

2021

*Annual Report*



# COMMITMENT

*Safety. Community. Growth.*

*Abundant Life®*

  
Lutheran  
SeniorLife



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## Our Mission

*Our mission is to continually transform and elevate health, wellness, and social services, while fostering an **Abundant Life**® for those we serve and those who serve.*

# MESSAGE *from the President and Chair*

The coronavirus pandemic continued to place stress on senior living communities and health care systems across the country. The need to protect our most vulnerable populations increased as the virus continued to spread, especially among older adults. Other challenges also arose with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services imposing COVID-19 vaccination requirements across our system. These challenges did not deter our resolve to fulfill our mission.

In reflection, it became clear no matter the circumstances, Lutheran SeniorLife remained committed to continually transform and elevate health, wellness and social services for the people we serve. The forthcoming pages outline our commitment to safety, community, and growth illustrated by the numerous stories and photographs capturing our efforts to deliver an **Abundant Life**®.

This past year, nurses from the Visiting Nurses Association of Western Pennsylvania remained committed to safety by administering COVID 19 vaccines to the homebound. Leaders at the St. John Community determined it was time to grow and find new ways to meet an unmet need in our community. The Advanced Care Center of Butler also continued to grow with the infusion of SilverSmart™ technologies. The adoption services of Lutheran Service Society also experienced growth, bringing wanting

parents and children together to form new families. Our Passavant Community demonstrated its commitment to the community by adopting an innovative philosophy designed to enrich the mind, body, and spirit of residents. The LIFE programs demonstrated their commitment to our communities by pivoting operations, making house calls and optimizing technology to help program participants continue their daily lives in their own homes. In the fall, we celebrated our **Abundant Life**® with the return of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Lutheran SeniorLife Foundation gala, after taking a year off due to the pandemic. In addition, an independent research and consulting firm certified Lutheran SeniorLife as a Great Place to Work™. We were also reminded of the financial generosity and time of our donors, mission partners and volunteers, whose contributions made it possible for us to deliver our life-enriching programs and services.

Rest assure though, no matter how great the challenges, Lutheran SeniorLife will always remain committed to protecting, delivering, and enriching the lives for those we serve and those who serve—an **Abundant Life**®.

**Pictured Above:** Lutheran SeniorLife President and CEO, David J. Fenoglietto and Lutheran SeniorLife Board of Directors Chairman, Chris O. Jordheim

# COMMITTED to Safety



VNA nurse Bambi Lynn with Charlotte Potts of Prospect.



Josh Blom

Nurses working for the Visiting Nurses Association of Western Pennsylvania (VNA), have been relentless in keeping our most vulnerable community neighbors safe during the pandemic.

In 2021, VNA nurses administered 800 COVID-19 vaccines to homebound community members in Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Lawrence, Mercer, and Westmoreland counties.

“VNA’s mission has always been to take care of the community in their homes. When we saw a need to get the COVID vaccine to those who were homebound last spring, we knew we had to help,” explained Margie Walsh, VNA executive director. “The Butler Health System agreed to supply the vaccines, and we have been administering shots ever since.”

Last year, VNA provided home health and hospice services to 3,604 patients. In addition, VNA nurses made virtual Telehealth appointments, as well as 76,504 in-home health and hospice visits. “We did whatever we could do to keep our patients safe in their homes,” noted Walsh.

## VNA Hospice Dedicates Children’s Library

The VNA Hospice has been serving western Pennsylvania for the past 50 years. In 2021, the VNA dedicated its Children’s Library in memory of Aldon Blom, who passed away at the age of three with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, a rare brain tumor. Aldon’s father, Josh Blom of Harrisville, placed a plaque on the wall of the library in memory of his son during a dedication ceremony. The plaque reads: “Forever A Hero, Daddy Loves You Buddy.” Those words, written by Josh, were part of a tearful and moving ceremony filled with family, friends, and caretakers in tribute to the everlasting impact Aldon had on their lives. Kelli Connolly, VNA bereavement and spiritual counselor, led the ceremony which included several readings, songs, and words of remembrance by the Hospice nurses that cared for Aldon.

*“We did whatever we could do to keep our patients safe in their homes.”*

*– Margie Walsh  
VNA*



Bill Faulkner

**“The goal of ASPIRE is to help residents achieve the best life possible, every day.”**

– Brian Damaska  
Passavant Community

### ***Passavant Community***

Leaders of the Passavant Community adopted an innovative philosophy designed to improve the overall health and wellbeing of residents with the launch of ASPIRE Wellness—a holistic approach to enrich the mind, body, and spirit.

“We know that being healthy is more than just being physically fit,” explained executive director, Laura Roy. “It’s pursuing our passions, satisfying our curiosity, and staying connected and meaningfully engaged. That’s why we created ASPIRE Wellness.”

The philosophy focuses on six integrated “Dimensions of Wellness” including Active, Intellectual, Spiritual, Relational, Purposeful, and Expressive. “Everybody’s level of wellness is individually based,” explained wellness manager, Brian Damaska. “The goal of ASPIRE is to help residents achieve the best life possible, every day.”

Rev. Paul Payerchin leads a bible study group as part of the spiritual dimensions aspect of ASPIRE and appreciates the “intentional focus.” This (ASPIRE) challenges me and others who wish to seek a more meaningful and abundant life. Not being left to do my own thing or having to plan my own activities allows me to do so much, much more,” noted Rev. Payerchin.

ASPIRE became one of the reasons Janet and Jack Broskin moved to Passavant. According to Janet, Jack had been struggling with Parkinson’s, and the couple needed support. “It (ASPIRE) has helped Jack out a lot in so many ways. It has really changed his life,” said Janet.



Jack and Janet Broskin

Exercise specialist, Chad Ifft, has witnessed firsthand the impact ASPIRE has made on the residents. “It keeps the residents healthy, inspired, and engaged.”

“If you don’t use it, you lose it; not only applies to the physical body but the brain as well,” said resident Kathi Peters. The Intellectual dimension has “inspired” Kathi’s mind with “practical and useful” knowledge. One class – Money Matters – taught her to better protect her assets. “Not only did it stimulate me to think through my finances, but... how to be sure my monies are safe, has been most helpful,” she explained. “ASPIRE is an opportunity for all residents to enrich their minds and further develop their faith life,” explained residents Grace and Frank Kantz. “ASPIRE is one of the many blessings of being a resident at Passavant Community.”

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### ***Living Independence For the Elderly (LIFE)***

Adaptability became the new normal for the staff of the LIFE programs in Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence



Carol Groves and Ingrid Tallarico



Carol Groves



Desiree Cronkhite



Dr. Abeer Hanna

counties. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the LIFE staff remained committed to keeping participants safe in their homes and communities. The LIFE centers collectively delivered a variety of activities, 8,000 meals, and made over 32,000 health and wellness visits throughout 2021.

Doctors in the LIFE programs also adapted by making house calls, and conducting telemedicine appointments. “It is so hard to see patients not have normal lives and the effects COVID has had on them,” explained Dr. Abeer Hanna. “I do more home visits now than before (COVID). I love what I do! I love the smile on patients’ faces when I care for them, and they get better.”

Technology also played a key role in delivering services to participants. LIFE Butler held virtual exercise classes for participants thanks to a grant from the George H. Campbell, Lillian S. Campbell, and Mary S. Campbell Foundation. The grant made possible the purchase of Grandpads, a computer tablet specifically designed for older adults. The user-friendly tablets helped connect participants with the center, as well as family and friends in a secure and safe virtual environment.

“Despite the pandemic, exercise is still needed,” explained Ingrid Tallarico, recreation therapy manager. “This is a way to keep participants moving, mobile, and socially connected with each other.”

Participant Carol Groves of Butler moves her arms, fingers, and toes as she watches recreational therapist Desiree Cronkhite guide the class through a 30-minute workout. Side stretches are one of Groves’ favorite exercises, but seeing her friends are equally important. “It’s great,” said Groves. “I get to see my friends when we are working out.”

According to Groves, she feels energized after each session. “I can move around better, feel stronger, and don’t ache as much,” said Groves. When the workouts are over, Groves and her friends continue to communicate online. “I get to talk with my friends, we talk about our kids, vacations, and just life.”

**“The use of Grandpads is a way to keep participants moving, mobile and socially connected.”**

– Ingrid Tallarico  
LIFE Butler

*In 2021, Lutheran SeniorLife continued to expand health, wellness, and technology services by launching new growth initiatives at St. John Community, Advanced Care Center of Butler, and Lutheran Service Society.*



*Artist rendition of the new entryway at St. John Community.*

### **St. John Community**

For more than 100 years, Lutheran SeniorLife has helped individuals throughout western Pennsylvania thrive spiritually, emotionally, intellectually and physically.

In recent years, senior housing options have grown exponentially in the region. The absence of affordable housing for middle-income seniors prompted Lutheran SeniorLife to launch a new growth initiative at its St. John Community. The goal of the initiative is to expand housing opportunities for those seeking independent, personal care, as well as memory care and support.

“We have a long history of serving southern Butler and northern Allegheny counties,” explained Samantha Rapuk, executive director of St. John. “The project will not only help us grow, but meet an unmet need.”

Construction began last summer with renovations to the top floor, and the development of a dedicated entryway designed to provide access to the local community. The new model is conveniently located a short distance from

places of worship, restaurants, banks, pharmacies, as well as quaint shops and boutiques. When complete, residents will be able to support one another and live their lives to the fullest in the safety and security of a continuing care community with easy access to life-enriching services.

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### **Advanced Care Center of Butler**

Since opening its doors in March of 2021, the Advanced Care Center of Butler (ACC) enhanced its services by adopting SilverSmart™ technologies. The infusion of technology created a smart-enabled living environment for seniors to utilize technology as a pathway to remain independent and connected while regaining their independence. These innovative technologies also enhanced the facility’s overall communication systems as a way to ease isolation and loneliness for residents.

In 2021, the ACC helped residents along their journey to successfully live an **Abundant Life**® by returning home after overcoming health-related challenges.



Tracy Beck



Avalon Family Room, ACC



Country Kitchen, ACC



Peggy Sampsel & Tracy Beck

While residing at the ACC, Peggy Sampsel of Butler took advantage of the technology in her room. “I used Alexa every day,” said Sampsel. She also relied on the facility’s broadcast channel to watch movies, listen to music, and keep up to date about daily activities. “When I came here, I could hardly walk and stand, but as you can see, I’m walking everywhere now,” Sampsel explained.

“We have an outstanding, dedicated team of health care professionals,” said Tracy Beck, ACC administrator. “By embracing technology, we have been able to encourage our residents to become more self-sufficient, and remain connected with family and the community.”

### Lutheran Service Society

In 2021, the Lutheran Service Society (LSS) Children and Family Services program completed 101 years of uninterrupted service. Over the past decade, the program has extended its service area to include Westmoreland, Fayette, Greene, Allegheny, Lawrence, Indiana, and Beaver counties. During

this same time, the program has grown by 86 percent bringing together children and parents to create new families.

“LSS serves children and families at all stages of the adoption or foster care process,” explained Sarah Israel, LSS administrator. Services include private infant adoptions, older child adoptions, foster care services, post-adoption services, and training. In addition, LSS manages 250 residential apartments for low income residents.

“As time marches on, the need for children to have permanency in a loving, supportive, secure and safe family remains the same,” noted Israel. “LSS is committed to continuing its legacy of supporting permanency in all facets as well as extended services in order to support the needs of the children and families we serve.”

*“We designed a high-touch, high-tech environment to create the best possible experience for our residents.”*

– David J. Fenoglio  
President and CEO



**Above:** Passavant resident Bob Rowe



**Center Bottom:** Lutheran SeniorLife Foundation annual fundraising event

**Center Bottom:** Left to right, Frank Longobardi, Tom Turici, Rose Turici, Zoey, and Karen Simmen

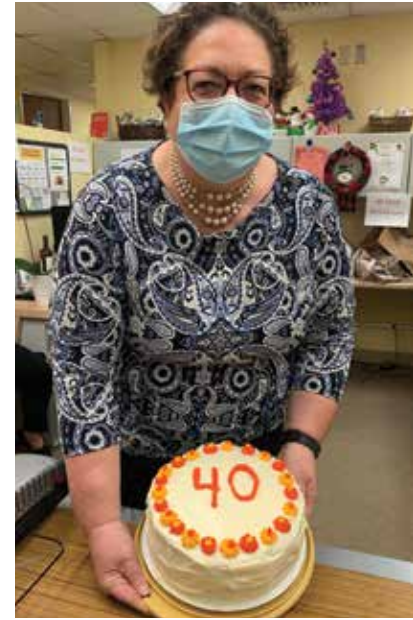
**Below:** Carol Groves of Butler



**Top Right:** Brenda Hunter

**Right:** St. John Community staff

**Below:** Penelope Diehm and Kevin Diehm







# A GREAT PLACE *to Work*

Lutheran SeniorLife received the designation as a Great Place to Work™ in 2021! The certification process was based on the results of an employee survey conducted by Great Place to Work, an independent research and consulting firm. The survey measured employees’ experiences related to the

organization’s commitment to community, the belief that their work was making a difference, as well as the feeling that their work had special meaning.

Renee Campbell, RN, who participated in the survey, shared her thoughts about working as a nurse at the Lutheran Senior Life Advanced Care Center of Butler (ACC). Campbell has been a nurse for 13 years.

“Working here is unlike any other job I’ve ever had. I enjoy coming to work every day and look forward to seeing the residents. It’s hard to answer why I became a nurse, I feel like this profession picks you! I love interacting with the residents here and it’s such a rewarding feeling to watch the progression and discharge of the residents back to their homes and know that you had a little part in making that happen for them. I love walking into a resident’s room and seeing their face light up when they see me. I know that this is where I’m supposed to be, and if I can have a positive impact on even one of the resident’s lives while they are here, then I feel like I have done my job. I love being a nurse at the ACC where I feel appreciated by my management, coworkers, and residents.”



Renee Campbell,  
ACC Nurse

## COMBINED BALANCE SHEET / FY21

### Assets

Current Assets .....	108,901,975
Assets Whose Use is Limited.....	3,666,099
Property, Plant and Equipment.....	126,225,244
Development and Real Estate .....	4,334,623
Beneficial Interest in Trusts .....	2,063,795
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>245,529,016</b>

### Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities.....	30,963,856
Long Term Debt.....	79,340,706
Deferred Revenues .....	10,658,158
Net Assets .....	124,566,296
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets .....</b>	<b>245,529,016</b>

“I love being a nurse at the ACC where I feel appreciated by management, coworkers and residents.”

– Renee Campbell  
ACC

# WHY I GIVE!



*“In the 1950’s my grandmother lived and received great care at St. John Specialty Care Center in Mars. Years later my great aunt also had the same experience. I give so others will also be taken care of.”*

– Gary Datt

*“Lutheran SeniorLife supports many people and needs. Therefore, my money goes to a good cause.”*

– Ruth Anne Mears, Passavant resident

*“Passavant fulfills a need of providing a high quality of care and sense of community.”*

–William Sanders, Passavant resident

*“The wonderful staff at Passavant, who were so kind to my mother and father, will always have a place in my heart and memory. It’s as if I can hear my father saying ““Son, these are really good people. Take care of them.””*

– Pastor Robert Musser, former Lutheran SeniorLife board member

*“My parents received amazing care at Passavant. It was a wonderful experience. I continue to give in hopes that others will have the same opportunity.”*

– Susan Abazoris

*“As we have grown older, we have become increasingly aware of the importance of secure and accessible housing, whether in a residential community or through the provisions of remaining in one’s own home. We have been fortunate in being able to provide for our needs and, even though we live in a different retirement community, we continue to support Lutheran SeniorLife, because of personal ties to Pittsburgh, and as a way of continuing the strong witness of the Lutheran church in maintaining the Passavant traditions of social services offered to all in our community.”*

– Pastor Martin and Sally Roth

*“Our mothers both received amazing care at Lutheran SeniorLife. They were treated as people and not just residents and patients. Everyone is living longer, especially women, and they outlive their resources. For us, supporting Benevolent Care is critical to make sure that others also receive the same care.”*

– Francis Balog and Dr. Paula Bonino

## CORNERSTONE

*Individuals who have contributed \$10,000 and above during any one year period.*

Anonymous  
Mr. Harold Allman  
Mr. and Mrs. Albert A. Bittcher  
Mr. John J. Bodziuch  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Burgess

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Mrs. Pauline Hughes  
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Mr. Gregory C. LaRocca  
Mr. Loyal Moore

Dr. William Sanders and  
Dr. Ruth Anne Mears  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael P. Schneider  
Ms. Elsie E. Weber

## KEYSTONE

*Corporations and organizations that have contributed \$5,000 and above during the period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.*

Allegheny Construction Group, Inc.  
Baur Trust  
Beaver County Chamber of Commerce  
Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church  
of Dormont  
The George H. Campbell, Lillian S. Campbell  
and Mary S. Campbell Foundation  
Citizens Bank  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department  
of Aging  
Cura Hospitality Group, Inc.  
Grant Street Asset Management, Inc.

Theodore R. and Lillian S. Helmbold Fund  
of the Pittsburgh Foundation  
Henderson Brothers, Inc.  
Highmark  
Howard Miller Charitable Foundation  
Margaret M. Patton Charitable Foundation  
MMC Land Management  
Myrtle Forsha Memorial Trust  
NexTier Bank  
Northwest Bank  
PNC Charitable Trust  
Robert S. Waters Fund

Joseph S. Seaman, Sr. Endowment Fund  
S & T Bank  
Senior Citizens Caring Foundation  
Frank and Floia Starr Memorial Endowment Fund  
St. John Lutheran Care Center Endowment Fund  
United Way of Beaver County  
United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania  
Valley Care Endowment Corporation  
Ira R. Wood and Frances Wood Charitable Trust



## CAPSTONE

*Individuals who have thoughtfully remembered Lutheran SeniorLife Foundation in their estate plans through charitable bequests, annuities, trusts or other gift arrangements.*

Mrs. Dolores L. Aburano  
Emma E. Adams Charitable Trust  
Anonymous  
Mr. Francis A. Balog and Dr. Paula Bonino  
Ms. Jane E. Bittcher  
Louis and Louise Bushman Memorial Fund  
Mrs. Amy Core  
Mrs. Grace T. Dennis  
Rev. Marsella R. Esseck  
Dr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Franzen  
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Mr. and Mrs. William Fugate  
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Rev. and Mrs. John P. Harman  
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Theodore R. and Lillian S. Helmbold Fund  
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Ms. Dorcas E. Leibold  
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Martincek  
Dr. Kenneth R. May Memorial Endowment Fund  
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Howard Miller Charitable Foundation  
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P.M. Moore Foundation  
Ms. Harriet E. Moyer  
Miss Weltha Myers  
Dorothy C. and Elmer Ortner Memorial Fund  
Mr. Wayne M. Otto  
Victor K. Phillips and Janice Phillips Larrick  
Family Charitable Foundation  
Mrs. Jean M. Pletcher  
Mrs. Barbara Ravenstahl  
Rev. Allen Riethmiller  
Edward E. Rieck Charitable Trust  
Margaret Sage Charitable Trust  
Mary Sage Charitable Trust

William H. Schanzenbach Fund  
Mrs. Marjorie Scheller  
Joseph S. Seaman, Sr. Endowment Fund  
Gordon P. Smith Memorial Fund  
Frank and Floia Starr Memorial  
Endowment Fund  
St. John Lutheran Care Center  
Endowment Fund  
Ms. Jean Sturges  
Revs. Kenneth H. and  
Karen C. Thompson  
Mrs. Marjorie M. Vogel

*We  
are truly  
blessed by  
the support of  
many who believe  
in our mission.  
THANK  
YOU!*

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