



Telemedicine comes to Wesley Village

The United Methodist Homes Foundation provided funding for a partnership between Curavi Health and our Wesley Village campus to provide telemedicine services. Telemedicine is defined as remote diagnosis and treatment of patients by means of telecommunications technology. Telemedicine is used during the hours when a traditional doctor's office is closed. At our Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility, the nursing staff would access telemedicine Monday through Thursday from 6pm–6am, and Friday at 6pm through Monday at 6am, including holidays.

If our nursing staff determine that a physician needs to assess a resident, the CuraviCart is rolled into the resident's room, and they are connected to a Board Certified Geriatrician. Using a remote connection, camera and microphone, the nurse, patient and doctor can discuss symptoms, and determine a course of treatment.

The CuraviCart has a variety of features, including a wound camera and an otoscope to assist the doctor



in diagnosing the patient. The CuraviCart also has a Bluetooth stethoscope so the doctor can hear lung, heart and abdominal sounds. And, the cart can even take an EKG with a one hour read time. Telemedicine reduces the need for residents to be transported to other health care facilities, and it gives them comfort in having a consultation done right in their room. According to Kylah Heenan, Registered Nurse, BSN and Staff Development Coordinator at Wesley Village, in a one month period, the telemedicine program was utilized to make 140 calls to the physician. Nine of these calls were escalated to a video conference with the physician in which they were successful in preventing eight hospitalizations. Kylah stated, "Telemedicine is the way of the future in health care, and it gives peace of mind to the families knowing that their loved one can stay in place and receive care from a Board Certified Geriatrician from the University of Pittsburgh right here at Partridge-Tippett."

A Season for Celebration



We have much to celebrate here at United Methodist Homes, all thanks to our dedicated staff, board of directors and volunteers. As you will read in the stories in this newsletter, we are on the right path for success as a highly rated senior living community, and I'm grateful to share these accomplishments with you.

Our celebrations begin with the recent 5 star rating at our New York campuses. As an organization, your commitment to your areas of expertise are what garners this rating. In addition, all campuses have 5 stars for quality measures. These efforts are truly commendable, and should be celebrated!

Earlier this summer, we celebrated the life and generosity of Henry C. Johnson with the dedication of Serenity Garden at the Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility. Family, friends and staff gathered in the newly renovated space and shared stories of Henry's life.

We also celebrated our own Gary Gardner, Senior VP of Special Projects/Financial Analyst, who received the 2019 Leader of the Year Distinguished Service Award from LeadingAge PA, and we couldn't be more proud to have him on our team.

Our United Methodist Homes family supported the Alzheimer's Association by participating in the Walk to End Alzheimer's, raising over \$2,300 to help continue the area's efforts to end Alzheimer's. In addition, our staff volunteers and 111 golfers came out to our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament, and we raised more than \$55,000 for our Resident Assistance Program.

The celebrations continued into late July, as the first residents of the new and expanded Brooks Estates independent living cottages moved into their new homes.

All of these celebrations are a result of the time, effort and dedication of our staff who work tirelessly to provide the highest quality care for our residents, while maintaining the collaborative spirit to ensure every opportunity for engagement is made available to those in our care. As you read through the stories in this newsletter, I join you to celebrate with me and the entire UMH team for all that we have worked so hard to accomplish over these last several months. I thank you again for your commitment to our residents.

Brian Picchini, President and CEO



A. Wayne Trivelpiece and James L. Corselius, honorary board members were awarded "Director Emeritus."



Welcome Robert W. Hall and Elaine M. Semanski, who became new members at the annual meeting on May 29, 2019 and completed their new board member orientation on August 6th.

Gary Gardner, VP of Special Projects, receives an award from LeadingAge PA

Gary Gardner, our Senior VP of Special Projects/Financial Analyst, received the 2019 Leader of the Year Distinguished Service Award at this year's LeadingAge PA Annual Conference in Hershey, PA. He was nominated by our senior management, professional colleagues, and members of our Board. This award is presented to a distinguished individual who demonstrates exemplary leadership and service, as well as excellence in management or governance accountability, is proactive in quality of care to residents and has played a pivotal role in overall operations leading to organizational success. His friends and coworkers believe that Gary exemplifies that description so much so that his leadership team gave him the nickname, "Yoda." They believe this



Gary Gardner, Senior VP of Special Projects/Financial Analyst at UMH and Susan C. Drabic, President and CEO of Morningstar Living

// Gary has been instrumental in the development of United Methodist Homes as a voice of progress, stewardship and purpose. //

nickname captures his leadership skills entirely because he has the capability to provide council in different situations and subject content for our entire senior leadership team.

Gary has served United Methodist Homes for the past two decades and has been a part of two major campus expansion projects, including the most recent one at Wesley Village, as well as multiple renovation projects. Gary is a brilliant operational leader, but more importantly he is genuinely a wonderful man who cares about the dedication to our mission and residents. Everyone at United Methodist Homes is proud of Gary's accomplishments and feel that he is the most deserving of the 2019 Leader of the Year Distinguished Service Award.



Brooks Expansion Model Officially Open!

Our Brooks expansion model is officially open for business! Our first open house was scheduled for the latter part of August. We have been taking appointments for tours daily. We continue to have new residents moving in on a weekly basis to cottages in our first phase and remain actively engaged in the sales process. Depending on one's timeline, we can accommodate residents who need a home immediately or those who are looking for months down the road. Call today for an appointment or future open house dates. **570.655.2891 Ext. 5209!**

2019 Pillar Award Winners

In 2018, UMH announced the first annual peer to peer employee recognition program to honor and acknowledge excellence at work. This year, the decision was made to open the nominations to teams and departments as well as individuals. The award recipients in 2019 were employees who embody the mission, vision and values of UMH, produce quality work, and consistently display characteristics valued and appreciated by their fellow employees and the residents we serve. Congratulations to our 2019 Pillar Award Recipients:

Pillar 1 Engaged People



Carol Ann Heller
LHHCA/ALP
Director

Saint Louise Manor (ECC)

Employees who have inspired and influenced their peers, embraced change, exhibit leadership qualities and communicate well with other employees and departments

Pillar 2 Strong Financial Position



Mary Ann Wheeler
Financial
Counselor

Wesley Village/Corp.

Employees who have significantly contributed to help the organization, their campus, community or department meet financial goals in areas such as improving revenue or implementing cost saving measures

Pillar 3 Growth & Expansion



Brian Palma
Administrator
in Training

Wesley Village

Employees who have suggested a new idea or implemented a new process that has expanded or created new or additional services

Pillar 4 High Quality



Sandra Farrell
ADON
Elizabeth
Church Manor

Employees who have suggested a new idea or implemented a new process that improved a quality outcome

Pillar 5 Engaged Seniors



Rob Eichelderfer Cert. Personal Trainer
Vinni Wingell Wellness Director
Kim Bernthom Transportation Aid
Robin Chodkowski Cert. Personal Trainer
Marjorie Sampson Massage Therapist
Hilltop Wellness Dept.

Employees who have continually enhanced resident engagement, have implemented programs that offer more choices in areas such as dining, wellness, recreation and support initiatives to measure success

Proud To Be A Five Star Quality Provider

Elizabeth Church Manor (ECM) and James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Facility (JGJ), recently received recognition in a newspaper article published in the Press & Sun Bulletin on May 16th for their five star quality ratings. We are proud to stand out in terms of quality amongst the 600 other nursing homes in the state of New York. ECM and JGJ were among 32 facilities across the Finger Lakes, Hudson Valley and Southern Tier to achieve top rankings. Both Elizabeth Church and James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home on our Hilltop Campus have performed much above the average on their state annual inspections required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of all skilled nursing facilities that are Medicare and Medicaid certified.



Nursing homes receive an overall rating for the quality of care, and the ratings range from 1 star to 5 stars. According to the CMS, nursing homes with 1 star should be considered much below average in quality of care, a 3 star rating indicates an average overall rating and those with 5 stars should be considered as providing care much above average. There are three criteria which are taken into consideration when determining the overall rating which

include: health inspections, staffing and quality measures. According to the CMS website, the health inspection rating is determined by the three most recent inspections and any investigations due to complaints. The staffing rating is determined by examining the number of hours of care provided to residents related to the care needed. Finally, the quality measures rating is based on 17 clinical and physical areas to determine how well a nursing home is meeting both the clinical and physical needs of residents. We're proud to say that all of our skilled centers are five star rated related to quality measures, including Partridge-Tippett in Pittston, PA.

Elizabeth Church Manor and James G. Johnston Memorial Nursing Home are preparing for their next annual inspection and continue to focus on quality of care congruent with the mission of providing a wide range of senior living services with exceptional care and compassion. All of our campuses engage in processes such as peer review and mock surveys to ensure that they are performing at a level that will contribute to high quality care and above average inspection performance. **For more information related to nursing home ratings you may visit www.cms.gov.**



Activity Highlights

Elizabeth Church Spring Fling

Recently, our Elizabeth Church Campus hosted a beach-themed Spring Fling. The halls of the St. Louise Manor were filled with music which emanated from the dining room. Those that attended also enjoyed a delicious spread themed for the occasion and prepared by the dietary staff of Elizabeth Church. Most importantly, the residents, along with staff, had a remarkable time enjoying the festivities with friends and family.



Elizabeth Church Car Show

Last month, our Elizabeth Church Campus held a Car Show and had at least 40–50 residents, staff, and families attend. The Car Show brought such joy to our residents that many of them reminisced about cars they used to own. It was a beautiful day to admire classic cars and enjoy some sweet treats in the sun. “The antique car show is a wonderful annual event that we’ve been hosting on our campus and serves as a great source of entertainment for our residents as well as an opportunity for them to connect with those in the community. We had a great deal of involvement from our residents, staff, and visitors to our community. As the Director of Activities for the campus, I continually seek opportunities for connectivity between our residents and those in our community.” – Kathy Micha.



Hilltop PB&J Activity

In May, our Hilltop Activities Department celebrated Nursing Home Week with special events. This year, Nursing Home Week was celebrated from May 12th to May 18th. Some of the special events were making PB&J sandwiches for the homeless, planting flowers in colorful pots to send over to Elizabeth Church, and wearing our “Smile Positive Thinking Shirts”, which were designed by our residents at Hilltop.



The PB&J special event was so popular among the Hilltop campus that this event turned into a monthly activity. The activities department works with Outreach Ministries at St. Patrick’s Church located in Binghamton, New York to make these sandwiches for the homeless.

Our Hilltop Activities Director, Faye Clark, and her activities department are always taking donations for the PB&J activity. Donations such as bread, jelly, peanut butter, and baggies are greatly appreciated. If you would like to contribute to this meaningful activity, please email Faye at FClark@umhwc.org.

Wesley Village–The Longest Day

On June 21—the summer solstice—people across the world participate in a fundraising activity for The Alzheimer’s Association, called “The Longest Day.” This year, Wesley Village residents held their second Longest Day Bake Sale. They raised \$1,580.00! Residents are always happy to help in anyway possible, baking, packing, labeling, promoting, and executing the sale. All parts of the campus had contributed from PTNF, Personal Care, Independent Living, and Brooks Estates.



Tunkhannock Hands & Clay

Terry White, Activities Director at the Tunkhannock Campus is collaborating with local artist Ellen Jamiolkowski to offer a 9 week program for the residents focusing on clay sculpting. Clay is cathartic in nature as it allows an individual to express an array of emotions. For older people and those living with dementia, clay therapy provides creative stimulation, social interaction and develops fine motor skills with a variety of positive outcomes, including increased confidence, concentration and motivation. The program was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



Serenity Garden Dedication

Monday, June 17, 2019 was a day of remembrance and honor at Wesley Village's Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility as we dedicated the new Serenity Garden in memory of Henry C. Johnson. Over 70 residents, staff, family and friends of Mr. Johnson gathered under a tent in the beautifully renovated courtyard for the dedication ceremony. The backdrop was lush green grass, beautiful annuals and perennials, and the centerpiece 10 foot tall clock. Beneath the clock are the words of the Serenity Prayer: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Among those in attendance to pay tribute to Mr. Johnson were United Methodist Homes President and CEO, Brian Picchini, the Chairman of our Foundation

Board, Ed Betz and the Wesley Village Chaplain, Gene Sperazza. In addition to these staff members, Tom Evansew, lifelong friend of Henry C. Johnson, shared two poems that really

captured Henry's spirit and his love of clocks. James Keller, Mayor of Luzerne, Henry's hometown, shared stories

about Henry and his family, and Carol Coleman and

Tanya Olaviany spoke about Mr. Johnson's generosity and kindness.

Following the ceremony, guests gathered in the dining room to share food and fellowship while listening to Mark Pall play the piano.

A video of Henry C. Johnson was playing in the Activities Room, and guests sat and listened to Mr. Johnson's description of life in Luzerne when he was young.

Henry C. Johnson generously donated funds to completely renovate the courtyard in the Partridge-Tippett Nursing Facility, and on nice days, our residents and their families can be seen enjoying the beautifully landscaped space. The wheelchair accessible swing remains in the courtyard, and tables with umbrellas

have been added, along with benches where residents and families can gather.

The United Methodist Homes community is truly grateful to Henry C. Johnson and all of our donors

who generously give to United Methodist Homes. Your gifts help us provide new programs and state-of-the-art services to our residents to ensure the highest quality of care.



To make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope or visit us online at www.unitedmethodishomes.org/giving.

UMH Foundation 3rd Annual Golf Tournament

Conklin Players Club was the setting for the United Methodist Homes Foundation 3rd Annual Golf Tournament on June 27, 2019. The weather could not have been better for the 111 golfers that teed up to raise money for the Resident Assistance



Program. This year's event was presented by the Sordoni Family Foundation, and sponsored by Pharmerica, Baker

Tilly, the Graham Company and Select Rehabilitation. Along with golf, there was a basket raffle and silent auction with some amazing prizes.

This year's event raised over \$55,000 in support of our Resident Assistance Program.

The Resident Assistance Program is a benevolence fund that has been established to help those residents in our care that exhaust their financial resources, but still require care. Funding for this program is critical so these residents can remain in their home with us, and funding from the United Methodist Homes Foundation Golf Tournament helps us continue to provide this resource to those that need it.

If you would like to donate to the Resident Assistance Program or the United Methodist Homes Foundation, please visit www.unitedmethodisthomes.org/giving.



UMH participates in the Southern Tier Walk to end Alzheimer's

On April 27th, United Methodist Homes was a presenting sponsor of the Southern Tier Walk to End Alzheimer's. The walk was held on the campus of Binghamton University where people came to show their support from all areas across the Southern Tier. As a presenting sponsor, our Executive Director of Elizabeth Church Manor, Vicky Morabito, gave the opening speech asserting our commitment as an organization to this worthy cause. As a provider that offers care to many with Alzheimer's Disease, we see first-hand the devastating effects of the disease on the individual and family. We believe it is our duty to support our local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association.

The cold, snowy weather was not in our favor that day, however, the overwhelming energy and spirit on the campus was. There were approximately 680 walkers who came out to participate in the two-mile walk around campus to show their support and learn about Alzheimer's disease. We are proud to report that team UMH had 70 registered walkers and raised over \$2,355 dollars. All together, the event had raised more than \$55,000 to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association, a nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization.





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News & Events

NEWS

Staff Updates:

Hilltop Campus: Faye Clark was promoted from Hilltop’s Activity Director to Hilltop Campus Life Coordinator. **Misty Harper** was promoted from Activities Leader to JGJ Activities Coordinator. **Denise Reilly** was promoted from Hilltop’s Activities Coordinator to JGJ Activities Director.

New Hires:

Corporate: Linda Fulton was hired as our new Accounts Payable Accountant.

Hilltop Campus: Kyla Valls was hired as our new Director of Assisted Living Program.

Wesley Village Campus: Christine Read was hired as an RN Unit Manager at Partridge-Tippet.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Hilltop Campus:

Hilltop Campus Dine & Discover

Join residents & staff on October 10th, 11:30 am–1:30 pm, for lunch and discover the Live-Better Lifestyle at UMH. Learn about Assisted Living and Independent Living at our Hilltop Campus. Reserve your seat today, call 607-729-2305 ext. 313! Program begins at 11:30am.

Hilltop Campus Downsizing Seminar

Join us on October 17th at 10:00 am for an educational seminar on “How to Prepare for a Transition to a Senior Living Community.” The program will be held in the Auditorium at the Hilltop Campus. For more information, call 607-729-2305 ext. 313.

Connections is published three times per year. It is designed for easier readability. Contact Abbie Evans at abevans@umhwc.org or 607.775.6400 x246. Like us on Facebook at UnitedMH and visit our website at unitedmethodisthomes.org

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