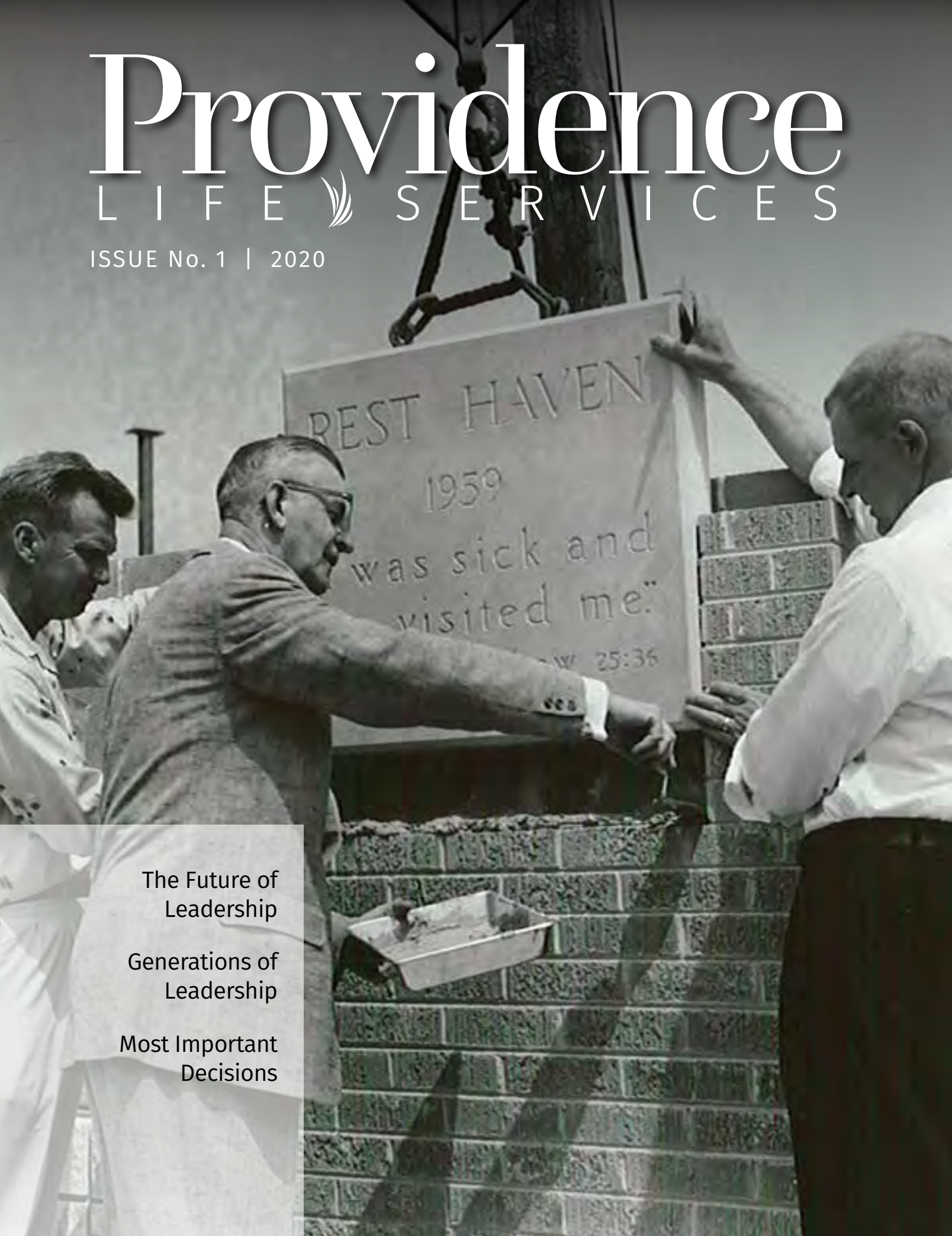


Providence

LIFE  SERVICES

ISSUE No. 1 | 2020



The Future of
Leadership

Generations of
Leadership

Most Important
Decisions

*Answering the call to enhance the
lives of those we serve in the
name of Jesus Christ.*

PROVIDENCE MISSION

PROVIDENCE LEADERSHIP

2019—2020

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Celebrating Generations of Leadership

SIXTY YEARS OF PROVIDENCE MINISTRY

BY RICHARD C. SCHUTT, CEO

Over sixty years ago, the deacons of Second Christian Reformed Church of Englewood saw the needs of their aging church members and felt called to respond. What started as a single, Christian nursing home quickly expanded to serve even more needs – and the ministry of Providence Life Services was born.

This year we are blessed to celebrate 60 years of healthcare ministry. As such, our Torchlight theme this year is “Celebrating Generations of Leadership.” Each of our newsletters during this commemorative year will recall a two-decade period in our history.

In this issue we celebrate the founding generation of Providence leaders who answered the call to fulfill an unmet need to care for our elderly brothers and sisters. Their legacy is being kept alive today by the current generation of leaders who continue to look for new and unique ways to serve – such as utilizing technology to create a safer environment for our residents.

Over the years we have been able to build upon that foundation through the gifts of Christian leaders - our Boards, staff, donors, and church members. And as our ministry moves towards the next 60 years of service, a new generation of leaders are being nurtured through our various internship programs.

The success of the original Rest Haven nursing home, and the whole of Providence Life Services today, has been built by the generosity of our supporters. Please continue to pray for all ministry leaders, to have eyes that are always open to see God’s call for the future.

PROVIDENCE LOCATIONS & SERVICES

INDEPENDENT & ASSISTED LIVING

Emerald Meadows (AL, M)
6117 Charlevoix Woods Court S.E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546
(616) 954-2366

Park Place of Elmhurst (IL)
1050 S. Euclid Avenue
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
(630) 333-4343

Park Place Health & Wellness Center
(AL, SN, R, M)
1150 S. Euclid Avenue
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
(630) 936-4100

Park Place of St. John (IL)
10700 Park Place
St. John, Indiana 46373
(219) 351-5200

Royal Atrium Inn (AL)
400 Parkside Drive
Zeeland, Michigan 49464
(616) 772-1248

Royal Park Place (IL)
500 Parkside Drive
Zeeland, Michigan 49464
(616) 772-2224

Saratoga Grove (IL, AL, M)
3460 Saratoga Avenue
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515
(630) 971-1995

Victorian Village (IL, AL, M)
12600 Renaissance Circle
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
(708) 301-0800

Village Woods (IL, AL)
2681 Route 394
Crete, Illinois 60417
(708) 672-6111

REHABILITATION & SKILLED CARE

Providence Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center
3450 Saratoga Avenue (SN, R)
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515
(630) 969-2900

Park Place Health & Wellness Centers
1150 S. Euclid Avenue (AL, SN, R, M)
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126
(630) 936-4100
10820 Park Place (SN, R, M)
St. John, Indiana 46373
(219) 351-5205

Victorian Village Health & Wellness Center
12525 Renaissance Circle (SN, R, M)
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
(708) 590-5050

AGING NAVIGATION

Providence Solutions
(708) 342-8090

HOME & COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES

Providence at Home
(Private Duty, Home Health)
SERVING ILLINOIS & INDIANA
(800) 509-2800

Providence Hospice
SERVING ILLINOIS AND INDIANA
(800) 509-2800

IL | Independent Living
AL | Assisted Living
R | Rehab
SN | Skilled Nursing
M | Memory Care



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Providence invests in the lives and careers of our interns as we look toward the future of senior living.

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FEATURE STORY

Generations of Leadership

Providence Life Services celebrates sixty years of visionary service in senior living.

The Future of Leadership

HOW CAN WE BEST PASS THE TORCH OF LEADERSHIP TO THE NEXT GENERATION?

That's a question that Providence Life Services answers in many ways, but in no way as clearly as with our Internship Program. We've interviewed four interns, past and present, who have experienced the importance we place on investing in our future leaders.

A Full-Circle of Service | Elijah Heyboer, Park Place of Elmhurst Human Resources Director, started his Providence Life Services career in high school. "I went to Timothy Christian School," he says, "and it was so exciting to look across the parking lot and see Park Place of Elmhurst being built."



When he was 16, he began working as a busboy in the Park Place dining room. "That job is what set me on my career path," Elijah says. "I was surprised to see what aging services looked like, what it could be. I was impacted by them, and my relationship with many of the residents grew."

After a few years of studying Human Resources at Trinity Christian College, Elijah accepted an internship at Providence, getting HR experience at the corporate office, as well as at two communities. "My internship opened my eyes to the process, all the stuff that goes on in the background. I saw the laws and

standards we were required to follow, but I saw that we actually exceed the standard. Providence really goes above and beyond, and that's what ensures the consistent quality care."

After extending his internship, Elijah was hired at Park Place, coming full circle back to his busboy days. "They saw the value in me — as a kid, and then as a 20-year-old. And they see value in me now," he says. "This is where I plan to be long-term."





A Unique Perspective | Alyssa Elberson was only supposed to fill in for two months in the Accounting Department while the college interns were on winter break. “I don’t like math and numbers,” she says. “But I knew I could do filing, and I was happy to help wherever I was needed.”



But Accounting Manager Angie Sivak was impressed with Alyssa’s work ethic, so when the college interns came back, she requested that Alyssa stay on. “She’s a hard worker, but she’s also a smart worker. She knows to ask questions if she doesn’t understand something, and she’s been a help to everyone in all the different areas of the Accounting Department.”

Alyssa is thankful for the opportunity to learn more about healthcare; she’s currently enrolled at Joliet Junior College studying radiology. “I wanted to do hands-on work directly with patients, so I never thought I would like an office experience. But I love it. I love the variety of projects I do and the insight I get into healthcare.”

Now Alyssa loves working with numbers, and while she continues to work toward her goal of becoming a radiographer, she knows her Providence time has given her a unique perspective. “I’m really blessed to have learned a different world outside of my normal comfort zone.”

A Passion for Service | Tammy Mels worked as a CNA at Victorian Village as a way to enter healthcare while making money for college at Trinity. “I wanted to work in healthcare, and it was a good way to get experience.”

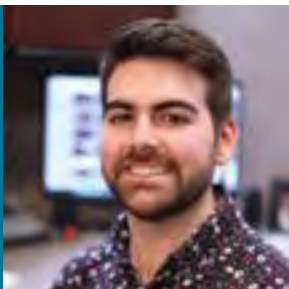
However, she had little experience with older adults. “I honestly didn’t think I’d like it,” she says. “I thought I would just make myself push through to get that experience.” But she says after two weeks, she’d developed deep relationships with the people she was serving. “I loved training people to do the job, I loved talking about the job, I loved spending time helping the residents. It was a fantastic job.”



Tammy’s brother encouraged her to take a business class in college when she felt her career plans were falling through. “I didn’t have much interest in business because I didn’t want a job where I sat behind a desk all day. But I had an amazing professor who showed me that business is about people, too.”

She started a sales internship at Park Place of St. John. That internship turned into an extended internship, which eventually turned into her current role as Community Coordinator at Village Woods. “No matter what I did, Providence staff encouraged me,” she said. “I found my passion to earn a business degree that would help me as I work with seniors.” Tammy still visits her beloved residents at Victorian Village and Park Place of St. John, while making new relationships with the residents she serves at Village Woods. “I was made to work with seniors,” she said. “Providence helped me figure that out.”

A Heart for Ministry | “I knew I wanted to work in ministry, but I wasn’t sure how,” Ben Collins says. During his time at Cornerstone University, he took classes about the “business” of running a church, including the importance of marketing. He took the initiative to volunteer to help his church, Spirit of God Fellowship (SoGF), by redesigning and updating their web site. But he saw that there was more to do. “I was passionate about helping my church because they do so many things well,” Ben says. “I wanted to find ways to tell people about who we are, so they can serve alongside us. That’s where marketing comes in.”



Ben works part-time as Director of Communications for SoGF, and the church hired the Providence marketing team to improve their marketing efforts.

During this time, Ben was also hired as a part-time intern for the marketing team, assisting with various projects while he learns more about the marketing process, he has developed a better understanding and knowledge of marketing

best practice. “I can’t believe how much I’ve learned,” Ben says. “I have a better handle on graphic design, branding, and teamwork. But what really surprised me is how much I love working in the field of senior living.” His experience meeting with residents has opened up a world where he sees how vibrant and active senior living can be. “Talking with residents shows me how happy they are to be here, and that comes from the people who are so passionate to serve them,” Ben says. “I feel like the work we do on the marketing team has long-term impact. We’re helping people find exactly what they were looking for. I love being a part of it.”

Ben is grateful to have found a job that allows him to rely heavily on his creative side as he serves in ministry. “This is my favorite job that I’ve ever had,” he says. “I feel invested in. I can tell that people care about my experience here, and I believe in what I’m doing.”

New Technology Helps Prevent Falls

Providence Life Services has partnered with VirtuSense technology and Symbria's SeniorFITness Program to offer an effective method of detecting residents' risk for future falls, allowing healthcare professionals to design an exercise program specifically for each resident when needed.

Village Woods in Crete was one of the first communities to use the VirtuSense program. "We know everyone wants to stay as independent as possible in their living environment," says Rick Molenhouse, Village Woods Community Manager. "A fall may be the reason someone loses that physical independence. VirtuSense gives each user a chance to prevent falls before they happen."

Many of the falls that occur to older adults are preventable by identifying deficits in balance, gait, and function, and then strengthening the areas of need. VirtuSense uses interactive technology, paired with the user's history,



The VirtuSense system uses 3D motion analysis and biofeedback to precisely assess a person's balance, gait and function.

to find red flags that signify falls are likely. That information is used to recommend a course of action.

Symbria's SeniorFITness trainers use VirtuSense's evidence-based findings to design a personalized approach to improving each user's performance. This data can be used to establish a baseline and track objective improvements that will protect the older adult from falls.

VirtuSense will soon be available at all of our Retirement and Assisted Living communities.

Many have already begun to use this helpful tool, and have held informational sessions demonstrating just how much simple this assessment can be. |

You can learn more about VirtuSense in the Providence communities at www.PLSVirtuSense.com.





GENERATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

TORCHLIGHT CELEBRATES SIX DECADES OF VISIONARY SERVICE

When Providence's skilled nursing ministry first began in the 1950's (called Rest Haven at the time), there were few options for the sick and elderly who needed more care than their families could give.

Historically, most care for the elderly was provided at home by family members. However, as the average lifespan increased, people needed more complex medical care in their old age, and families affected by the Great Depression and World War II were less equipped to care for their needs. It became apparent that many of the frail elderly needed more care and support than could be provided at home.

As a result, many impoverished elderly individuals had nowhere else to live except for public almshouses for the poor, which were known for deplorable conditions and inadequate staffing. Although Social Security was established in the 1930's, the program at the time only provided funding for older adults living at home, rather than in public institutions. Private, for-profit "rest homes" were established, but the quality of care they provided their elderly residents still wasn't enough.

The 1959 ceremony surrounding the laying of the cornerstone at Rest Haven Central included prayers, praise, and participation from the churches who had united in this mission.



1954 | Rest Haven Christian Service Association is formed, and 10 acres of land is purchased on Central Avenue in Palos Heights.



1959 | Al Klunder, John Dykema and Clarence VanderLaan dedicate the Rest Haven cornerstone.

In the 1950's, the deacons of Second Christian Reformed Church of Englewood and surrounding churches felt the call to improve the wellbeing of their aging church members. Richard Mulder, future Executive Director of Providence, toured the existing nursing homes and responded, "Our people deserve better than this!" Together, they formed the Rest Haven Christian Association with the goal of providing better care than the for-profit nursing homes of the time.

After years of prayer and planning, Rest Haven started construction in 1959 as one of the

first licensed Christian nursing homes in the Chicago area. Beds at the facility were filled to capacity immediately upon opening the doors, demonstrating the immense need for this ministry. Within a decade, two additional wings were constructed at Rest Haven, increasing capacity to serve a total of 195 patients.

Because Federal funding would not be available until the passage of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965, our founders relied on the generous financial support of friends, family, church members, and other supporters to make this vision a reality.

Through the years, Rest Haven (now called Providence Life Services) has continued to expand our ministry – responding to the changing needs of our constituents. The later addition of multiple sites in South Holland and other communities brought our services to where our residents lived, allowing parents and children to stay closer together, and ensured that more people received the care they want and deserve.

This year, as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of our ministry at our Torchlight celebration, we give thanks for the many milestones in our journey.



1958

Ground is broken for Rest Haven on Central Avenue in Palos Heights, Illinois. At the ceremony Rev. John Van Harn proclaims, "This place shall be the scene of the continuous unfolding of the purposes of God in the ministry of mercy. From this small beginning the calls for enlargement and amplification will be many."



1959

The first Women's Auxiliary was organized, before we even opened our doors in ministry. From the very beginning, the women of the Auxiliary not only raised awareness and funds, but also spent countless volunteer hours ministering directly to residents.



1960

The first 50 skilled nursing beds were dedicated at Rest Haven Central, with 700 people attending the ceremony. Immediately upon opening its doors, Rest Haven was full to capacity. Two building additions were later completed – adding 49 beds in 1963 and 96 more in 1967 – nearly quadrupling the number of people served.



1961

Constituents gathered for the first Torchlight Dinner at the original McCormick Place. The event was a fundraising effort designed to "Keep Aflame the Lamp of Mercy at Rest Haven," where guests recommitted to the new venture with prayers and financial gifts.



1969

The Chicago Holland Union Benevolent Association (better known as the Holland Home) merged with Rest Haven Christian Services, beginning a new era of senior living options. Holland Home, which had been ministering to seniors since 1914, provided community living, family dining, and a range of social activities. Their ministry complemented that of Rest Haven, which offered nursing services to elderly church members who were sick or needed medical care their families could not provide. By merging the two ministries, we offered people a broader range of services as their needs changed.



1971

As demand for retirement living continued to grow, church and community members gathered to witness the groundbreaking for the new Holland Home retirement community in South Holland, Illinois. Construction was completed in 1973, providing 311 retirement apartments on a spacious lawn.



1975

Once again, members of the Rest Haven family gathered in South Holland to break ground for a new health care community. Two years later, Rest Haven South opened, making Christian skilled nursing care available to 166 more people.

Providence Magazine Issue No. 2 will look back at Providence history in the 1980's & 1990's.



COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP

We are grateful for the godly men and women who have served in different leadership capacities throughout our history, particularly those who have shared their time and expertise on our Board of Directors. We thank them for their vision and their dedication to

our mission to enhance the lives of those we serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

In each newsletter this year, we will honor two decades of leaders from our Providence history. Below are the names of individuals who served on the Board of

Directors from 1959 through the 1970's. We have done our best to represent all the names from our archives, but if you are aware of a name we have missed, please notify Julie Benda at jbenda@provlife.com.

John M. Alderden	Ralph Engelsman	Richard Mulder	John Swierenga
Dr. Jack Bardolph	Martin Evenhouse	Willard Olthoff	Ben Tameling
Robert Blom	Dr. B. J. Fieldhouse	Henry Ottenhoff	Melvin Terpstra
Melvin Boersma	C. Fischer	Richard Ozinga	Herbert Torringa
Clarence Borgman	Leonard Gorter	Henry Ridder	Fred Van Dahm
Bernard Bos	Paul Gouwens	Henry (Bud) Ridder	Robert Van Drunen
Henry Buikema	John Gritter	Andrew Ridderhoff	Ernest Van Hattem
Henry De Hoog	Albert Havenga	Harold Ridderhoff	John Van Kampen
Frank De Vries	Dick Jansma	Ralph Rozema	Arie Van Proyen
John De Vries	William Jellema	Ralph Rozema, Vicar	Peter Vander Ploeg
Henry De Young	Ben Jongsma	H. Schaafsma	A. Vander Woude
Peter DeBoer	Earl Kallemeyn	Peter Schipma	Henry Verbeek
Garrit DeYoung	Herman Kelder	Ira Slagter	Cornelius Verhagen
John Dykema	Henry Kortenhoven	Sidney Slagter	Mrs. Robert Wood, RN
Ralph Dykhuis	Walt Lagestee	George Slater	William Zandstra
Cornelius Dykstra	Clarence Leensvaart	Herman Smit	Bartel Zandstra



SIXTY YEARS OF TORCHLIGHT

From the very beginnings of our ministry, it was clear that our services fulfilled an urgent need in our community. In 1960, when we dedicated the first 50 beds of the first Christian nursing home in the area, it was immediately filled to capacity. Our leaders knew that Rest Haven had not only met the existing need, but had created a whole new standard of expectation.

To jumpstart the expansion of our ministry, the Women’s Auxiliary proposed a grand fundraising event in downtown Chicago. In 1961, the first Torchlight Dinner – envisioned

to “Keep Aflame the Lamp of Mercy at Rest Haven” – was held at Chicago’s original McCormick Place. Nearly a thousand guests enjoyed dinner, entertainment, and an opportunity to hear guest speaker Dr. Ralph Blocksma, medical missionary and President Emeritus of the Christian Medical Society. The annual Torchlight celebration remained at McCormick Place until 1988, when the celebration moved to the suburbs, then back to Chicago, touring all the city’s major museums.

Today, Torchlight has become an annual tradition among the Providence family, allowing us to gather once a year to celebrate this ministry and the Reformed community that sponsors it.



TORCH LIGHT *Sixtieth Celebration*

A LOOK BACK AT THE FIRST TWO DECADES OF TORCHLIGHT EVENTS

YEAR	SPEAKER	SPECIAL FEATURE	MASTER OF CEREMONIES
1961	Dr. Ralph Blocksma	Andrew Chei	Rev. H. Kik
1962	Dr. Walter Wilson	Knickerbockers	Mr. H. Elders
1963	Dr. Edward Elson	James Green	Rev. Hiemstra
1964	Dr. L. DenBesten	Hope College Choir	Rev. H. Kik
1965	Rev. H. Hageman	Pine Rest Choir	Rev. M. Goote
1966	Sen. G. VanderJagt	James Green	B. Zandstra
1967	Dr. C. Seerveld	James Green	B. Zandstra
1968	Dr. C. VanderWerf	Heralders	Rev. DeKruyter
1969	Dr. John W. White	Dick Faulkner	Rev. Bazuin
1970	Dr. L. DeKoster	Suzanne Johnson	Dr. Louis Benes
1971	Dr. H. Pluimer	Suzanne Johnson	Harry DeBruyn
1972	Gilbert Amelio	Trinity Choir	Rev. J. DeVries
1973	Cong. Anderson	Benton Trio	Rev. Bob Murfin
1974	Prof. G. Walter	Glenn Jorian	Rev. James Baar
1975	Dr. R. Blocksma	Grace College Brass Band	Roger Triemstra
1976	Dr. H. Hastings	Grace College Brass Band	Sidney Youngsma
1977	Dr. Stuart Briscoe	Dr. Daniel & Gerd Olenik	Rev. Bob Murfin
1978	Rev. Billy Zeoli	Don Shire	Rev. B. VanSomeren
1979	Kim Wicks	Kim Wicks	Rev. Tony Alstrom
1980	Rev. M. Goote	Big John Hall	Rev. M. Goote



JOIN US AT TORCHLIGHT 2020!

Friday, November 6 2020



Our 60th Torchlight celebration will take guests to a historic Chicago landmark – the newly-renovated Old Chicago Main Post Office Building.

Opened in 1934, the massive, nine- and twelve-story limestone-clad building at 433 West Van Buren Street covers two city blocks and boasts more than 2.3 million square feet of floor space. A unique vehicular passage allows the Eisenhower Expressway to pass through the building, making the Old Post Office a visual “gateway” for motorists entering the Loop from the city’s West side.

The Post Office was the work of famed architectural firm Graham, Anderson, Probst, and White, whose significant contributions to the City of Chicago also include the Merchandise Mart, the Shedd Aquarium, and the Civic Opera Building.

At its peak, this largest post office building in the world processed 35 million letters and 500,000 parcels each day through a complex assembly line that relied largely on skilled workers and manual processes.

In 1996, the City of Chicago moved postal operations into a new building across the street, and the Old Post Office was shuttered. The building stood vacant for over a decade, until an unprecedented re-development initiative breathed life back into the Chicago icon.

Three-and-a-half years and \$800 million later, the building has been fully restored to its original state. The original Art Deco design has been preserved,



The Old Post Office building is a prominent example of Art Deco-style architecture.

with floor-to-ceiling white marble walls, handsome brass ornamentation, and stunning gold leaf ceilings.

This November, we are excited to welcome guests to this beautiful landmark space as we celebrate the rich history of our own ministry! For more information about Torchlight 2020, contact Julie Benda at 708-342-8145 or jbenda@provlife.com.





RENOVATIONS & REMODELS

Community Improvements That Make a Difference

The Providence Life Services team has been busy renovating and remodeling many of our buildings over the past year, and residents love the results. Each project has more than improved the building; it has improved the lives of our residents as well.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

VICTORIAN VILLAGE

At the Grand Victorian, where residents enjoy Retirement Living, the team completely remodeled common areas on the second and third floor. We replaced carpet, repainted, and replaced artwork and lobby furniture. On the first floor, residents enjoy new carpet and new furniture in the common areas. On the lower level, the Dining Room was updated with new chairs and new window treatments. All lower level and first floor painting will be completed this year, and plans have already begun to update and renovate the Victorian Inn Assisted Living building.



The renovated dining area at Victorian Village

SARATOGA GROVE

Saratoga Grove's entire second floor common areas have new furniture and soft seating, and the dining in that area has also been redone with new chairs and tables. The 2nd floor food servery was also remodeled, with new cabinetry installed. In addition, the corridors on floor 1-2 have new wallpaper and new artwork, and the lower level corridors will be similarly remodeled later this year.

VILLAGE WOODS

All the hallways and corridors at Village Woods have new paint, new art, and new carpet. The Blue Lobby was also re-carpeted and has new furniture. The front porch has new wrought iron furniture, and the interior porch has new wicker furniture. The team is planning to update the dining room with new carpet and dining chairs. The second and third floors were updated with new plank flooring and new chairs, and the fourth, fifth, and sixth floor common areas have new furniture, a new paint plan, new artwork and new carpet.

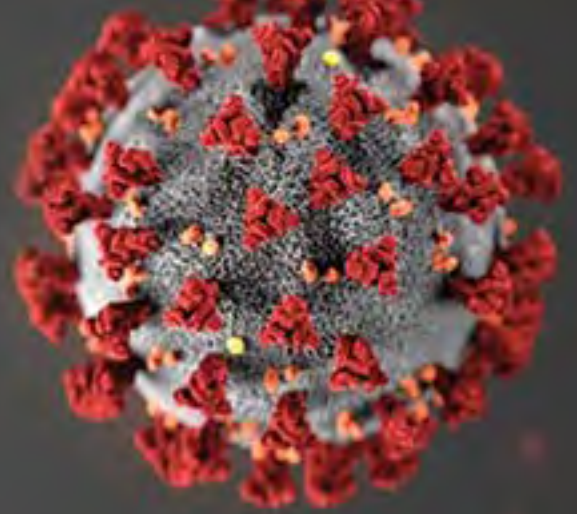
The Village Woods lobby has new carpet and has new furniture.



PARK PLACE OF ELMHURST

The team remodeled the Gilead Unit of the Park Place Health & Wellness Center of Elmhurst, where residents who need Memory Care are served. "We brightened up the common space and lounge area in a huge way, with all new carpet and furniture," says Vicki Sylvester, Providence Life Services Facilities Interior Decorator. "It made a big difference just by changing the color scheme and lightening it up with light green and teal tones." The result is an area that looks current and feels fresh and cheerful. In addition, Vicky's team put in all new carpet, new paint, new dining room chairs, and new window treatments. "Soon, the Health & Wellness Center will have all new carpet on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floor," Vicky says. ■

PROVIDENCE RESPONDS TO COVID-19



In response to the World Health Organization declaring the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic, Providence Life Services enacted proactive measures to minimize public access to our communities for the continued safety and wellbeing of our residents.

As of March 10 until further notice, Providence Life Services Communities will need to restrict all visitors except for those visiting end-of-life residents. Visitors will be screened for illness before being allowed to visit.

In addition, all employees are screened before each shift for fevers or respiratory symptoms before reporting to duty. Our communities and corporate offices have also canceled events inviting the public, large group meetings, and resident outings.

We will continue to review guidelines and recommendations from the World Health Organization, Public Health Departments, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As the situation evolves and when new information is available, updates will be posted to our website at www.ProvidenceLifeServices.com.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us keep our residents, patients, and employees healthy and safe during this time.





PROVIDENCE SOLUTIONS

Making Your Most Important Decisions

It's one of the most important conversations that no one wants to have – What kind of care do I want at the end of my life?

Terri Maxeiner, Vice President of Providence Solutions, wants to make that discussion a little easier. “More people are realizing how important it is to make and document these decisions now, while they are in good health and of sound mind,” she says. “It makes everything so much easier on them and their family members later on.”



Providence Solutions offers advice and guidance for many questions surrounding end-of-life decisions.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Providence Solutions has recently hosted a number of workshops titled “Making Your Most Important Decisions,” intended to demystify common topics related to Advance Directives and end-of-life planning. Some of the important topics covered in the presentation include:

ESTATE PLANNING

“Writing your Last Will and Testament is not a one-and-done thing,” Terri says. She recommends that individuals review these legal documents with their attorney at least every five years and/or after a major life event, such as a birth or death in the family, divorce, or a significant change in your financial situation.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

Your attorney can also help you draft documents to assign your Powers of Attorney (POA), who are people who will make important decisions on your behalf in the event that you are physically or mentally unable to do so. The types and scope of POAs vary from state-to-state, but for residents in Illinois there are two important people to select: your Power of Attorney for Health Care, who you trust to make medical de-

isions for you, and a Power of Attorney for Property, who will have the legal right to manage your finances for you.

LIVING WILL

Once you have selected your Power of Attorney for Health Care, it is important that they know what kind of treatment you would want – or would not want – in an end-of-life situation. A Living Will allows you to voice your wishes regarding your medical care. To help you make these decisions, the website FiveWishes.org offers a workbook to help you think through different scenarios and options for care.

POLST

A POLST form, or Practitioner Order for Life Sustaining Treatment, is a medical order signed by a doctor that becomes part of your patient record and must be followed by your healthcare providers. Unlike a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) form, which only gives instructions on whether or not you would want CPR performed in an emergency, a POLST also covers your wishes about life-sustaining medical interventions and feeding tubes. It also gives patients options for different levels of interventions – instead of an “all or nothing” approach.



Most importantly, Terri says, is once you have all of your paperwork completed, to make sure that your family has copies or knows where to find them. “The last thing you want in a crisis situation is for someone to be searching through shoeboxes of loose papers.”

Providence Solutions is available to present to your church or organization on this topic and many others relating to navigating the world of aging! |

Contact Terri Maxeiner at (708) 342-8090 for more information.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Providence Solutions

www.providencelifesolutions.com

The Conversation Project

www.theconversationproject.org

Five Wishes

www.fivewishes.org



www.ProvidenceLifeSolutions.com

A Calling of Compassion

“Every day here is a gift,” Michael Kooy says, a wide smile spreading across his face. Michael is the pastor at Grace Community Christian Reformed Church in Oak Lawn, but he’s also the new chaplain at Victorian Village. Already several residents and staff have mentioned what a blessing he’s been to the community.

It’s hard to believe that Michael has only been at Victorian Village since July, but perhaps it’s because his Providence Life Services roots are dated several decades back.

“Years ago, my wife interviewed with Rich Schutt for an activities position at Rest Haven in South Holland,” he says. She later also worked as a resident aide there. Michael’s grandfather lived at Holland Home, and his grandmother lived at Rest Haven. “I was a frequent visitor at the South Holland communities, so Providence has been an important part of my family’s life for years.”

As for Michael’s career path, he worked at his father’s business for years before he felt led to full-time Christian ministry. After studying at a seminary and settling into

a pastorate, Michael heard about the open chaplain position at Victorian Village. It was a ministry he had little experience in, but one he was eager to learn more about, and he accepted the position with enthusiasm and creativity.

One of the most popular endeavors Michael leads is a sing-along with residents in Memory Care. He credits the Providence Education Research and Education Institute for helping him understand dementia, and how best to work with residents. “I can’t say enough about the training I received,” he says. “It was comprehensive and highly beneficial, and it helped shape the programming I’m using.” He also leads a Bible study for Memory Care residents; the group has been growing in attendance steadily.

In addition to these singalongs, Michael spends time all over the entire Victorian Village campus.



Staff and residents alike appreciate that Michael is a source of comfort to them, praying with them and offering compassion during the day.

He leads activities such as Sunday afternoon Vesper services, Bible studies, prayer groups, lunch discussions, and more.

“Working with the staff here is a joy,” he says. “It’s a positive working environment, and there’s a sense of teamwork, a feeling that we’re all in this together. This kind of a job requires a great deal of commitment, and what you’ll find here is very dedicated people.”

And Michael certainly has been an encouragement to the residents and staff at Victorian Village. We’re grateful that he and all of our chaplains are a part of our ministry at Providence. ■

Generous Community



*But for you who revere my name,
the sun of righteousness will rise
with healing in its wings.*

MALACHI 4:2

September 1, 2019 -
February 29, 2020

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*He will renew your
 life and sustain you
 in your old age.*

RUTH 4:15

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*If you remain in me
and my words in you,
ask whatever you
wish, and it will be
given to you.*

JOHN 15:7

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*He who is kind to
the poor, lends to
the Lord, and he will
reward him for what
he has done..*

PROVERBS 19:17



Every Gift Makes a Difference

BY BILL BUIKEMA, VP OF MINISTRY ADVANCEMENT

Many of you are familiar with Matthew 25:40, where Jesus said, *“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me’”* (NIV). But have you thought about how that Scripture impacts the gifts you give to Providence Life Services?

Your gifts transform our memory care program. Because of you, we are able to offer specialized staff training and offer high-quality care to those who have dementia, as well as their families. We can make a difficult transition in life a bit easier for those who need comfort and support. We could not provide this level of care without your help.

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And, of course, your gifts have far-reaching effects as they advance our employee development and trainings. We want our staff to have the newest and most effective modes of service, and to be on

the cutting-edge of healthcare technology. Because of your generosity, we have been able to implement new, transformative programs in our communities.

Your gifts have a lasting impact, especially as you help those who are unable to help themselves. Thank you for considering a life-changing gift to Providence Life Services. |

For more information on giving, give Bill Buikema a call at **(708) 342-8100** or look us up on the web: www.donatetoprovidence.com

*Give generously to them and do so
without a grudging heart.*

DEUTERONOMY 15:10a (NIV)

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