



Perspective

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Truly Personal Care

What exactly is Personal Care (PC) at Fairmount, and what does it offer? When this question was recently posed to Wheat Ridge PC Director Marcia Mummert, she smiled and answered thoughtfully, “Personal Care is as much like being at home as possible. But we provide basic help with activities of daily living, meals, medication management, and hygiene. Most people come to PC because of life-changing events which dictate that they cannot stay at home. With their health care management supervised by a licensed practical nurse, many do better than they would do by themselves in their homes.”

No Need to Worry

Such was the case for Owen White. His wife Beulah was already a resident in Fairmount’s Health Care section when Owen came to Personal Care after a series of health challenges. In the following year he recovered, but he and his family have concluded that Wheat Ridge PC is the best home for him.

Owen reflects, “I realize I am better off being taken care of here at Wheat Ridge than trying to do everything



Pictured above are (from left) Wheat Ridge Personal Care Coordinator Dawn Brennan with residents Owen and Beulah White and Elizabeth Hurst (right) in the Wheat Ridge Personal Care lounge.

myself in my previous home. Here I have my meals provided and enjoy my nice room. The facility is outstanding! I especially like that I never have to worry about medications. I don’t need to think about getting them, organizing them, or taking them!”

Owen can spend his days with his wife Beulah without stepping foot outside the building. Experienced professionals care for Beulah in the Health Care area of the building, but the couple enjoy meals together, visit with friends and family, and can

attend programs and activities. (For husbands and wives who live on opposite sides of the campus from each other, transportation to be with their spouse is provided throughout the week.)

Still Busy with Family

Elizabeth Horst also came to Fairmount because of a health crisis. She and her husband
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Community: Sharing a Common Purpose

The President's Perspective



Fairmount Homes Mission Statement

"Fairmount Homes is a ministry with mature adults, providing high quality services, promoting wholeness and creative living consistent with Christ-centered Mennonite Values."

Core Values

- Community • Compassion
- Dignity • Integrity
- Quality • Teamwork
- Trust

Fairmount Homes *Perspective* is published quarterly for the residents, staff, volunteers and friends of Fairmount Homes, a Christian retirement community governed by a Board from the Weaverland Conference of the Old Order Mennonite Church.

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A good friend and I were recently discussing the meaning of community. We questioned whether "community" means holding common ideas, or having the same lineage or cultural characteristics. We ultimately decided the essence of community was sharing a common purpose.

My friend reminded me of the 12 disciples. What a diverse group of men! Their occupations ranged from tax collector to fisherman. They all had their own unique traits and varied backgrounds, but Jesus called them together and said, "Follow me." He sent them out into the world to spread the gospel and heal the sick. Despite their diversity, the group was committed to a common purpose.

Fairmount Homes is also diverse. Residents and employees come with unique backgrounds and have been influenced by a broad spectrum of factors. However, we share a common purpose. We want to provide an exceptional Christian environment in which our residents can thrive and our employees feel loved and supported by one another.

"And He saith unto them, 'follow me, and I will make you fishers of men'."
Matthew 4:19
KJV

In his book, *21 Tests of Effective Leadership*, Larry Kreider details four commonalities that help a team function well together. The first three—a common vision, common values, and common

procedures—must align so that the fourth—healthy relationships—can occur. If any of the areas is missing, a community will find itself struggling to function cohesively.

Although Fairmount Homes is comprised of residents and employees of varying backgrounds, we are committed to functioning as a healthy community. At times we may challenge each other's ideas, but at the end of the day, we come together and support one another.

I hope that you have an opportunity to experience our community in action. God has called us to work together to honor and glorify Him in all that we do! I pray each one of us hears that calling and strives to make a positive difference within our own communities.

Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Community Efforts Achieve Common Goals

While the past winter will probably go down as one of the coldest, snowiest winters in history, it will also be remembered at Fairmount as a time when local community efforts proved to be as robust as ever.

For instance, during three cold and icy days in February, over 200 quilters gathered in the Farm Crest Community Room and completed 12 quilts for the September 13 Benefit Auction. Several other quilts were started that will be finished by our faithful resident quilters by Auction day.

In March, the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth teamed with Fairmount residents and staff for their annual Ham and Cheese Sandwich Fundraiser. Together the organizations sold a record 10,600 sandwiches. Again, Fairmount supplied the work space and the youth assembled and packaged the sandwiches. The profits were split, with Fairmount's portion going to the Sharing Fund for the benefit of residents who have exhausted their resources.



Giving is a Two-Way Street

Fairmount Homes' mission statement begins with, "Fairmount Homes is a ministry with mature adults...." Serving our residents and fulfilling our mission takes the help of many others in our community. Volunteers, local church and school groups, the fire company, and many other organizations and individuals play a vital role.

However, giving is a two-way street, and Fairmount is also privileged to give back to the community in many ways. Following are a few examples:

- Fairmount serves as a real-life training ground for students. Two days a week, a Certified Nurse Practitioner comes in to see the residents in her care. She is often shadowed by a group of students who are gaining practical experience to complete their master's degrees as Certified Nurse Practitioners.
- During the school year, job trainers bring special-needs high school students to work under their supervision in specific departments such as Dining and Maintenance.
- This gives the students an opportunity to learn important job skills and build confidence.



Karina Dussinger, Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) is shadowed by York College CRNP student Stephanie Sanders (right) as she makes her rounds at Fairmount.

- The Farmersville Fire Company uses free space in the Farm Crest Community Room for its quilting events, which support their annual fund-raising auction.
- Six times a year, Fairmount hosts a Central PA Blood Bank blood drive for the community.
- Fairmount has been an integral part of the Amish/Mennonite Student Safety Vest Program since its inception. Numerous safety vest frolics have been held on campus and over 6,500 vests have been distributed to local children.
- Fairmount offers space for a local TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) chapter, a weight-loss program open to anyone in the community.
- Various educational and informational programs are hosted at Fairmount and open to the community.
- Fairmount's beautiful walking paths are available for use by the community, as well as residents and staff, giving them a safe and beautiful place to walk.

Fairmount—what a great asset to our community!

Truly Personal Care *(continued from page 1)*

lived together in the Health Care area of Fairmount until his passing, after which she settled into a cozy Wheat Ridge PC room with a great view of the valley. "I love the view; I can see my daughter's house from my window!" she shares. Living at Fairmount hasn't slowed her down. "I go out with my daughters three or four days a week during the summer," she explains. "They come and pick me up early in the mornings, and we spend the days together. We freeze corn and beans, and can peaches. This winter they took me to the Farm Show, and this spring I plan to go with them to Arizona for a week and visit friends."

Socialization is an important component of PC. Not only do most of the residents spend time with their loving, supportive families, but they also form warm friendships with other residents.

Truly Personal Care

Marcia goes on to explain some of the other benefits of Personal Care. "It is less expensive than Health Care, but offers assistance with medication management, respiratory care, diabetes, and wound care. Laundry and housekeeping are available. LPNs are on duty during the day, and at night a Registered Nurse supervisor is available to offer technical advice or assistance. These kinds of help may delay the need to move to Health Care, and when additional care is needed, PC residents can relocate within our familiar community rather than having to move to another facility."

Marcia sums it up by saying, "The best part of Personal Care is that the care is truly personal."



Retirement Community

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Items of Interest

Clinic for Special Children Presentation May 8

Matthew Sware, development director with the Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, is planning a presentation at Fairmount on May 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Farm Crest Community Room Chapel. Topics will include the history, mission, and future goals of the clinic, and there will be time for questions at the end. Everyone is invited.

Central PA Blood Drive

A blood drive is planned for Thursday, June 12, from 11:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m. in the Farm Crest Community Room. For an appointment, please call Ferne at 717.354.1895 or the blood bank at 800.771.0059. Walk-ins are welcome until 6:00 p.m.

Mailing List Update

If you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list, please call 717.354.1800, write the Managing Editor at the address above, or email carols@FairmountHomes.org.

*Perspectives may be viewed at
www.FairmountHomes.org.*



Fairmount's 10th Heritage Day Saturday, June 7, 2014

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- Delicious food
- Storytelling
- Quilting
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Dynamometer
for tractors!**



Questions?
**Contact Peter C. Passage
Stewardship Director
717.354.1814**

All proceeds benefit the Sharing Fund.