

# Happenings

January 2021



## Major Gifts Awarded to Help Seniors During Pandemic

Bethesda recently received two major gifts to ensure seniors continue to receive health care vital to their aging needs and staying safe during the pandemic:

- \$35,000 from the Margaret B. Grigg Foundation
- \$6,000 grant from Alzheimer's Foundation of America

The \$35,000 gift from the Margaret B. Grigg Foundation will support COVID-19 response efforts at Bethesda Dilworth, along with the purchase of additional medical equipment. The demands of COVID-19 testing for everyone inside our facilities—including all staff and residents, vendors, family members, caregivers, and healthcare providers from outside of Bethesda—do not

come without exorbitant costs.

“This gift will help Bethesda continue looking for ways that we can continue to deliver premier senior healthcare services during unprecedented times like these,” says **Pam Dempski**, Corporate Vice President and Director of Fund Development. “Our Vision is to foster successful aging with compassion and innovation, and now, we must add safety to the forefront.”

Bethesda will use the funds for COVID-19 testing kits. Additionally, the medical equipment will support Dilworth staff with point-of-care, or “bedside,” testing, which will provide on-site lab results within minutes instead of hours. Staff will use these faster



results to make better critical care decisions, especially when determining if a senior needs to go to the hospital.

The \$6,000 Milton and Phyllis Berg Respite Care Grant from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America (AFA) will support Bethesda's Home and Community Based Services. This support will provide respite

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## Make a Difference and Save on Your Income Taxes



Was tax season good to you last year? If not, next year can be! If you are age 70½ or older, you can take advantage of a simple way to make a difference and receive tax benefits in return. How? Through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), also known as IRA Charitable Rollover.

A QCD is an excellent way to show your support for Bethesda and receive tax benefits in return. As you plan your required minimum distributions (RMD), consider using your IRA account to make the most of your charitable giving. You receive a tax benefit even if you take the standard deduction!

Contact the Bethesda Health Group Foundation for more information.

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during the pandemic to families caring for those living with Alzheimer's and related illnesses.

Respite care allows families to take a break from their caregiving responsibilities for up to a few days while their loved ones are engaged in physically and cognitively stimulating activities.

"We are proud to help them with much needed respite as they take on such a critical caregiving role," says **Michelle Glass**, Corporate Vice President, Senior Living and In-Home Care. "As the incidence of Alzheimer's disease continues to grow, we need to remember that it has a tremendous impact not only on those living with the disease, but the caregivers as well."

Bethesda has received funding for four consecutive years from the AFA. For more information on respite care and how to apply for a scholarship, contact Bethesda's Care Management Team.

## BHG Foundation Receives \$45,000 Grant from Marillac Mission Fund

The Bethesda Health Group Foundation received a renewal grant of \$45,000 from the Marillac Mission Fund (formerly the Daughters of Charity Foundation of St. Louis), which is being used to support Bethesda's Home Health Gap Assistance Program.

The grant provides low-income seniors receiving Home Health with "gap funds" to cover immediate needs for necessities such as medication, food, transportation to doctor



appointments, and durable medical equipment.

"Programs like Bethesda's Home Health Gap Assistance program matters now more than ever, and it is critical to support efforts to protect at-risk communities, advocate for policy change, and prepare for long-term effects of the ongoing pandemic," says **Claire Hundelt**, MMF Executive Director.

Thank you so much, MMF, for your continued support of our seniors!

## Good People Doing Good Things, Mike Dodd and Ed Stoll

Back in November, two of Bethesda's Grounds team members, **Mike Dodd** and **Ed Stoll**, helped a woman carry several large boxes of soda to her car when they were at a local Petro Mart on their lunch hour.

After seeing Mike and Ed leave Petro Mart in a Bethesda truck, the woman took the time to call Bethesda and told of her polite interaction with the gentlemen.

"It is nice to know that chivalry and kindness still exists, especially during a time when our lives may be consumed by negativity," says **Mike Scherrer**, Director of Administrative Services, who commended his employees for doing the right things—being gentlemen.

Thank you, Mike and Ed, for being good people doing good things!



## Senior SPOTLIGHT

### Energizer Employees

Who doesn't like receiving cards? Birthday cards, holiday cards and cards sent just to say hello are all ways to tell someone you are thinking of them and that you remember them.

**Marissa Putnam** and **Brittany Carden**, along with several of their fellow employees at Energizer Holdings, Inc., certainly would agree, as they made more than 200 personalized Christmas cards for Bethesda Dilworth residents.

Thank you, employees of Energizer Holdings, for your thoughtful cards and holiday sentiments!