

Details Spring/Summer 2020 Volume XXVII

Spring/Summer 2020 Volume XXVII Edition II







esidents are now moving into DePaul's DeWitt Clinton Apartments in Rome, New York. The community includes a total of 80 apartments consisting of a 66-unit apartment building and 14 townhomes for income-eligible tenants. There are 20 ADA and three Hearing and Visually Accessible (HVA) units in the building.

The 81,063-square-foot, \$25 million affordable housing community is DePaul's first in Oneida County. Building A, located on Ann Street, includes 56 one-bedroom and 10 two-bedroom apartments. Building B, located on E. North Street, contains 14 townhomes. Forty of the units have on-site housing specialist support services that promote stability, health and independent living for persons with histories of unstable housing. These are made possible through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI), part of Governor Andrew Cuomo's \$20 billion, five-year housing plan which aims to combat homelessness by building and preserving more than 100,000 units of affordable housing and 6,000 units of supportive housing.

"DePaul is pleased to be a community partner in meeting the need for quality affordable housing options in Rome and throughout New York State," DePaul President Mark H. Fuller said. "We thank Governor Cuomo, the State and our other

partners for the funding, cooperation and commitment that will most certainly create jobs, provide homes for many, and most importantly, change lives."

Each one- and two-bedroom apartment and townhome features a fully equipped kitchen with a range, refrigerator and microwave, a wall-mounted flat screen TV including basic cable service, and in-unit storage. Heat, air conditioning, hot water and electric are included in the rent and on-site laundry facilities are available at no cost to the tenant. There is also off-street parking. Tenants have access to a community room, lounges and a computer lab. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available in common areas in the buildings. The buildings are 100 percent smoke free. There are designated smoking areas provided outdoors. Housing Specialists teach skills and assist tenants in linking to community services.

Financing for the project includes federal low-income housing tax credits administered through New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR), which will generate nearly \$16 million in equity. Additionally, HCR provided funding of approximately \$4.5 million through its Supportive Housing Opportunity Program. The Housing Trust Fund provided \$3.5 million. The New York State Office of Mental Health provided \$1 million in annual



services and operating funds to support the 40 ESSHI supportive housing units, in addition to a \$339,960 Program Development Grant. The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority provided a \$80,600 grant.

Partners on the DeWitt Clinton Apartments include the Community Preservation Corporation, LECESSE Construction, New York State Homes and Community Renewal and Housing Trust Fund Corporation, New York State Office of Mental Health, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Red Stone Equity Partners, LLC, SWBR Architects and DePaul.

Development Updates

DePaul is expanding with construction continuing on a number of new affordable housing communities in New York and wrapping up at a senior living community in North Carolina.



Applications are now being accepted for **La Rosa Villas**, a three-story building in LeRoy, New York, with 60 units of affordable housing for individuals age 55 and above. Located at the site of the

former Lapp Lumber Mill on Mill Street, the community includes six studio, 48 one-bedroom and six two-bedroom apartments. Thirty of the units have on-site housing specialist support services. La Rosa Villas is anticipated to open in September 2020.



Construction is expected to wrap up at DePaul's **Starting Line Apartments** in the city of Utica, New York this fall. The community will have a total of 60 units consisting of 54 one-bedroom and six two-bedroom apartments for incomeeligible tenants and will offer on-site housing specialist support services and linkages to community services to assist persons in living as independently as possible.



The Starting Line Apartments are named in honor of the Boilermaker Road Race, established in 1978 by Earle C. Reed. The race draws more than 19,000 competitors to the historic East Utica neighborhood each year. The 2020 Boilermaker Road Race will be held virtually in September, and an informational banner about the race will be hung at the Starting Line Apartments.





Renovations wrapped up at **Wexford House** in Denver, North Carolina.
Improvements included the addition of 20 beds, new paint, wall coverings, flooring, lighting, the addition of a porte cochere, expansion of the lobby and living areas, furnishings, and an electric fireplace for residents and guests to

enjoy. The additional beds will allow greater numbers of seniors in need to receive services and care in a high-need location.



DePaul is proud to announce the Upper Falls Square Apartments in Rochester, New York have won the 2020 New York State Excelsior Awards 'Honor Award' from AIA New York State! DePaul received the award in recognition of the buildings' overall performance, how they impact those who reside there and the community, and design excellence. Congratulations to project partners including Christa Construction and SWBR Architects!





Twelve Oaks Mt. Airy News Mountie Award

Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina was voted winner of the Best Alzheimer's/Memory Care Unit for The Mount Airy News Mountie Awards 2020! Special thanks to our dedicated team of staff who ensure the highest quality care for our residents every day. Our residents do not live in our workplace; we work in their home!



Former Dietary Director Honored

Congratulations to Francis Roselli, former Dietary Director at Glenwell, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Cheektowaga, New York, for being honored with the Council of Food Service Association's 2020 Silver Medal Award from the Western New York Society for Health Care Food Service Administrators. Roselli is pictured below, on the right, with his wife Candyce receiving the award at the Food Service Network of Western New York annual awards presentation and dinner in March. Roselli retired on March 27 after nearly 16 years of service with DePaul and 55 years in the industry.



DePaul Receives COVID-19 Response Grant

Thank you to the Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation for providing Living Opportunities of DePaul, Inc. with a \$25,000 COVID-19 Response Grant. The grant aims to support local organizations which serve children, adolescents and young adults affected by intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, mental illness and/or substance use disorders in fulfilling the additional needs they may face because of COVID-19.

The grant was requested for personal protective equipment, wage enhancements for staff, access to technology for both telehealth medicine and connecting with families, phone cards and activity supplies for those served by DePaul in Erie and Niagara Counties.

Living Opportunities of DePaul, Inc. provides the highest quality mental health residential and supportive services for those in recovery from a serious and persistent mental illness. We so appreciate the generosity of the Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation!





Her Best Year Yet

The day that Lucy 'Luz' Lopez got the key to her apartment at DePaul's Knitting Mill Apartments in Perry, New York, was the first day of her amazing new life. Bouncing from bad relationships to bad apartments, Luz finally found a place to call home in April when the Brooklyn native moved into the Knitting Mill Apartments along with her grandson Casimir of whom she has full custody.

"I wanted so badly to go inside an apartment and close the door behind me," she said. "It was like winning the lottery."

Luz first received approval for housing assistance in fall of last year. With help caring for Casimir from her daughter who also lives in Perry, Luz began looking for an apartment while staying with friends and in hotels.

"It was just so bad," she said. "You don't want to stay with friends too long."

Luz landed an apartment in February, but condition issues forced her to move out. Without a security deposit, she was having difficulty finding an apartment. Her supervisor at work told Luz about DePaul's Knitting Mill Apartments. Finally, after delays in getting the paperwork she needed to complete her application because of COVID-19, Luz got her keys!

Everything has been going right since she opened the door to her new apartment at the Knitting Mill Apartments. She's been able to furnish her apartment with help from Community Action for Wyoming County. She gushes about the staff and amenities.

"I am blown away by their dedication and kindness," said Luz. "They don't miss a step! They have food deliveries and share them with us and they have so many activities planned! I can't believe that I can actually wash and dry my clothes without having to spend money that I could be spending on food! But what I love the most is the way staff and residents truly care about one another."

Finding DePaul and the Knitting Mill Apartments was a gift from God for Luz.

"He listened to my prayers," she said. "I'm a firm believer. The opportunity to live here and be around the positive people in this space, it's what I needed in my life. This is where I'm supposed to be, here with my family."

Spotlight on Mental Health in May



A Message from DePaul President Mark Fuller **(**



Each year, May is recognized as Mental Health Awareness Month. It is especially important to remember as we are living through unprecedented times that may impact emotional and mental wellness.

Operating over 1,700 beds including licensed congregate treatment sites, apartment treatment programs, community residence-single room occupancy programs, supportive housing and transitional housing, DePaul knows from experience the importance of stable housing combined with other community-based supports. Overwhelmingly positive outcomes see people steadily moving on to more independent levels of care. In addition, costs are far lower than the alternatives which sadly may include the revolving door of incarceration, hospitalization and homelessness.

As a non-profit provider of residential, rehabilitation and support services to persons with mental illness in recovery for over 60 years, DePaul is dedicated to raising awareness, and community collaboration with the goal of eradicating stigma in the hope that those who need help receive it. Read more about our agency's commitment in a message from DePaul President Mark H. Fuller on DePaul's Blog at www.depaul.org/blog/.

Remember Garden Gets a Facelift

The Remember Garden, located in Highland Park in Rochester, New York, recently received a complete makeover thanks to donations of supplies, materials, labor and time from a number of businesses and individuals.

Benches and pergolas at the Remember Garden were recently rebuilt thanks to a project led by Christa Construction President Mike Seaman, Vice President Gail Morelle and Project Executive Jay Weaver. Much appreciation to Lakeview Lawn and Landscaping for providing the plantings and mulch, Tim Dewey of TMD Contracting for the installation, and Pat Clancy and Chuck Buscemi of Wm. B. Morse Lumber Co. for providing the materials.

"Thanks to the generosity, thoughtfulness and support of our community, the Remember Garden will continue to serve as a fitting tribute to recognize those who were buried at this site," said Vice President of DePaul Properties, Inc. Gillian Conde.

The garden is a living memorial to those who died while institutionalized over a century ago at the Monroe County Insane Asylum, Almshouse and Penitentiary, the approximately 700 unnamed graves that were discovered at Highland Park, and the strides that have been made to erase stigma surrounding mental illness.





NCADD-RA News

DePaul's National Council on Alcoholism and Drug
Dependence—Rochester Area (NCADD-RA) hosted a press
conference by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand in February at which
the Senator announced the bipartisan Family Support Services
for Addiction Act. The act will empower families with resources
to help loved ones struggling with addiction by starting a grant
program for non-profits to provide family support for treatment.
Director of UR Medicine Strong Recovery Patrick Seche
joined Senator Gillibrand along with Director of NCADD-RA
Jennifer Faringer, Huther Doyle Chief Operating Officer of
Health Homes & New Business Development Craig Johnson
and Lisa Erne with ROC Families In Recovery and Substance
Overdose Awareness Recovery Services (SOARS).

The NCADD-RA is now on Facebook! Be sure to follow them at www.facebook.com/NCADDRA/ for tools and tips for families and youth regarding the misuse of alcohol and other drugs, tobacco, problem gambling and more.

Hats Off to You!

Congratulations to some of the many residents in DePaul's care who are celebrating milestones!



Good genes, faith and hard work have carried Lucille Sigmon through a century of life! A resident of Cambridge House in Hildebran, North Carolina, one of Lucille's biggest accomplishments was owning 10 beauty shops.



Education and an unwavering work ethic have been the secret to a long and happy life for centenarian Elizabeth Rogers Simonds. Raised by a family of sharecroppers, Elizabeth left South Carolina for New York City four years after high school to pursue a career. The resident of Pee Dee Gardens in Florence, South Carolina enjoys reading medical articles and watching CNN.



Reflecting on 103 years, Aileen Badgett's advice is to "never look back." A resident of Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, Aileen credits her faith and good health for her longevity.



Centenarian Lenora "Nonnie"
Carroll's secret to longevity is
to "be kind to her neighbor."
A resident of Wheatfield Commons
in North Tonawanada, New York,
Nonnie's hobbies are playing
solitaire on her iPad, bingo and
keeping up with the news.



Charles and Dottie Green celebrated 64 years of marriage at Pee Dee Gardens in Florence, South Carolina while Edward and Theodora Maguder recently celebrated their 69th anniversary of marriage with a virtual chat. Edward is a resident of Glenwell in Cheektowaga, New York and Theodora lives nearby at the McGuire Group's Garden Gate Health Care Facility.



Celebrating Moms and Dads!

Whether it was with a window visit, a parade, a tea social or a photo shoot, DePaul's senior living communities showered mothers and fathers with love in May and June!

Ruby Dowdell, pictured right, was among the mothers presented with a fresh, locally grown flower arrangement made by Wexford House Administrator Amy Smith, Activities Director Leslie Spinner and Dietary Manager Pam Robinson in Denver, North Carolina.



Mother's and Father's Day at Westwood Commons in North Chili, New York were unforgettable thanks to parades! Residents like Cynthia Clemons, pictured below, watched from the curb at a distance or from inside through the windows as family and community members drove by and waved from their decorated cars. Classic cars were provided by the Genesee Valley Antique Car Society (GVACS) and the Lakeshore Model A Club for the Father's Day parade.





Twelve Oaks in Mt. Airy, North Carolina, celebrated mothers and fathers with cakes, cupcakes and ice cream sundaes donated by residents' families. Pictured below enjoying the sweet treats are Mary Boyd and Wrenn Walker.





Be sure to visit DePaul on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ depaul.org/ to read some of the poignant and heartwarming memories our residents had to share about the mother and father figures in their lives.

Activities Get Inventive

Despite the need for social distancing, the fun must go on at DePaul!



Residents have been playing bingo in their bedrooms, in the halls, or seated just inside their doors, like Isabell Faulkner at Heath House, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Lincolnton, North Carolina.



Staying creative is a great way to keep the mind occupied! Residents and staff have been discovering and sharing their talents including Mary Matre from Glenwell, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Cheektowaga, New York, pictured with her coloring art.



Time on the porch, colorful flowers in bloom, and garden therapy will cure any cabin fever! Rick Taylor flexes his green thumb in the garden at Wexford House, a DePaul Senior Living Community in Denver, North Carolina.



DePaul's Recreation Department recently got creative with residents from DePaul's mental health residential programs at Elmgrove, Edgerton Square, Lyell Road, the Neighborhood of the Arts and Rochester View Apartments in Rochester, New York. They customized flowerpots and planted their own herb seeds

which included rosemary, thyme, lavender and mint. Pictured above is Vanni Kamara of Edgerton Square.

To read more about these stories, visit DePaul's Blog at www.depaul.org/blog/.

Far Apart But Close at Heart

Though circumstances may keep DePaul's residents and their families apart physically, that isn't keeping them from connecting in many other creative ways.







Other fun that's appeared outside the windows at many DePaul communities has included entertainment by the Sudan Dunn Clowns at Rolling Ridge in Newton Grove, North Carolina, horses on parade by Winter Stables and Riding Academy at Prestwick Village in Laurinburg, North Carolina, and a socially distant concert performed by hairdresser Tina Malphrus and her family for residents, including Alda

Family members, friends, folks from area churches,

and even the local police

chief, visiting with Terry Jones at Rolling Ridge

in Newton Grove, North





Seniors have taken to technology to get their message of love out to families using DePaul's social media pages in addition to using FaceTime and other technology to virtually connect, like resident Laura St. John of Westwood Commons in North Chili, New York.

Bean at Wexford House in

Denver, North Carolina.

While technology makes it easy to connect with the touch of a button, there's still nothing that quite replaces the joy of knowing someone took the time to send a good old letter or greeting card in the mail! Edward Ardent at Glenwell in Cheektowaga, New York, is delighted by one of the cards which residents received from Hope Rises, Oasis Senior Advisors Buffalo, and Kristen Saskowski.

Coronavirus Kindness

The outpouring of support and donations from families and community members in recent times has truly been overwhelming. We are beyond grateful for the food and cards, acts of service, and donations of personal protective equipment including everything from masks and face shields to disinfectant products and 'mask buddies' to protect staff members' ears! Thank you to community members, places of worship, businesses, organizations, and DePaul staff for going above and beyond to brighten each day with food, gift cards, flowers, cards, and much more!

Space does not permit us to name every donor, but contributions are known and appreciated.



Lynda M. Battaglia, LCSW, and the Genesee County The Devine Family Mental Health Department Dole Pam Bauman Domino's Pizza Amy Beedle Gail Benton Black Button Distillery Dr. Page Blackwell Angie Blizzard Denise Borchert John and John, Jr. Bowes Pam Boy Kim Branch Kathy Bricker Brims Grove Baptist Church Angela Brown Buffalo Resilience (Phil McNamara and Frank Moynihan) Cheryl Busch Angie Catuzza and The Goodness Project Chef's Catering Colvin Cleaners and Paul Billoni Donna Conley Linda Cooper

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Be sure to check out our DePaul Strong newsletter at www.depaul.org, found under the #DePaulStrong tab at the bottom of the website for more stories of hope, help and everyday heroes!



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Board Updates

Please join DePaul in welcoming Mike Mallaber to the DePaul Adult Care Communities Board of Directors. As Director of Commercial Services for Canandaigua National Bank & Trust, Mallaber is also on the Board of Directors for Compeer Rochester, Inc., the Rochester District Youth Soccer League, and is a member of the New York State Commercial Association of Realtors and Empire State Certified Development Corporation.





Mark H. Fuller, *President*Amy Cavalier, *Copywriter*

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www.depaul.org

DePaul is a not-for-profit organization that provides senior living residential services, mental health residential and support programs, addiction prevention and support services, vocational services and affordable housing. To receive *DePaul Details* electronically, please provide your name and e-mail address to Monica Bulger at **mbulger@depaul.org** in DePaul's Communications Department.

Please direct comments to the Communications Department at **communications@depaul.org** or call **(585) 426-8000**.