



How can I capture 2020 in a few paragraphs? I'm not sure it's possible. But as I make an attempt, the words "courage," "dedication," and "resilience" keep coming to mind.

This annual report is different from any we've published. Of course, you'll find the content you'd expect to find in any report. But the focus this year is on many of the individuals who rolled up their sleeves, pulled themselves up by their bootstraps, and said, "We've never seen anything like this — but we'll get through it. And I'll model the way."

From nurses who put their own worries aside to tirelessly care for ill residents to administrative leaders who took weekend courses to become Certified Nursing Assistants so they could help out in our Health Centers, our team members spent 2020 consistently demonstrating the utmost courage and fortitude. From volunteers who delivered Meals on Wheels to friends and family members who sewed face masks and gowns for our caregivers, those who had no obligation to step up enabled us, on our most difficult days, to keep our communities and services running on all cylinders.

From our board members, who offered tireless support, to the Operations team members who received and interpreted daily guidance from a variety of health agencies and to the Executive Directors who encouraged, protected, and filled in wherever needed, the dedication of our leaders never wavered.

And to our residents and their families: I cannot adequately express my gratitude for your support and understanding. You missed your loved ones terribly, yet you willingly adapted to alternate means of staying connected.

You had a way of bolstering our team members when they needed it most. Many of you suffered mightily, as COVID-19 claimed some of our own, who are dearly missed and will never be forgotten. Yet, with wisdom and resilience borne of past experience, you continued to believe in the promise of brighter days.

I am honored and humbled to work alongside the individuals and to serve the residents you'll read about on these pages. Because of them and many others, WesleyLife was blessed not only to survive 2020, but to thrive. As we continue to move forward — to grow, to serve, and to extend our vision — we are forever changed by the lessons of 2020, and will apply them to become even stronger together.

Thank you, as always, for being a part of the WesleyLife family. May God bless you and keep all of you and your families healthy and safe.



Sincerely,

Rob

Rob Kretzinger President and CEO, **WesleyLife**

Reflecting, and Moving Forward

As I write this, medical experts are beginning to cautiously tell us that the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the most significant events of our lives, may soon be in the rear-view mirror. As part of the board of directors for an organization that has been impacted significantly by COVID, I'm relieved, as I'm sure we all are, to hear this encouraging news. I'm also reminded how proud I am to be a part of an organization that somehow found a way throughout 2020 to keep moving forward.

Effective leadership in 2020 was about equal parts compassion and determination; compassion for the way COVID has affected and changed the lives of so many and determination that somehow we would get through the crisis and resume some sense of normalcy.

In March 2020, WesleyLife closed the doors to its communities upon the guidance of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and focused on keeping residents connected to loved ones and the outside world, while helping ensure they stayed healthy and safe. As you'll read in the stories in this report, team members went above and beyond to extend care and compassion. At the same time, leaders worked to ensure not only that the organization would persevere, but would exit 2020 as healthy as ever for the individuals it currently serves and for generations to come.

As our board met with WesleyLife's CEO, Rob Kretzinger, and other leaders in 2020, we heard stories about clinical protocols and mitigation and guidance that had been enacted to help keep communities and services safe. We heard of leaders delivering "care packages" to demonstrate their thanks to their team members. We also heard about ground being broken for new communities and plans being made for redevelopment of existing campuses.

As much of the world came to a virtual halt in 2020, WesleyLife pushed forward despite overwhelming challenges. I'm thankful to be part of an organization whose leaders inherently understood not only how COVID-19 would alter our approach, but that we owed it to those we serve to maintain fortitude and to plan for an organizational life that would continue beyond the pandemic. I've been a part of this organization for a long time, but have never been prouder of where its vision is sure to take us in the years to come.

In gratitude,

Chad Rasmussen

President, WesleyLife Board of Directors

When Generosity Takes Courage

In mid-March, Courtney Isaacs was sheltering in place in his Des Moines-area home. While anxiously watching the governor's daily report on the number of COVID-positive Iowans and plans for mitigation of the virus, Courtney noticed a scroll across the bottom of the screen calling for volunteers to deliver meals to vulnerable individuals through WesleyLife Meals on Wheels. Putting his own concerns aside, Courtney and his son, Braedyn — and some 498 other volunteers — made the courageous decision to help WesleyLife's drivers deliver hot, healthy meals to older adults and military veterans in need.

Jan Hildrith, a WesleyLife Hospice volunteer of a dozen years' time, donned personal protective equipment and stayed with her clients as they dealt with

WesleyLife Philanthropy team: Amanda Leinen, Chad Vogel, Kevin Mortensen

the emotional ramifications of being physically separated from their loved ones. She brought them their favorite candy bars, placed photos of their family members in picture frames, sang to them, prayed with them, and did whatever she could to help ensure their remaining days would be peaceful and meaningful. When the need for social distancing relegated her companionship to phone calls, her commitment still never wavered.

Generous acts such as these are noble under any circumstances. But when you consider the sacrifices so many have made without assurances that they and their families would be able to stay healthy, their selflessness is even more awe-inspiring.

Whether you donated money to our programs and services in 2020, grocery-shopped for our residents, sewed protective masks and clothing, or gave of yourself in some other way, you were courageous, and we are so thankful for your compassionate heart and your bravery. We also hope you know what a difference your actions made, and we humbly ask you to keep the generosity going during the rest of this year — and beyond.

Sincerely,

Chad Vogel

Vice President of Philanthropy, WesleyLife

Board of Directors

WesleyLife is governed by an all-volunteer board of directors. Since 1947, the board has led the growth of WesleyLife from a single retirement community to a comprehensive network of health and well-being services and initiatives for older adults, wherever they call home. Drawing upon both life experience and areas of professional expertise, board members provide oversight for the entire organization and define the ways WesleyLife lives its mission.



Chairman Chad Rasmussen Director, Asset Management, Kum & Go



Past Chairman R. Kevin LaGree Retired President, Simpson College



Secretary/Treasurer Susan Osweiler, MS. FSA Assistant Professor of Practice in Actuarial Science and Director of the School of Actuarial Science and Risk Management, Drake University



Kip Albertson Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Head Strategy Officer, Bankers Trust



Bob RuchPresident, Ruch Enterprises



Abbey Gilroy
Executive director,
Neighborhood Development
Corporation



David Stout
Retired Pastor,
United Methodist Church



Jody Lorence Retired Partner, Otto and Lorence Law Firm, P.C.

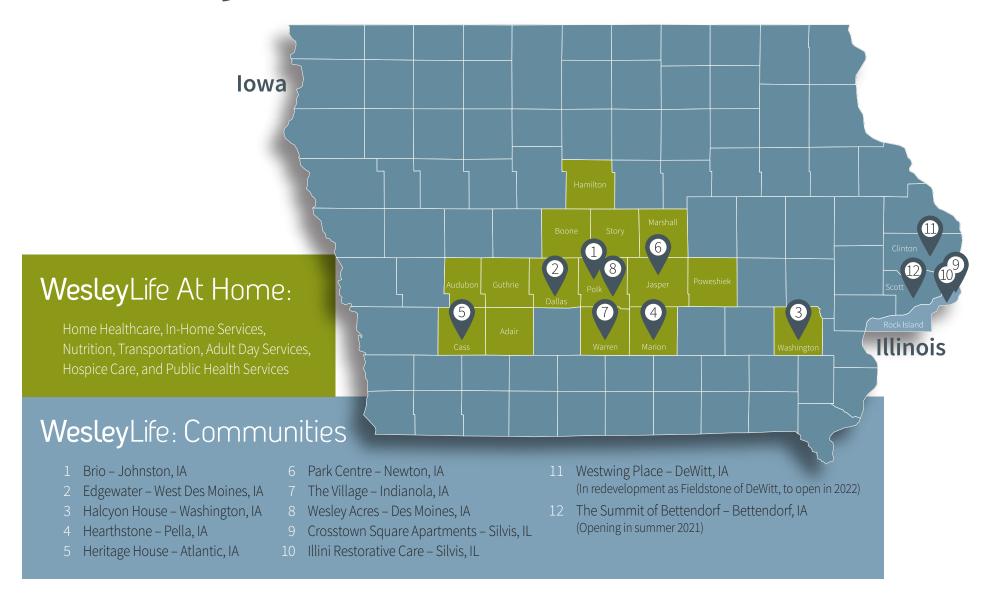


Dr. Christina Taylor Chief Quality Officer and Director of Population Health, Quality Analytics, and Care Management, The Iowa Clinic



Nick Henderson Semi-retired President and Chief Operating Officer, Holmes Murphy & Associates

WesleyLife: Where We Serve



Putting People First -

How We Supported Our Team Members in 2020

By Kristy VanDerWiel Vice President of Strategy and Mission Integration



I've heard it said that no one could have imagined that an event of COVID-19's magnitude would have occurred during our lifetimes. Many also say that because it could not have been imagined, we similarly could not have imagined how to respond to it.

As someone who has spent a career in People and Culture strategy, I disagree. COVID-19 has been a challenge of epic proportions — but at its core, a challenge is a challenge. And the protocols with which we deal with any challenge remain

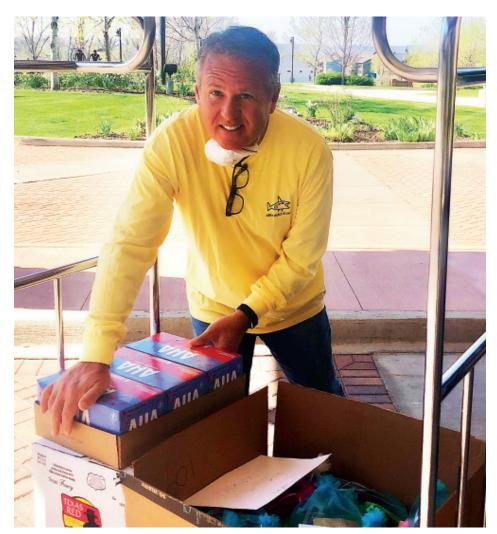
unchanged: Put people first. And the rest falls into place.

During perhaps the most difficult year of our 74-year existence, we were able to place the logistical and emotional needs of our team members as a priority in both the short- and long-term. And most gratifying was that in the midst of an unprecedented challenge, we were again named a Great Place to Work® as a result of feedback from our team members.

Our strategy

When we began preparing for the likely effects of COVID-19 on our organization, any conversation cycled around to this truth: People wanted to know that we were aware of the potential ramifications of the situation and that we were thinking about how team members might be affected. When team members came to us early in the year and asked, "Are you hearing about this coronavirus thing?" we were able to respond, "Yes. There's a lot to learn, and we will begin communicating with you soon." We formed a task force and met regularly to share ideas and make sure we were on course.

We also vowed to remain flexible. None of us had experienced a pandemic, so we knew that early guidance likely would be revised as we discovered more about the virus. In addition, we decided to over-inform. We wondered from time to time whether team members and families were tired of hearing from us, but we had decided early on to err on the side of communicating too often. That let all our audiences know that we were "on it" 100 percent, all the time, and would do all we could to keep them healthy and safe.



WesleyLife CEO Rob Kretzinger packages items for delivery to team members.

We also knew how important it was to let our team members know, loudly and often, how much we cared about them. Not only had numerous team members been impacted personally by COVID, but in August 2020, a derecho came through and ravaged some parts of central and eastern Iowa. Our Bridge Fund, which team members contribute to, assisted individuals who had suffered hardship from that storm. And our CEO and other leaders and I routinely visited our communities to provide "care packages" and offer emotional support.

Recognizing Joy in Hardship

As has been the case with many organizations, I'm sure, the silver lining to this challenge has been the way our communities and services have come together and how words of support have been spoken far more often, and with much more volume and fervor, than words of dissent. Team members, residents, and family members speak more freely now than they did before 2020 of our organization's mission, vision and values.

In 2020, we reached out to help another. We celebrated the many ways our team members created positive moments and experiences for those we serve. We worried together, we cried together — and collectively, we extended support as much as we needed to have it extended to us.

As is the case with everyone, I'm sure, my preference would have been to avoid this chapter in our history altogether. But as we recover from this time and look back at lessons learned, I feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude. I have always known I'm fortunate to work among my fellow team members, and 2020 reminded me to never miss a chance to let them know.

A Solid Foundation:

Our Commitment to Clinical Excellence



Karie Kesterson-Gibson with her newborn daughters



Brent "BJ" Baskerville, Administrator and Associate Executive Director of Edgewater, a WesleyLife community in West Des Moines, holds a bag of PPE that was donated to the community.

When Karie Kesterson-Gibson, Clinical Quality Specialist for WesleyLife, thinks back to the early days of COVID-19, one recollection stands out.

"I remember thinking, 'We're in good shape; there's no need to panic,'" Karie says. "From a clinical perspective, we commit daily to preventing and mitigating the spread of infectious diseases in our health centers."

Guidance and taking stock

Guidance from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services did turn up those protocols a notch; team members would be required to clean surfaces more frequently, for example. And there was the Personal Protective Equipment issue; WesleyLife, like all other organizations providing healthcare, was fearful of not having enough to go around. Here, too, Karie's cool head — and the cool heads of other team members — prevailed.

"We put out a call for more PPE, just in case," Karie remembers. Donations began rolling in from vendors and suppliers; hundreds of yards of fabric also were purchased, and residents and volunteers began sewing gowns and masks. Soon, the communities' supplies were plentiful enough to help ensure team members could continue to follow guidance.

Pressing challenges — and solutions

The most pressing challenges for WesleyLife's leaders involved constantly evolving guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and Iowa and Illinois' Departments of Public Health. LeadingAge, the nationwide advocacy organization for not-for-profit senior living, provided valuable guidance and support, and an organizational task force met every morning to help ensure protocols were being interpreted and applied correctly.

Then, there was another not-so-small matter: Karie's pregnancy, with twins, in the midst of a global pandemic that required her to place herself at a certain degree of risk daily.

"I worked with my doctor every step of the way to do all I could to keep myself and the babies protected, and I had a lot of people praying for us," Karie recalls with a smile. "But I couldn't refuse to do what we were asking other team members to do daily. Sure, I was tired, and I rested when I could, but I had great support and was confident we would be OK." (Thankfully, Karie and her husband welcomed healthy daughters Irelyn and Gracelyn in July 2020!)

WesleyLife lost residents to COVID-19, and the communities and families left missing those individuals are forever changed. Karie is grateful, however, for the team members who worked tirelessly to help ensure the virus's toll would not be higher.

"The dedication and commitment I saw from my fellow team members is something that will inspire me always," she says. "We worked together for a common goal, and we'll continue to do that, no matter what comes our way."

Serving Differently in 2020

When Friday, March 13, 2020, began, few could have imagined the way life would have changed by the time evening fell. The novel coronavirus had slowly been making its way inward from both coasts; in lowa, 16 cases had been reported.

Late in the day, new and sobering guidance designed to keep residents, clients, and team members safe arrived from the Centers for Medicare and



Brio of Johnston balcony and patio exercise class

Medicaid Services. WesleyLife's clinical and operational leaders put their heads together to determine how to interpret and adopt it for our 11 communities, three additional campus locations, and seven service lines.

The determination: Effective immediately, all our locations would close their doors to visitors. We had tightened protocols early in the month, but this date marked the official beginning of our call to serve differently. On that day, we wrote, in part:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced a tightening of restrictions around visitors to senior living communities because of the global spread of the novel coronavirus. Although we understand how difficult these restrictions will be for our residents and their family members, we must comply with them. We are in this together and will work through it together.

"Work through it together," we did. Our residents, who had lived through world wars and the polio epidemic and "duck and cover" bomb drills, became a great source of support for one another; they knew they would miss visits from their loved ones, but they resolved to keep calm, carry on, and pray for health and resolution. Our team members, in turn, vowed to do everything in their power to keep residents connected to family members, putting aside their own anxieties about the virus to focus on the needs of those who had placed their trust in WesleyLife.

On the following pages, you'll see the ways WesleyLife survived — and thrived — in 2020, keeping our collective eye on our organizational pillars and serving with a commitment to excellence and innovation while mindful of our heritage and always seeking to enhance the well-being of those we serve. The saying "We're better together" was put to the test in 2020, and it didn't take long for us to realize all the truth conveyed in those three words.

How We Served: Stories from Our Communities and Services





Chelsey and her grandma

Westwing Place, DeWitt, Iowa

"One of our primary COVID Certified Nursing Assistants was Mari Merrick. Mari worked extra hours to support consistent staffing of our COVID area. She also made the tough decision to have her children stay with loved ones when we were 'in the thick of it' to best protect them and her immunocompromised nephew. She knew her children would welcome the 'vacation' with loved ones and that they would be well cared for while Mari continued to care for our most vulnerable residents.

"My second story is personal. My grandma was the first resident at Westwing to die of COVID. The picture shown here was taken from her window by my sister the day before my grandma died. My grandfather — her husband of over 62 years — said his goodbyes through the window and found great comfort in making the decision not to entertain a compassionate care visit to protect his own health and safety, and to allow me the honor of serving as her in-person support the final two days of her life when we realized this was taking her."

- Chelsey Killean, Administrator

Illini Restorative Care/Crosstown Square, Silvis, Illinois

"What best exemplified the way Illini Restorative Care/Crosstown Square responded to the challenges of COVID-19? That would be a one-word answer: **TEAMWORK**. As John C. Maxwell said, 'The truth is teamwork is at the heart of great achievement.' Our entire team stepped up and went above and beyond, from therapists stepping out of their comfort zones to nurses to CNAs to everyone in between. I think of nurses like John, who did not have to work Christmas but chose to so that another nurse could have a break, and Sarah, who made sure to over-communicate changes to reduce anxiety when we were all scared of the unknown.

"I honestly wish I could name each and every team member and thank them for being such an important part of this experience for us. Suffice it to say from Environmental Services to Maintenance to Food and Nutrition, our whole team pulled together. In fact, when it comes to our residents, we always seem to pull it together to get the job done. That is what makes us IRC and Crosstown Square."

- MaLinda Krauss, Director of Health Services, Metro



Team members from Illini Restorative Care and Crosstown Square



Brio of Johnston, Johnston, Iowa

"By definition, *concierge* means a caretaker of an apartment complex whose role would also include a variety of duties to ensure hospitality. *Brio* means vigor or vivacity of style or performance. The two words combined illustrate the roles of Brio's concierge services — and even more so during a pandemic! In 2020, everyone in healthcare at Brio stepped up to the plate in assuring needs, cares, and tasks were being completed, and our concierges were no exception. Kendra Barns and Debora Bonpua demonstrated their dedication to their positions and to Wesleylife's mission as their jobs evolved out of necessity. They became personal mail and Fed Ex deliverers, especially during the holidays! When family members dropped off groceries or holiday treats, Kendra and Debora were the ones knocking on residents' doors with smiles and words of good cheer. They sanitized the front lobby up to four times a day, and both team members also fulfilled 'safety patrol' duties by ensuring protocols were followed at our front entrance. They provided gentle reminders of our ever-changing protocols, and they were also 'greeters' every morning with well wishes for residents who needed their spirits lifted. More importantly, they were all about hospitality at all times, no matter how serious the circumstances. During a challenging year, Debora and Kendra meant so much to all of us!"

Kendra

- Maria Jordan, Sales Director

Wesley Acres, Des Moines, Iowa

"During 2020, the Wesley Acres team gave their all to get us through a pandemic, a derecho, blizzards, and a COVID outbreak. None of those things stopped our team from coming to work and putting our residents first. Team members stepped in when families were not able, stepped up when they were needed most, and plowed through an outbreak clothed head-to-toe in protective equipment to ensure our residents had everything they needed and as much psychosocial support as possible.

"From the nurses and therapists to aides and assistants on the clinical team, your dedication and your commitment to our mission keep the people we serve safe. Your personal persistence did not simply stop and start at our doors, and we appreciate you more than you know. For the dining, facilities, housekeeping, and laundry teams, lifestyles team, and everyone in between, you ensured our residents had everything they needed when contact outside of our walls had been so limited. For our leaders, your

strategic initiatives directed the team through an ever-changing labyrinth of guidance and regulations. For anyone I may have missed, I hope you know that you all played an important role and you were the key to the safety and security of the amazing people we serve. And to our residents and families, your support filled our hearts and kept our spirits up when we needed it the most. I am so thankful for you all."

- Brandon Kranovich, Director of Health Center Operations



Wesley Acres team members





Denise

Halcyon House, Washington, Iowa

"I am grateful for the way our whole team stepped up during COVID, as they do anytime we need them — but this was certainly an 'above and beyond' event. We are especially thankful for three team members who worked in our COVID isolation area: Laura Crockett-Ewalt, RN; Denise Rathmel, CMA; and Jalyn Lloyd, ADON. The three of them worked tirelessly to care for everyone who needs them. They even took it upon themselves to take turns sleeping onsite overnight so they would be here to assist if there was a need.

"They have families they have been away from, with Jalyn sacrificing time away from her two young daughters. Her family stepped up to help her with the girls as she cared for our COVID-positive residents. We are grateful indeed for these selfless team members!"

- Susan Wellington, Sales Director

Edgewater, West Des Moines, Iowa

"Although 2020 is a year I hope we will never repeat, I can honestly say for all the challenges it has brought to society, it also offered an opportunity of a realignment of our values. So many times throughout 2020, I found a lingering question consistently come forward in my head: 'What's really important?' Now that 2021 is here, we at Edgewater are welcoming back opportunities for connection, family, friends, and faith throughout our community. At the same time, we think back with gratitude toward those who gave so selflessly to help our campus and our greater community through one of the most challenging times in history. From our team members who went above and beyond the call of duty to our residents, who were consistently looking for ways to volunteer, to give, and to make a difference, Edgewater collectively stepped up, and I am thankful.

"The time we spent away from each other last year served to strengthen the bonds we have with one another as we reconnect in person. Let's look behind at 2020 as a year that offered us the opportunity to reevaluate our lives and reconnect to what is important, and use 2021 as the year to show our gratitude for what we missed the most. I hope you will find that your faith has strengthened, your connection to family is stronger, and your desire to cherish your friends is deeper."

- Glen Lewis, Executive Director



Edgewater resident Royce Hall, following mask protocols



Hearthstone leaders Wyatt Russell, Natasha Nikkel, Deborah Perry, and Frank Tafta

Hearthstone, Pella, Iowa

"The COVID pandemic has required all of us to demonstrate a delicate balance of head and heart, showing unwavering commitment and expertise in regulations, infection control practices, safety protocols, and disease management, all while holding tight to our mission of honoring residents' rights, choices, relationships, and needs for human touch and engagement. This group of leaders led our teams across campus and others outside our community with excellence in Nursing, Environmental Services, Dining, and Wellness. While each of them had a focus on what had to be done to prevent and mitigate COVID — setting up airtight isolation rooms, testing labs, education, meals in rooms, and individual wellness programs — they also had an understanding and focus on what's always most important: the emotional well-being of our residents and team members!

"These leaders helped create numerous opportunities to nourish the heart and soul of the residents we serve and the team members we work alongside with special 'suite service' to residents across all levels of care, hallway and balcony exercise programs, surprise meals and coffee bars for team members, handcrafted wreaths for team member appreciation,

communication opportunities with families, and so much more. These four individuals represent a much larger team of dedicated servant leaders from every department across Hearthstone, all of whom balance their knowledge and compassion daily to meet the needs of others."

- Nancy Hamilton, Executive Director

Heritage House, Atlantic, Iowa

"New to the team at Heritage House is Executive Director Peter Gray. About two weeks after Peter joined Heritage House, COVID restrictions went into full effect at the community. This did not stop Peter from showing up for his team. Longtime Wellness Director Jon Jordan and Resident Life Coordinator Gabby Johnson followed in Peter's footsteps, really stepping up to the plate during this trying time.

"It came about that team members who were not certified to be Certified Nursing Assistants could take a fast-track course to become certified as CNAs to provide extra help throughout the pandemic. Peter, Jon, and Gabby stepped up to the call and took the course. Since March 2020, each has worked







Gabby

Jo

countless shifts, day and night, helping to care for our residents. All the while, they also maintained their primary roles within Heritage House as Executive Director, Wellness Director, and Resident Life Coordinator, respectively. We are proud to have such dedicated leaders within WesleyLife and applaud Jon, Peter, and Gabby for embodying true courage."

- Kennedy Freund, Sales Director



Sheree Esqueda poses with her team

Park Centre, Newton, Iowa

"Sheree Esqueda, Houskeeping Director, deserves our unending gratitude for preparing Park Centre for whatever COVID threw our way. The first thing Sherere did was establish a baseline inventory of all of our Personal Protective Equipment and environmental supplies. From there, she went to work securing much-needed PPE and supplies. I don't know how she did it, but Sheree found a way to make sure the team had the proper PPE and all the supplies we needed to make sure we were adhering to COVID protocols. Sheree and her team went to work every single day to make sure suites were ready for the next resident or short-term rehabilitation client. She placed individual stations outside each resident's room that provided the necessary PPE for the team member and resident.

"As the rest of us were just trying to keep our heads above water, Sheree was busy working underneath the current to make sure every team member and resident felt safe and cared for. We experienced unprecedented grief and heartache when a resident died of COVID-19. Team members were experiencing emotions we never had felt before, and through it all, Sheree and her team performed their jobs with the upmost grace, dignity and respect. I don't know what we would have done with Sheree's leadership during this past year."

- Margot Voshell, Sales Director

WesleyLife Meals on Wheels

"Early on in pandemic planning, WesleyLife Meals on Wheels made the decision to continue the daily safety checks that our clients depend on. Almost overnight, demand surged to over 150 percent of normal volume as vulnerable older adults in the community did their part and stayed home. Meanwhile, programs across the country switched to dropping off frozen meals once a week because they couldn't recruit enough people to maintain daily deliveries. Drivers filled their cars with emergency food, delivered meals, then came back to the kitchen and reloaded their vehicles with more meals to meet the need. Kitchen team members started their days two hours early and worked late, and administrative team members — including our volunteer coordinator and program director — delivered meals during the day and managed the rest of their responsibilities on nights and weekends.

"The community response was tremendous, with hundreds of new volunteers signing up to help in their neighbors in a time of need. All year long, the program changed at the 'speed of COVID' to help keep clients, volunteers and team members safe."

- Bambi Press, Director of Community Nutrition



Meals on Wheels volunteer Cathy Karn

Kiley, Paige, Haley

The Village, Indianola, Iowa

"Penny Huss, Administrative Assistant, stepped up as one of many heroes at The Village when COVID closed our building. In addition to her normal duties, Penny took on the task of screening any essential person who entered our building and always did it with a smile — behind the mask! She continues to be on the front line helping other team members. COVID also took a toll on many of our front-line nursing and CNA teams, so when the call went out for help, several team members from other areas of The Village stepped up without hesitation. Paige Haar (Wellness Coordinator), Chelsea Bergmann (Director of Housekeeping), Kiley Hudson (Director of Social Services), Haley Richards (Culinary) and Michelle Blake (Resident Assistant) completed an eight-hour CNA certification so they could not only provide support to our nurses, but also care and compassion for residents in our health center.









residents and team members. A year ago, life changed when the first cases of COVID started to spread across the U.S. and infection control quickly became a matter of life and death. So much was unknown about the coronavirus, but Emily worked tirelessly with our entire team to make sure we were implementing proper precautions and testing procedures. In late 2020, more than 40 residents and team members tested positive for COVID – including Emily. She quarantined for a few days, but chose to come back to care for residents in our COVID infection area. Those few weeks, Emily survived on very little sleep while trying to keep her own family safe and recover from the virus, too."

"As an Assistant Director of Nursing and the Infection Preventionist at The Village, Emily Budding's No. 1 priority has always been the health and well-being of our

- Ethan Walton, Executive Director

WesleyLife Hospice

"Bev Swift, a decade-long WesleyLife Hospice volunteer, spent 2020 doing what she has always done for us — helping behind the scenes to ensure our team members always have what they need.

"Bev comes into the office once a week to prepare the nurses' admission packets and bereavement mailings, and so much more! When COVID precautions prevented the office from being open to the public, Bev didn't just sit back and wait until she could help again; she regularly drove to the office to pick up supplies to continue making the packets. She assembled them at home, then drove back to the office to return them. And Bev didn't just stop there; she used her talents to sew countless lap blankets for our hospice patients, both patriotic for our military veterans and a variety of styles for others. I don't know what we would have done without Bev and her generous spirit this past year."

- Sarah Underwood, Volunteer Coordinator



Bev, left, and Sarah



WesleyLife At Home

"Betty Miller has served public health clients as a Home Care Aide for WesleyLife At Home for 14 years. The WesleyLife at Home Public Health Department provides personal and environmental care to adults who live in Polk County and have a physical or mental health diagnosis that prevents them from providing their own care. These services are provided through a grant from the Polk County Health Department.

"Early in 2020, Betty decided she was going to retire later in the year. However, after the COVID-19 pandemic began, Betty said she felt the need to continue providing care for her clients because they needed her now more than ever before. Betty has continued as a Home Care Aide since October 2020, providing the great care her clients depend on. She works tirelessly to ensure her clients' needs are met.

She says that when she finally does retire, she wants to travel the world with her husband and explore new places. She says that phase of her life can wait a little while longer, though, because she feels it's important for her to be doing what she's doing now. Betty enjoys taking care of older adults, and she took care of her in-laws in their older years. When they passed away, she felt the need to give back and make sure others were taken care of, and she has done exactly that for her Public Health clients.

"Betty was born in Winterset, Iowa, and later moved to Kansas City, Missouri. Iowa has always been 'home,' though, so she made her way back many years ago. Betty currently lives in Des Moines with her husband of 37 years, Jeff, and their three cats. Betty has an adult son and an adult daughter and three grandchildren She enjoys spending her free time with her family, and especially loves attending her grandchildren's baseball games.

Betty felt the need to continue providing care for her clients because they needed her more than ever before.

"Porshia Taylor, Director of Public Health for WesleyLife, says of Betty, 'She has a servant's heart and will do whatever needs to be done to meet the needs of her clients and team. Betty demonstrates Christian compassion and treats all her clients and peers with dignity and respect. She's is a dependable team member we can always count on, and she's a tremendous asset to the Public Health team and WesleyLife. We will miss her dearly once she does fully retire to travel the world — something that will be well-deserved."

- Amy Knight, Director of People & Culture, WesleyLife at Home

Donors Answer the Call

By Chad Vogel Vice President of Philanthropy

Out of a strong sense of community pride, civic leaders from DeWitt, lowa, traveled southwest one morning to tour The Cottages, a campus of Hearthstone, a ministry of WesleyLife. WesleyLife and Genesis Health System had come together in July 2019 to form WellSpire, and leaders knew the existing Westwing Place community would need to be redeveloped or replaced. They had learned The Cottages might be a prototype for Westwing's next step, and they wanted to learn more.

Transformative Partnership

"WesleyLife and Genesis have a long history of delivering on the promise of transforming the aging experience for adults, so we quickly recognized that the project was within our grasp here in DeWitt," Mark Witte, President of the DeWitt Community Hospital Foundation, recalls.

The trip to Pella resulted in a feasibility study to determine capacity and interest in a similar community in DeWitt. The study concluded that there was reason to proceed with a \$5 million campaign, but with the following

Fieldstone of DeWitt Steering Committee, left, and Pella Households Addition Steering Committee, right





caution: "It remains to be seen how events with the Covid-19 virus and the weakened stock markets will impact the campaign.

Pressing forward

"We all took a deep breath before deciding to proceed despite the challenges," Robin Krogman, Executive Director of the Foundation, remembers. "We all agreed that our community was too important to give up on, so we pressed on."

At nearly the same time in Pella, a tragedy was unfolding; a water-main break at Hearthstone's Jefferson Place community necessitated closure of the campus, resulting in a nearly 40 percent loss of the community's long- and short-term capacity to serve older adults.

Another challenge

So, in October 2020, WesleyLife launched another campaign, this one to raise \$2 million to add two households to The Cottages in Pella. "We had to move the campaign along very quickly to avoid any potential loss of that service capacity," Nancy Hamilton, Hearthstone's Executive Director says.

A local steering committee was assembled immediately, and as of this writing, ground has been broken for **both** new developments.

During a year when many warned, "What you're attempting will be too difficult," donors in two communities stepped forward to lead and to answer the call for the benefit of those we serve. We are beyond gratified for the belief in our mission and the support that was offered to sustain and enhance it. To all our donors: We humbly and sincerely thank you.

Total donated to WesleyLife in 2020 \$5,847,252

\$5 million
Campaign launched for Fieldstone of DeWitt

Total donated to Hearthstone Cottages addition \$2 million

Neighbors Helping Neighbors:

The WesleyLife Promise

By Kevin Mortensen Director of Annual Giving

Guided by Christian compassion, WesleyLife believes everyone should have the opportunity to live a life of continued growth, experience, engagement, and meaning regardless of physical, social, or economic circumstances. A significant way we illustrate this belief is through the WesleyLife Promise.

The promise began with WesleyLife's inception in 1947. Since then, we've assured our residents that if they deplete their financial resources through no fault of their own, they will never be asked to leave their homes with us, or experience a reduction in the degree of care they receive.

Promises kept

Susan H.*, a resident at one of our Communities for Healthy Living, benefited from the Promise when she unexpectedly needed to transfer to the campus Health Center following a sudden illness. She and her family never could have imagined that just two years after moving into Independent Living, Susan would be experiencing a far different level of living — and the dramatic increase in medical costs that can accompany such a change.

Similarly, the Promise was called into action when George and Kathy A.'s* retirement savings was decimated by a collapse in the stock market. The couple, longtime Independent Living residents at a WesleyLife community in the Des Moines area, were heartbroken that the money they had worked so hard to make and to save was so suddenly gone. They were planning to move in with one of their adult children when they learned that donations to their community's Good Samaritan fund would help pay their monthly service fee, and they would be able to stay in their apartment home.

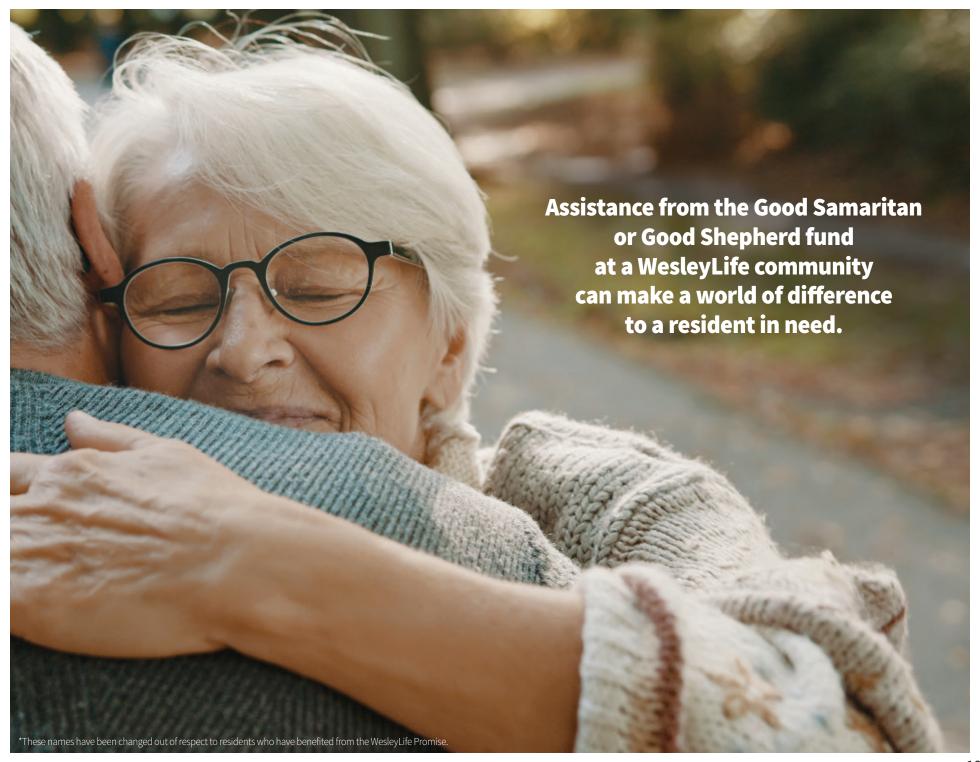
Finally, the Promise was called into play when Bob F.* turned 95 and took a close look at his finances. Having moved into Independent Living with his wife when both were 70, he never expected to be nearing centenarian status, and the money that he had so carefully saved and invested was beginning to dwindle. He was delighted to learn that his campus's Good Samaritan fund could help him continue to afford his apartment.

Making it all possible

Supported solely by donations, the WesleyLife Promise is funded by each community's Good Samaritan or Good Shepherd fund. Neighbors helping neighbors; that's what being a Good Samaritan is all about! Each WesleyLife community supports its own residents in times of financial need through local fundraising activities and events, such as chili suppers, golf outings, and garage sales. Broader fundraising efforts through philanthropic giving also contribute funds to support this promise.

As healthy living in our communities helps lead to longer life spans, many residents who lived and invested well for retirement may nonetheless need assistance. The WesleyLife promise covers not only the cost of care for residents whose needs cannot be met with government-funded programs, but also helps provide necessities and comfort items. Those who receive funds do so confidentially.

Please consider donating to the Good Samaritan/Good Shepherd fund at the community of your choice to help keep residents safe and healthy at home. Whether you are giving for the first time or have supported these funds previously, we appreciate your compassion and generosity!



Recognizing Your Generosity

The Legacy Society represents individuals who have named WesleyLife and/or one of our communities or programs in their wills or through other planned giving instruments. We are deeply moved by the decisions of our Legacy Society members to leave personal legacies with WesleyLife.

We work closely with current and future Legacy Society members to ensure the impact they expect will be realized, and we are honored to recognize and thank them.

Legacy Society

Anonymous (5)
Shirley and Duane Acker
Bill and Helen Brantley
James Morrison Collier
Richard and Ruth Davitt
Mary Jean Faust
Gladys M. Ferguson
Howard Frazier

Elizabeth Frink
Jim and Evelyn Gore
Marylin A. Gorham
Ethel and Donald* Hendrickson
Dale and Barbara Henning
Dwight and Patricia Hicks
Betty Jean Hotchkin
William and Barbara Keck

Alberta and Burt* Kisling Gary Kloppenburg Eugene and Lois Knol Rob and Glenda Kretzinger Everett Laning Jack and Charlotte Maples John and Jan Mechem Flodie Morrison Lois Priest Dorothy Riddle Eleanor Smith Katherine Sopasakis Ramona and Jerry* Sorensen William Tomlinson Helen and Robert* Young

Donors of Distinction WesleyLife recognizes living donors and organizations with a lifetime giving of \$100,000 or more as Donors of Distinction. By achieving this level of giving, these donors have demonstrated transformational trust and commitment in helping to fulfill the vision to transform the aging experience with the creation of a continuum of wellness designed to engage and empower others to live longer, healthier lives.

Donors of Distinction

Anonymous
Andringa Family Foundation
Atlantic Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Clinton County
Development Association
Community Foundation
of Greater Des Moines
Corteva
DeWitt Bank & Trust
DeWitt Community
Hospital Foundation
Ernest & Florence Sargent
Family Foundation

First Central State Bank
Gabus Family Foundation
Geisler Penquite Foundation
Iowa Annual Conference of the UMC
Kresge Foundation
Marion County Bank
Marion County
Community Foundation
Maytag Corporation Foundation
Meals on Wheels of America
Pella Community Foundation
Pella Regional Health Center

Precision Inc.
Principal Financial Group
Foundation, Inc.
Smith Family Foundation
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United Way
Unity Point Health
Vermeer Charitable Foundation, Inc.
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William A. Steele Foundation, Inc.
James Morrison Collier

Mark and Kay DeCook Roy and Averyle* Ehrle Sandy Heerema Fred and Becky Hunt Stan and Gayle Poortinga Wayne and Nancy Stuedemann Alan and Myrna Tubbs James R. and Dottie* Tyler Bob and Lois Vermeer Craig Witte and Ann Abplanalp Mark and Marsha Witte **Annual Donor Clubs** We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organizations for their 2020 contributions to WesleyLife. The donor levels include all gifts and pledges made from January 1 through December 31, 2020. Future pledge installments are recognized in the year they are originally committed.

Century Club \$100,000+

Anonymous
Clinton County
Development Association
DeWitt Bank & Trust
DeWitt Community
Hospital Foundation
First Central State Bank
Pella Corporation
Vermeer Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Sandy Heerema
Wayne and Nancy Stuedemann
Alan and Myrna Tubbs
Craig Witte and Ann Abplanalp
Mark and Marsha Witte

Founders \$50,000 - \$99,999

Anonymous
Meals on Wheels of America
Marion County Bank
Gabus Family Foundation
Bill Homrighausen
Don Kent & Family
Bob and Lois Vermeer
Cora Wagner Estate*

Keystone \$25,000 - \$49,999

Anonymous (2)
Ohnward Foundation
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Marjorie and Ken Goddard
Sue and Rick Haack
Pat Henricksen
Roger and Pam Hill
Rob and Glenda Kretzinger

Doug and Susan Krieger Bess B. LeGrand Estate* Tony and Piper Manatt Jan and Jim Nelson Jim Owen Paul and Carol Patterson Scott and Cindy Van Tasell Bob and Charlie Zylstra

Patrons \$10,000 - \$24,999

Allen & Neumann Family Dentistry American Enterprise Group, Inc. Corteva Geisler Penguite Foundation Kunau Implement Co. Schiller Family Foundation Southeast Iowa Link (SEIL) SYSCO Food Services of Iowa Mike Barnes Pete and Kim Clausen Daniel Condon Brian and Julie Doom Selma Duvick* Will and Jennie Froeschle Kevin and Lori Green Roger and Sharon Hogle Mike and Jeanne Jacobs Mary Langdon Marjorie Moore* Julie and Jim Mueller Dana and Scott Palmer Mark and Linda Recker Linda and Art Snyder Nellie C. Stewart Estate* Lowell Titus* Jerry and Martha Uitermarkt

Sustainers \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous

Andersen Corporate Foundation Delta Dental of Iowa **EMC Insurance Foundation** Great Western Bank Halcyon House Employee Division Heritage Agency on Aging Ruhl&Ruhl Realtors Sodexo. Inc & Affiliates Wesley Acres Resident Council Bill and Corina Andresen Ellis and Myrtle Barber Bill and Helen Brantley Curtis and Diane Claevs Mark and Mary De Jong Edward and Linda Duesing Marian Giddens Jeri L. Henry David and Cyndy Hill Ted and Susan Hutchison Fred and Jane Koogler Jim Lass and Linda Drew-Lass Donald and Rebecca Magruder Rick and Gaylene Mangan Mary and Donald Newton Norman and Eloise Rinderknecht Mary Rueter

Guardians \$2,500 - \$4,999

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Concept Cares
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James and Barbara Braafhart
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Steven and Karen Herwig
Jan Miller Straub
Brent and Robin Petersen
Barbara Sayre*
Travis and Janet Simpson
Marvin and Kristy VanDerWiel
Chad and Darice Vogel

Advocates \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous (5) A.M. Cohron & Son. Inc. Beasley Family Foundation Des Moines Area Hunger Hike, Inc. Green State Credit Union Homesteaders Life Company Indianola Chamber of Commerce DBA Indianola Ragbrai Meredith Corporation Mezcal Mexican Bar and Grill Northwest Bank St. Mark Lutheran Church Straub Marketing The Coons Foundation The Village Wood Working Shop Two Men and a Truck Unite Private Networks Winterset Redemption Verna Bernhard* Babette Brenton

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Katherine Sopasakis

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Howard and Lola* Vander Hart Brent and Esther VanderWaal

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Raymond Terlouw
Rod and Janet VanWyk

Gloria Ward Joan Wilson

James and Sandy Windsor, III

Krenio Wright Eileen Zegers

Friends \$250 - \$499

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Infinity Group LLC
Iowa Corn Growers Association
Medicine Shoppe

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Gift In Kind

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Financials

Audited Balance Sheet

ASSETS:

Cash and investments	\$ 80,060,983
Receivables	\$ 10,530,147
Other assets	\$ 1,208,144
Assets with limited use	\$ 28,513,475
Property and equipment	\$ 210,886,868
Total Assets	\$ 331,199,617
NFT ASSETS:	

Total Net Assets	\$ 48,724,261
Net assets without donor restrictions Net assets with donor restrictions	\$ 21,319,032 \$ 27,405,229
NET ASSETS:	

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITY NOTE

Our goal as a not-for-profit organization is to have the resources available to fund the following mission needs: charitable services, periodic operational shortfalls, investment in property and equipment, program enhancements, and future growth. Your contributions are essential to help provide these resources.

Audited Statement of Operations

Surplus of Revenue over Expenses	\$ 3,863,293
Total Expenses	\$ 131,394,627
Salaries, benefits, and contracted expenses Depreciation and amortization Interest and amortization of bond issue costs Other expenses	\$ 77,172,077 \$ 13,605,533 \$ 5,431,215 \$ 35,185,802
EXPENSES:	
Total Revenues	\$ 135,257,920
Realized gain on investments Other non-operating revenue	\$ 690,462 \$ 8,157,695
Net direct services revenue Use of contributions	\$ 125,007,764 \$ 1,401,999
REVENUE:	¢ 125 007 704

GOOD SHEPHERD/SAMARITAN CARE:

Assistance to Assisted Living and Independent Living	\$ 1,118,567
Uncompensated cost over reimbursement from Medicaid	\$ 2,697,305

TOTAL GOOD SAMARITAN/SHEPHERD CARE \$3,815,872

Good Samaritan/Good Shepherd Funds

The Good Samaritan or Good Shepherd funds at several WesleyLife communities help uphold the WesleyLife Promise, which ensures that residents who deplete their financial resources through no fault of their own will not be asked to leave their homes with us. A donation made to a community's Good Samaritan/Good Shepherd fund will remain with that community, and will be used only on that campus.

\$11,016,620

Good Samaritan/Good Shepherd total endowment funds, including amounts raised in 2020

Good Samaritan Endowment, Wesley Acres \$3.9 million

Good Shepherd Endowment, The Village \$1.015 million

Good Samaritan Endowment, Park Centre **\$973,185**

Good Samaritan Endowment, Heritage House **\$471,660**

Good Samaritan Endowment, Halcyon House \$811,280

Good Samaritan Endowment, Edgewater \$266,620

Good Samaritan Endowment.

Dahl Adult Day, a WesleyLife Adult Day Center \$5,126

Good Samaritan Endowment,

Willowbrook, a WesleyLife Adult Day Center \$26,762

Good Samaritan Endowment, WesleyLife Meals on Wheels **\$2,532**

Good Samaritan Endowment, Hearthstone **\$6,837**

Good Samaritan Endowment, Brio of Johnston **\$27,348**

Good Samaritan Endowment,

WesleyLife (Network Support Center) \$560,923

Ernest and Florence Sargent Endowment Fund

Established in 1982 as a permanent restricted fund producing an annual income to benefit the Good Samaritan Annual Fund at Wesley Acres in Des Moines. **\$220,130**

(Anonymous) Promise Endowment

Established to help ensure that residents of Park Centre who deplete their financial resources through no fault of their own will not be asked to leave their homes with us. \$2,729,217

Serving Through Endowment

Establishing a lasting legacy through an endowment is one of the most enduring gifts a person can offer. Each WesleyLife endowment fund is held to perpetuity, and earnings are used to help fulfill its designated charitable purpose. Each fund is carefully managed according to the WesleyLife Board of Directors' policy on endowments, which mandates that 90 percent of earnings shall be made available for spending and 10 percent shall be returned to the principal. Named endowments can be established through a minimum gift of \$50,000. WesleyLife's named endowments are included here.

Endowment funds, including amounts raised in 2020, are included below.

Jim Collier WesleyLife at Home Endowment

Funds WesleyLife at Home services for financially vulnerable older adults. \$272,994

Gladys Baker Memorial Endowment Fund

Provides funds to assist team members at Wesley Acres in Des Moines who are experiencing emergency financial burdens. \$99,361

Lou Norris Endowment Fund

Supports wellness activities used exclusively for Wesley Acres in Des Moines for the benefit of residents and participants of the fitness center and related programs. **\$92,057**

VanDyke Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Established in memory of Helen Messenger and Gerald Van Dyke to provide nursing scholarships to team members at Park Centre. **\$79,497**

Geisler Penquite Support Fund

Established for specialized equipment, team member training, and/or community improvements that will enhance the quality of life for residents at Park Centre in Newton, and for participant scholarships at Willowbrook Adult Day Center in Newton. \$36,734

With unending gratitude...

Webster's defines a volunteer as "a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task." We at WesleyLife take that a step further, defining a volunteer as "someone who helped ensure in 2020 that we could continue to serve those who had placed their trust in us."

From the moment we first advertised, in March 2020, for volunteers to help us deliver WesleyLife Meals on Wheels, we were gratified by a phenomenal response: By the end of the year, we had enlisted the services of approximately 500 individuals who had shown up at various WesleyLife and WellSpire locations, asking for nothing but a chance to make a difference.

From a father-and-son duo who logged hundreds of hours delivering meals before moving out of state to a seamstress who created 200 gowns, hats, and masks from reams of donated fabric to the quiet volunteer who sat with clients as they neared the end of life, individuals served to meet an increased need, or to temporarily fill spots that had been vacated by team members who were dealing with their own illnesses or the illnesses of family members.

Without hesitation, these brave men, women, and young people pushed their own concerns aside to minister to those who very well might not have survived without their help.

Martin Luther King Jr. once observed, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" We know at least 500 people who will never have to worry about how to answer that question.

To our volunteers: WesleyLife thrived in 2020 in large part because of you. We owe you our never-ending gratitude, and we will never forget you.



Watch Us Grow!

WesleyLife WellSpire



When **The Summit of Bettendorf**, our 12th community, opens this summer in Bettendorf, Iowa, residents will have access to Independent and Assisted Living, Memory Support, Short-Term Rehabilitation, and Long-Term Care, all built around a focus of health and well-being. This WellSpire community is truly a new kind of senior living for the Quad Cities!



A capital campaign was completed in Pella, Iowa, to help facilitate the addition of two households to **The Cottages**, an award-winning campus of Hearthstone, a Ministry of WesleyLife. The addition will help retain care capacity in Marion County that was lost when another Hearthstone campus, Jefferson Place, was lost to a water-main break last year.



Fieldstone of DeWitt is scheduled to open in 2022 and will replace WellSpire's Westwing Place campus in offering Assisted Living, Memory Support, Short-Term Rehabilitation, and Long-Term Care to residents of Clinton County in Eastern Iowa. A capital campaign executed in conjunction with the DeWitt Community Hospital Foundation helped make this initiative a reality.



Redevelopment is scheduled to begin this year on the campus of **Wesley Acres** in Des Moines, the community that marked the beginnings of WesleyLife 74 years ago. The project will enhance quality of life at Wesley Acres for current and future residents with improvements designed to foster a greater sense of connectedness on campus as well as to the greater neighborhood community.



