist
(252) 208-3778

CASWELL CENTER DEDICATES BUILDING TO HONOR THE NC KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

(Kinston, NC) On June 3rd Caswell Center staff and individuals gathered on campus to dedicate their Leisure Activity Center to the North Carolina Knights of Columbus. For over 30 years, the Knights of Columbus has given more than \$382,000,000 to support organizations and programs that serve people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. In addition to the four state facilities that serve this special-needs population, the Knights of Columbus also support organizations such as the Special Olympics and the Autism Society.

Since 1975, Caswell Center has received funding totaling \$284,265 from the North Carolina Knights of Columbus. Given in annual allocations of \$10,000 to \$20,000, the money helps offset a budget shortfall each year by allowing the Center to purchase specialized equipment and supplies. At the dedication ceremony for the Leisure Activity Center, Caswell Center Director Beverly Vinson said, "This is a place of fun and happiness, where we play, dance, and celebrate, and it only seems fitting that it be dedicated to honor a wonderful group of men who have made so much of that possible." Evidence of the Knights support could be seen throughout the building from the automatic door to the jukebox and big-screen TV -- all used to enhance the lives of the individuals who live at Caswell Center.

Caswell Center, North Carolina's eastern regional resource center, provides specialized residential, programmatic, and support services for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities in an environment that fosters independence and self-determination. Covering 38 eastern counties, Caswell Center is home to approximately 430 individuals whose average age is 55 years.

V/TDD (252) 208-4000

Caswell.Center@ncmail.net

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"Caswell Center is an agency of the State of North Carolina exempt from taxation under IRC Section 115 and an organization eligible to accept tax deductible charitable contributions as defined in IRC Section 170".



Left to right: Bob Grabasky, KOC State Deputy and Bill Scott, KOC Past State Deputy, present Caswell Center Director, Beverly Vinson, with a check for \$20,000 to fund this year's grant requests.



Left to right: Caswell Center staff Danny Rice, director of specialized services; Beverly Vinson, center director; and Diane Howard, director of volunteer services join Victor Kozinski, KOC Past Grand Knight outside Caswell's Leisure Activity Center at the dedication site.