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The Wesley Foundation

The generous support and leadership of donors to The Wesley Foundation helps The Wesley Community provide a high-quality, unique continuum of care, and build relationships to contribute resources to enhance the quality of daily living and well-being of our residents, clients and their families. Charitable gifts help provide support for life-changing programs and services that

greatly enhance care throughout The Wesley Community.

Funding is used to purchase specialty equipment, provide scholarships and activities support for adult day services clients, provide support for uninsured or underinsured pediatric patients in need of outpatient services in speech, occupational therapy and physical therapy, assist with employee education and training, provide program support for resident outings

and events, and support facility enhancements.

Foundation donors include individuals, residents and families, staff, foundations, the corporate community and civic organizations. Collectively, their investments in The Wesley Foundation strengthen our services to meet the many needs of our residents and clients.

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The Wesley Society

Our Wesley Society was developed to honor our supporters who make planned giving arrangements for the benefit of The Wesley Foundation.

Planned giving encompasses naming The Wesley Foundation in a will or providing beneficiary clauses in trust funds, annuities, and life insurance policies.



Contributors are helping to build a positive future. It is their legacy for providing continuity to the Foundation as it raises funds to support the entire Wesley community. Commitment to the goals and achievements of The Wesley Foundation through planned giving is a shared legacy – past, present and future.

For more information about The Wesley Society or

2011 Employee Giving Campaign

Each year, employees across The Wesley Community contribute to The Wesley Foundation – in 2010 our employees contributed more than \$20,000 to the Foundation to support a variety of resident services, educational programs and employee assistance programs.

The 2011 Employee Giving Campaign, “Cruise for The Wesley Community,” officially kicked off on September 8th with a campus-wide luncheon held in the courtyard of Wesley Health Care Center.

Employee gifts helps strengthen our services and meet the many needs of our residents, their families, and the community we serve.

planned giving please contact the Foundation Director at (518) 691-1419 or foundation@wesleyhealth.com.



This effort is led by a volunteer committee of employees who help us communicate the importance of giving while encouraging others to join them to become part of our team of supporters.

We extend a heartfelt “thank you” to our employees for their continued support. Their participation in the employee giving campaign further enhances their commitment to The Wesley Community, and helps make a positive difference in the lives of our residents and their fellow employees.





Volunteer Story: Vera Ducker

Having raised two sons and spent more than twenty years working their family farm in Stillwater Central, Weston and Vera Decker were eagerly looking forward to retirement when they moved into the Embury Apartments in the summer of 1979. However, the time needed to care for a small apartment as compared to a busy farm quickly left them looking for something more to fill their days. Wesley found a part-time job at Embury while Vera accepted a request for volunteers to help out at Wesley Health Care Center, which at the time only consisted of the Springs building.

Vera's helpful attitude has remained with her through more than three decades of dedicated volunteer service to the Wesley Community, with no end in sight. She began transporting wheelchair-bound residents

to and from activities, spent hours mending, sewing name tags into residents clothing, stuffing thousands of envelopes for mass mailings and eventually assisting with the ordering and sales of jewelry and other small items. In 1988 an official gift shop was opened adjacent to Wesley's main lobby, and Vera was extremely flattered to have been appointed Gift Shop Supervisor, a title she still holds. She has been working the Wednesday morning shift for the last twenty-two years, and says "I have always enjoyed volunteering at Wesley- the people are just great and everyone is so friendly. Some come in the shop every week and I might not even know their names, but we always have lots of laughs and it just makes your day."

When she has no customers to tend to, Vera keeps herself busy crocheting tiny hats and blankets for babies who are in the hospital.

"I will keep volunteering as long as I can still wheel my walker over to Wesley. It gives me a reason to get up in the morning. You have to have something to look forward to, because as soon as you quit being active, things can go bad."

For information on how you can become a volunteer, please contact Pat Quinn, Director of Volunteer Services at 691-1457.

The Wesley Foundation (continued from page 1)

The Wesley Foundation also hosts an annual fundraiser in June to support priority needs of The Wesley Community. The 2011 fundraising event was held on Thursday, June 23 at the Saratoga Automobile Museum. The Adirondack Trust Company was the presenting sponsor for the event, "Festa Italia."

Sponsors and event guests took great delight in the exhibit on display – "Forza Italia! – Fine sporting cars from Italy." All in attendance enjoyed the extensive collection of unique and dramatic cars in a variety of colors and styles.

Complimentary Bellinis, Italian-inspired gourmet hors d'oeuvres and specialty pastas by Panza's added to the evening's festivities.

Guests ended the evening with miniature Italian

pastries and espresso and cappuccino.

The success of the event provided \$43,000 in funding to support a pilot program to renovate rooms in the Springs residence at Wesley Health Care Center. The residence caters to aging seniors who may have significant chronic medical needs that require daily assistance. Renovations will allow for better delivery of care and create a warm, homelike living environment for our residents.

The Wesley Foundation is grateful for the vision and



continued support and commitments of our donors. Gifts made through our annual campaign, employee giving campaign, planned giving program, grant applications, events and special initiatives help us meet the growing needs of the people we serve.

To learn more about the Foundation or to make a contribution, please go to our website, www.wesleyhealth.com, and click on The Wesley Foundation, or contact the Foundation at foundation@wesleyhealth.com or call the Foundation's Executive Director at (518) 691-1420.



Different needs, but still together...

Henry Meindl met Evelyn Schwall in Skokie, Illinois in March of 1946. He had been invited to a party given by a friend and decided to go “stag.” Everyone else was in couples. “I have just the girl for you,” said his friend. At first Henry said no but agreed to tag along while they went to pick up the girl. One look at Evelyn and Henry became very interested. “She didn’t say yes for a couple of months,” Henry said while smiling at Evelyn. They were married on September 7 of 1946 and have celebrated their 65th anniversary.

Evelyn gave birth to their daughter, Pam, while they were living in Wheeling, Illinois. After many years, they moved to Glenville to be closer to her and their two grandchildren, Josh and Molly. During this time, Henry worked as a trouble

shooter for NICOR. He fixed everything from ranges to water heaters to dryers.

Soon after Henry retired, he and Evelyn moved into a retirement community and were healthy and happy for over ten years. In 2010 Evelyn became ill and was admitted to Wesley Health Care Center. At about the same time, Henry moved to Woodlawn Commons.

Great assistance and sociability are the words Henry uses to describe The Wesley Community. During nice weather they enjoy dinners at Georgia’s Restaurant at Woodlawn Commons and Henry can dine with Evelyn at Wesley Health Care Center at almost a moment’s notice. “We consider it a real blessing that they can get together just about every day,” says daughter Pam.

Unlike many nursing homes and retirement communities, Wesley has it all on one campus. Independent and enriched living, outpatient therapies, gift and beauty shops, a family doctor’s office, pharmacy and restaurant are all within walking distance. The Wesley Community is truly a place where couples of different needs can still be together.

Wesley Health Care Center's 18th symposium

On May 27th Nursing Administration coordinated Wesley Health Care Center's 18th symposium to promote clinical excellence. This year's program was entitled "Keeping Current in the World of Pressure Ulcers and other Wounds." The key note speaker was Dr. Joyce Black, a nationally recognized expert in the area of pressure ulcers. She is the Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Black has conducted research on the development of deep tissue injuries and serves on the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel as an expert in this area. Her presentation was well received by an audience of over 130 registered nurses and therapists. The entire morning flew by as she covered pressure ulcers and public policy and advances in the science and clinical management of pressure ulcers.

The second speaker was Dr. Ivan Hernandez. He is the Medical Director at the Mobile Hyperbaric Center in Troy, New York. Dr. Hernandez is an experienced speaker on wound care topics that include hyperbaric treatment protocols, non-invasive vascular testing, the prevention of amputation in the diabetic and nutrition in wound care. Dr. Hernandez was informative with a wonderful sense of humor that kept the audience entertained.

In addition to these dynamic speakers, this conference featured a vendor show with over 35 different companies in attendance. The participants were given ample time to visit each vendor table, receive education on products being shown and obtain samples. Evaluations collected following this conference reflected attendee satisfaction with the program. Participants traveled from as far away as Utica, Plattsburgh and Springfield Massachusetts to

attendee this conference. This program was approved for 5.2 contact hours by the New York State Nurses Association.

All proceeds go towards the **Homecoming Project** at Wesley Health Care Center. This project helps fund efforts to make Wesley more homelike for our residents by adding pets, plants and other unit decorations. Our yearly goal to sponsor a quality conference at a reasonable cost was certainly realized.

Cindy Labish
Director of Nursing



CNA of the Year



Carri Brennan from 4 Springs was presented the Certified Nursing Assistant of the Year Award on June 24 at the Wesley Health Care Center. The award is sponsored by the Association of Nursing Services Administrators (ANSA) and recognizes an individual nominated by administrators and peers who shows excellence in job performance. Brennan (bottom right) is shown with Wesley Director of Nursing Cindy Labish and Wesley Administrator Dutch Hayward. Brennan will represent Wesley in May 2012 during Nursing Home Week, at an awards event sponsored by ANSA.