Gratitude REPORT

# BECAUSE OF YOU!

YouvilleHouse 🔀 Youville Place

Assisted Living Residences

A Member of Covenant Health

Helping Hands

Thank you to everyone who has given to the Helping Hands Employee Emergency Assistance Fund! This 100% donor-supported fund helps our employees when they need it most. To support the fund, donate online at youvilleassistedliving.org/ YPDonate or by mail to: 10 Pelham Road

Lexington, MA 02421

# Helping Hands Fund Placed Rita\* by Her Mother's Side

Every day we witness our employees selflessly dedicating themselves to making life for our residents joyful. In the spring of 2021, you answered our call to help return this kindness to

our employees who may need a helping hand during times of unexpected financial hardship. In doing so, you helped establish the Youville Helping Hands Employee Emergency Assistance Fund to help employees like Rita.



Rita, a Youville Place employee,

had lost a noticeable amount of weight, a direct result of the family stress she was under. Her mom needed surgery after complications from a car accident. Rita was frantically trying to coordinate her mom's care in another country that was in a different time zone. Like many of us who would be in a similar situation, she wanted to be physically present with her mom to provide the love and support she would need during the surgery and long recovery process Rita feared that the travel costs and extended time away from her job, would make it impossible for her to be there for her mom.

Thanks to you, our Helping Hands Fund provided assistance that allowed her to travel to be by her mom's side to support her in healing both physically and emotionally. Her mother's surgery was a success, and Rita is now back at work.

\*Name changed to protect privacy.



## New Musical Instruments Will Offer Unique Outdoor Activity for All Residents

Youville Place has received a grant from the Dana Home Foundation, in the amount of \$20,000, toward the purchase of six outdoor musical instruments to be installed on Youville Place's grounds. The Dana Home Foundation is dedicated to providing for the care, comfort and wellbeing of senior citizens, with a special emphasis on serving the needs of those who reside in or have connections to the town of Lexington. This gift will be combined with your generous contributions towards this unique music garden for the purchase of these instruments.

These large-scale, easy-to-play, weather-resistant instruments will provide enticing and accessible destinations for anyone enjoying the outdoors at Youville Place. Their purchase will also serve as an early investment in and prelude to the more extensive outdoor enhancement plan in development.

Building on our already picturesque environment, the addition of a music garden at Youville Place will further enrich resident and staff daily activities, particularly for those with dementia or Alzheimer's disease. The benefits extend to families who seek out the instruments while visiting with their loved one. Studies show that listening to or creating music with others can be beneficial to psychological well-being and foster a sense of belonging. The joy of making music can benefit all who live at and visit Youville Place. We are grateful for the support of the Dana Home Foundation for this unique installation.

## Giving Through Your IRA Can Save You Money!

Many retirees take the standard deduction when filing taxes and thus can't claim a charitable deduction. But a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from your IRA has a greater benefit: *You often save more by lowering your taxable income rather than claiming a tax deduction.* 

#### example:

71-year-old couple

required minimum distribution of \$24,000

Standard deduction is \$26,550 NO TAX ADVANTAGE!

MAKE QCD GIFT OF \$5,000 AND REDUCE TAXABLE INCOME BY \$5,000



#### Other Benefits:

- Potentially THOUSANDS in federal and state tax savings.
- Make a gift to Youville Place.
- Could fund a charitable life insurance policy for larger gift in future.

## Have You Considered Your Legacy?

For many of us, the most significant gifts we'll ever make are those given at the end of our lives. Legacy giving is a planned future donation, given through a will or other designation. A gift can take a variety of forms ranging from simple to more complex, depending on your situation. A legacy gift to Youville Place is a meaningful way to express your gratitude and can be a powerful way to influence and dramatically change lives for years to come. To learn more about legacy gift options that are available, please contact susan\_oldrid@covenanthealth.net or call 508.728.1843.



# Thank You for Celebrating Our 25th Anniversary With Us!

On Thursday, May 5, residents, family members, donors and longtime employees marked the 25th anniversary of Youville Place becoming the first assisted living residence to open in the town of Lexington.

For 25 years, Youville Place has created an empowering lifestyle for retirement-age residents. In the mid-1990s, the Grey Nuns, faced with declining membership, began to plan for the future of their sprawling provincial home in Lexington. By converting it into an assisted living facility, they believed they could address a growing need in the community that was not being met. In May 1997, Youville Place — named after Grey Nuns' founder Marguerite d'Youville — became the town's first assisted living residence. A quarter-century later, the Grey Nuns' vision continues, thanks to strong leadership, a passionate team of caregivers and the support of generous donors.

An on-site celebration included several speakers who discussed the rich history of the Youville Place campus, a performance by a talented harpist, and an elegant dinner for residents and family members. Attendees were also invited to attend a special Mass in the Youville Place Chapel.

One of the featured speakers was Sr. June Ketterer, who experienced her religious formation at the Provincial Home and was instrumental in establishing Youville Place. "When Sr. June and the sisters went to the town of Lexington to request permission for the renovation, the concept of assisted living was very new," says Nicole Breslin, CEO and president of Youville Assisted Living. "Their success in winning the town over and their overall vision for the future of the property is a testament to their remarkable foresight."

In addition to the on-site gathering, Youville's community members were invited to participate in Youville Place's first-ever Day of Giving: Youville Place Gives. Over our 25 years, our donors and families have been instrumental in helping build Youville Place into the caring and compassionate community it is today. On our 25th anniversary, you again showed your interest in helping us continue to fulfill our mission in new ways that will enhance the lives of our residents. Your gifts will help us carry on the treasured legacy of the Grey Nuns and continue to diligently serve our community.

#### Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us!



## **Growing Our Outdoor Improvement Plan**

Our beautiful property is one of the defining characteristics of Youville Place, and we want our residents to enjoy it to the fullest. After our spring 2021 fundraising appeal inviting support to purchase outdoor musical instruments, it was suggested that we engage in a more robust and long-term planning process related to the use of Youville Place's outdoor space.

In response to this recommendation, we held a series of focus groups and sent a survey to residents, family members and staff inviting feedback on what would encourage greater use of our grounds. While we know they are lovely, we believe we can do more to offer the right mix of amenities and services for current and future residents interested in enjoying an outdoor lifestyle.

Informed by your feedback, we established a task force to assist in guiding the decision-making process related to the outdoor space's expansion and improvement.

Over the coming months, we look forward to sharing more details about this exciting endeavor with you. Please stay tuned!

Please contact Susan Oldrid at susan\_oldrid@ covenanthealth.net or 508.728.1843 if you'd like to receive a copy of our focus group/survey findings.

Thank you to all who are enthusiastically stepping forward with new ideas and inspiration to inform our work ahead.

## Outdoor Enhancement Planning Task Force

We are deeply grateful for the commitment, knowledge and experience being shared by members of our task force.

Leslie Adkison, PhD, MSN, RN-BC Nicole Breslin, CEO Liz Keliher Janet Olsen Suzanne Perry Don Place Bob Salamanca Joanna Scianna, COO Sr. Marcia Wiley

Thank you for all you've done! We hope that this report will convey the difference you have made for our residents and staff this past year.

With a grateful heart,

Susan Oldrid Executive Director, Philanthropy susan\_oldrid@covenanthealth.net 508.728.1843