



ABUNDANT IMPACT

SPRING 2022

The following stories represent the abundant impact generous donations make for the people United Church Homes serves.

The Joy of the Gift

Many years ago, I completed a yearlong internship at a church. On my last Sunday, the congregation presented me with several gifts. Being very shy at that time, I clumsily accepted the packages and decided to open them later. When I did open the gifts, I quickly discovered two were serious, a book and a preaching stole. But the third was a gag gift that was kind of risqué and would have embarrassed me—and simultaneously brought down the house had I opened it in front of the congregation!



I am fortunate today for the opportunity with donors to “open” their gifts and share in their moment of joy. We have many donors who give to many things in our organization. Whether the gift is large or small, it is important to the donor in a big way! These are moments of joy and celebration no matter what!

For example, this year a congregation started a fund to provide pet food for residents of limited financial means. We have already used that money in one of our communities where a resident was scrimping to buy dog food. Joyful impact!

Another donor has a vision to beautify one of our communities. She met with me to present a donation for a special project. This donor told me in advance that it would be for \$200,000. (That is exciting news in any CEO’s day!) But the check I received was actually for \$300,000. Joyful impact!

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I met with some donors who were disappointed they couldn’t see my reaction when giving me their gift. They couldn’t detect my broad smile and even my tearful eyes beneath the mask. When we met the next time, I was sure to remove my mask so they could see my smile. Joyful impact!

We often say that God loves a cheerful giver. And so should we. To give is deeply satisfying when the gift also empowers a positive action for someone in need. We have a deep need to do good works to make the world a better place.

Long ago, I learned how to be, more visibly, a “cheerful receiver!” For the giver and the recipient, these are truly occasions to share a great joy and gratitude for the giver as well as the gift. I cherish these moments with all our donors whose generosity continues to shape United Church Homes today and for the future. Joyful impact!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth V. Daniel".

Rev. Dr. Kenneth V. Daniel
President and CEO

Residents' Dining Experience Comes to Life with LIVING WALLS

Photos by Darlene Marrs

Many people enjoy the experiences of being outdoors and the personal connection with nature. Research shows that anxiety, depression and other mental health issues can be eased by spending time outside—nature simply makes us happy.



Recognizing that being outdoors can instantly improve one's physical and mental health, three individual donors gave nearly \$6,000 to help bring the outdoors inside for the residents at The Trinity Community at Beaver Creek.

Their donations sponsored natural pieces of art in preserved moss walls that maintain their soft textures, intricate natural details and vibrant colors (with the added bonus of being completely maintenance free).

These moss walls in all three resident dining rooms, enhance the resident's dining experience. In addition to promoting positive physical and mental health, they also improve interior air quality because the moss absorbs carbon dioxide and pollutants in the air and reduces noise pollution as they dampen sound.

Extravagant hospitality is a commitment United Church Homes offers to the residents and families we serve. We are grateful to our donors who partner with us to support abundant life in our communities.

Grant Offers Vital Efficiencies for Care Staff



Staff Nurse Gabriel Stanton, LPN using a FORA mobile care system

The Chapel Hill Community staff members have worked tirelessly through the challenges of the pandemic. Finding efficiencies are paramount to being resilient in this new environment while continuing to provide quality care. Thanks to the generosity of the Austin-Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation, a new efficiency has been realized with the new FORA mobile

care systems. The new vital signs monitor systems upload directly into the electronic health record system used by the community.

Unit Manager Megan Heiney, LPN, stated:

"This system is very helpful to the staff and is extremely user friendly! It gives us easy access to resident charts and is linked directly to PointClick Care, so when entering vitals, the information is uploaded quickly and helps the nurses and STNAs stay on top of charting throughout the day."

Thanks to a generous \$9,700 grant from the Austin-Bailey Health and Wellness Foundation for FORA mobile care systems, staff spend significantly less time checking vital signs and charting and **more time providing direct care and individual attention to the residents.**

RECIPROCAL Giving

Cheerful donors have impacted residents, employees and The Glenwood Community through their **RECIPROCAL Giving**. Residents are grateful for their home, the services provided and the caring staff that serve them daily. Families of residents are thankful for the care provided. Employees are happy to share their talents with the organization and love the residents they serve. Their mutual respect and appreciation motivate all parties to take action, demonstrating their dedication to one another and The Glenwood Community, now and into the future. Examples of these impactful actions include:

The Glenwood Community Endowment Fund

A desire to create a fund that would support The Glenwood Community in perpetuity was spurred from the advocacy of residents in 2018. Their goal was to raise \$50,000 to initiate the endowment over a five-year period. Just three years later, more than \$100,000 has been raised with residents, employees and family members donating to this legacy fund.

Employee Giving Campaign

Through their giving, staff have helped fund resident programming including activities, art programs, the library fund and Music and Memory. Staff enthusiastically give back every year because they genuinely care. Employees at The Glenwood Community show dedication to the residents in a big way through the Employee Giving Campaign- with 100% of employees donating for the sixth consecutive year in 2021. The campaign slogan notably aligns with the generosity experienced at The Glenwood Community:

Abundant Giving = Abundant Living!

Employee Appreciation

Residents eager to demonstrate their gratefulness to the staff that served them so well in 2021, joyfully contributed to the employee appreciation gift distributed annually in December. This generosity has increased every year, with more than \$34,400 given in 2021.

Special Chair Project

A resident who wanted to make an immediate impact at The Glenwood Community to inspire others to give while refreshing their home gave an anonymous gift in spring 2021. As a result, fundraising for new dining room and pub chairs was launched with an anonymous \$15,000 matching gift donation. Residents and family members stepped up, and within three months the \$33,000 fundraising goal for the chairs was met!



Glenwood Community residents (from left) Roger Roberts and Pat Bartsokas-Huth, Senior Executive Director Linda Dailey and United Church Homes President and CEO Rev. Dr. Kenneth Daniel were among those who collaborated to start a new endowment fund for the benefit of future Glenwood residents.

"The dedication, respect and appreciation that reciprocal giving at The Glenwood Community represents is inspiring and demonstrates that we are truly a community of people serving one another."

*Linda Dailey,
Senior Executive Director,
The Glenwood Community*



The Pines Assisted Living Art Show, an initiative supported by Employee Giving Campaign donations and a resident volunteer.



The Glenwood Community dining services staff give back to the residents they serve.



Glenwood residents enjoying the new chairs in the pub.



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JOYFUL IMPACT



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