

FAIRMOUNT HOMES Perspective

Volume 23, No. 1 | February 2017

Dedicated to Faith, Family and Community

Fairmount at Home Delivers Peace of Mind

Each weekday morning, apartment resident Millie Loux gets up early to welcome her Fairmount at Home (FAH) caregiver. “Elaine (Nolt) comes every morning at 7:00 a.m., and I get up and let her in. It is a reason for me to get up. I’m very comfortable with Elaine. She is gentle and caring, and familiar with the way I like things done.”

For Millie, whose husband Ralph passed away just a few months ago, Elaine is more than a person who helps with showering, laundry, light housekeeping, and medication reminders. She is a friend, a constant in the midst of many other changes.



Brenda Loux (right) spends time helping her mother, Millie, as much as possible. Here she helps Millie water her poinsettia.

Peace of Mind for Families

Millie’s daughter, Brenda, is also grateful for the help her mother receives. Although she is very devoted to Millie, she lives an hour away and cannot always be available. “It gives me peace of mind to know someone is helping to get her day started,” Brenda shares. “A good rapport—a good fit—with the caregiver is so important, so I’m thankful that my mom thinks so highly of Elaine. The social aspect is really beneficial also.”

Beyond daily housekeeping assistance and companionship, one of FAH’s most valued services is transportation. Brenda explains, “I like to take Mom to her doctor’s appointments. But if I can’t, it is nice to have

Fairmount at Home as a backup. I appreciate that all FAH service is tailored to the needs of each client; you get to decide what assistance you need.”

Available for Any Situation

When FAH started last May, Ralph and Millie were some of the first to sign up. The new program gave Brenda the freedom to go on vacation, and she quickly discovered the true value of FAH services. She relates: “The day after I left for Florida, the caregiver noticed my dad was having a medical problem. She took him to the doctor, who sent him on to the hospital. There, someone from FAH stayed with him until he

was settled. The entire time, they kept me informed by phone or text so I could decide whether or not I needed to return home.

Fairmount at Home Continues to Grow

FAH has been expanding ever since it began last May. Today several caregivers work regularly with both on-campus residents and people in the local community. Before caregivers are hired, careful screening includes checks for criminal elder abuse and child abuse, a motor-vehicle report, and a drug test. Once they join the staff, they undergo thorough training so that they are

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Reflection and Anticipation

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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Two years ago I announced in the February 2015 *Perspective* that Fairmount was joining 12 other Anabaptist retirement communities in an integrated care-delivery system known as Covenant Health Alliance of Pennsylvania (CHAPa). I want to update you on some of the benefits this relationship has provided.

CHAPa has blessed Fairmount with many valuable business relationships, and it has expanded our ability to start new services for our residents. For example, thanks to Alliance Rehab, our new therapy provider, we now have a respiratory therapist serving residents with pulmonary needs. This therapist can conduct tests to measure lung function and teach residents to manage breathing related problems. Her services help residents stay at Fairmount instead of having to go to the hospital for respiratory treatments.

CHAPa also has provided group purchasing options, which has allowed us to obtain better pricing for supplies. Another major advantage CHAPa has

given us was the ability to begin Fairmount at Home, a home-care service for residents in our apartments and cottages, as well as people in the broader community. Overall, our CHAPa Alliance has clearly benefitted every aspect of Fairmount's services.

I am excited to look ahead to the possibilities that 2017 holds for Fairmount and what we will accomplish! What do I foresee? Hundreds of residents thriving in their preferred living environment. Our staff proactively learning and growing. The completion of yet another phase of our residential living units. All of this within our thriving community that continues to offer affordable care for residents, and quality employment with competitive wages and benefits for staff. Most importantly, my vision is to see our community continue to follow the teachings of Jesus.

"My vision is to see our community continue to follow the teachings of Jesus."

Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

51 Team Members Recognized

Fairmount's recent staff Christmas Fellowship Meal was a wonderful evening of great food, lots of fun and fellowship, and Christmas caroling. But the highlight of the evening was the recognition of 51 team members celebrating five-year increments of service with a cumulative total of 670



years. Pictured are team members recognized for 25 years or more and the number of years they have served: (from left) Ruth A. Martin (40), Cynthia Zwally (40), Sara Erta Zimmerman (30), and Sharon Weaver (25). Not pictured, Diane Grove (25) and Emma Martin (25).



Congratulations for Staff Promotions

Congratulations to Corey Klett and Sandy Longenecker on their recent promotions into new management roles.

Corey Klett has been a social worker in Fairmount's Social Services Department since her 2007 graduation from Penn State University. She worked primarily with Rehab residents prior to her new position as Director of Social Services.

When not at work, Corey may be found "rehabbing" her Mohnton home, spending time with her boyfriend, learning to play the piano and guitar, knitting, scrapbooking, hiking, or gardening. She is an animal lover with a wide variety of pets.

Corey shares how impressed she is with Fairmount's people: "The staff and residents are amazing, and the love of the Lord is evident. I am honored to work with people who truly love, care and show compassion for



Pictured above are recently promoted team members Corey Klett (left) and Sandy Longenecker.

residents, putting others first."

Sandy Longenecker joined the Fairmount team in April of 2015 as Wheat Ridge Personal Care Coordinator. She now will serve as Director of Wheat Ridge Personal Care.

Sandy and her husband John are parents to three children and live in Ephrata. Sandy enjoys spending time with family and friends, attending music events, decorating, walking and swimming. They attend the Reformed

Presbyterian Church in Ephrata where they are part of a small group.

Sandy explains why she enjoys Fairmount: "It is a blessing to work with so many people who truly seek to serve our residents with compassion. I am also grateful to work in a retirement home that values the Christian faith and demonstrates that faith daily in their work ethic and kindness to others." We wish you both the best in your new roles at Fairmount Homes!

FAH Delivers *(continued from page 1)*



Local community resident Arlene Burkholder is grateful to have FAH caregiver Sharon Weiler help her cut quilt patches, one of her favorite activities at home.

highly qualified to provide care on and off campus. Antoinette "Toni" Sweitzer, RN, recently joined the FAH team as the Regional Manager. She works out of the Fairmount office, freeing FAH Administrator Gretchen Peace to focus on strategic planning. Toni's primary role is to continue to grow Fairmount at Home.

Toni has served in numerous areas of home-health-care management since 1977 including Berks Visiting Nurses, Advantage Home Care and Hospice. Her vision is to provide clients with services that enable them to stay safely in their own homes as long as possible. "Our services help to take the pressure off of family and friends," she explains.

If you or anyone you know would benefit from FAH services, we would encourage you to explore the possibilities. Please call Toni at 1.888.371.5224.



Toni Sweitzer, RN



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Perspective

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Items of Interest

New TOPS Chapter Starting

A second chapter of TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) will start February 3, and will meet every Friday at 12:30 p.m. New members are always welcome. For more information, call 717.354.1895 or email fernem@FairmountHomes.org

Ham & Cheese Fundraiser

Our annual ham-and-cheese sandwich fundraiser, held jointly with the Weaverland Conference Youth for Truth, is coming up soon. Sandwiches may be ordered until March 15 at the Wheat Ridge or Crest View front desk, or by calling 717.354.1800. The pick-up date will be March 25. Proceeds will benefit residents through the Sharing Fund.

You Gave ExtraOrdinarily!

Thank you to everyone who donated to Fairmount through the November 18 ExtraOrdinary Give event! A total of \$16,724 was received, and Fairmount was recognized as one of the top six recipients in Ephrata. We are grateful for this wonderful show of support from our community.

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.



February Quilting Days



Saturday, February 18

Tuesday, February 21 ~ Wednesday, February 22

8 am to 4 pm (lunch served daily)

Farm Crest Community Room, 1100 Farm Crest Drive

Save the Dates ~ Make Plans to Join Us