



Defining DePaul Strong

DePaul's culture of caring was truly exemplified during an unimaginable historic storm which occurred in Buffalo over the 2022 holidays. Heroic staff members demonstrated the definition of teamwork, doing everything they could to bring care, services and comfort to our residents.

Paralyzing whiteout conditions, feet of mounting snow, dangerous winds and frigid temperatures prevented some staff members from reporting to their shift and trapped others on-site. Everyone pitched in to help – snow blowing and shoveling, mopping floors, cooking, cleaning, giving of themselves with no complaints, and supporting each other. DePaul's residents and their families were so appreciative.

"I cannot ever truly express my sincere gratitude to our heroic DePaul team who ensured the seamless delivery of the highest quality care during Buffalo's historic winter storm that devastated the region," said DePaul President Mark Fuller. "Their dedication to the people we serve and to their fellow staff members went above and beyond and demonstrated why DePaul is recognized for our culture of caring!"

The sites most impacted included the Apple Blossom Apartments, Ebenezer Square Apartments, Kensington Square, McKinley Square, Packet Boat Landing Apartments, Riverside Apartments, Rutherford Place, Seneca Square and the DePaul Senior Living Communities Glenwell, Heritage Manor of Lockport and Wheatfield Commons.



Seneca Square (Buffalo)

"Amazing collaboration and fortitude were displayed by residents and the DePaul team during this historic storm," said Program Director Mary Kay Rusinski. "Residents were constantly saying thank you and checking in with me knowing and appreciating how long I had been there."



Rutherford Place (Depew)

"I didn't do anything special that I normally wouldn't have done," said Residential Supervisor Barb Malecki. "I still had to continue to do my job and ensure the safety of the residents."



Ebenezer Square Apartments (West Seneca)

"The true heroism belongs to our residents at Ebenezer who came through like shining stars," said Program Director Maria Nikel. "The acts of kindness they showed toward staff and amongst each other was so genuine and heartfelt, it truly was the reason for the season."



Kensington Square (Buffalo)

"The level of care and dedication that they showed for the residents, for each other, and DePaul is not able to be put into words," said Program Director Carolyn Cauthen. "The true strength of their character and heart were revealed during this storm."



Glenwell (Cheektowaga)

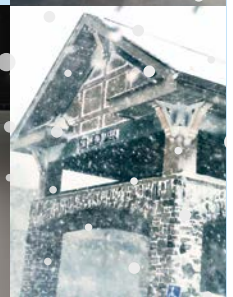
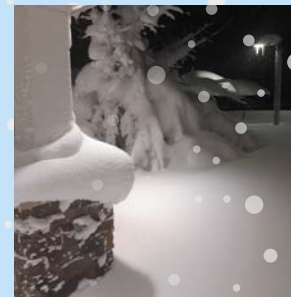
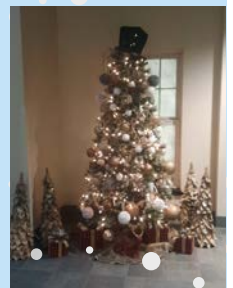
"This team has a heart that doesn't stop," said Administrator Tina Hagen. "They'd never abandon their role. That's the mindset of myself and my team. Regardless of the situation, it's our job to care for these people and we're going to do it."



McKinley Square (Buffalo)

"I am so proud to be part of this team, especially during the storm," said Program Director Gina Plair. "Many of us did not get to spend the entire Christmas holiday with our families, but we were all okay and safe."

Visit the DePaul Blog at www.depaul.org/2023/02/10/defining-depaul-strong/ to read more humbling stories of unity, resilience and heroism.





Upper Falls Welcomes Governor

Governor Kathy Hochul spoke at DePaul's Upper Falls Square Apartments in Rochester in early February about building safe, healthy, affordable housing across New York State and a plan to prevent childhood lead exposure. In addition to Governor Hochul, speakers included Commissioner of New York State Homes and Community Renewal RuthAnne Visnauskas, Rochester Mayor Malik Evans, Monroe County Executive Adam Bello and Congressman Joe Morelle. Governor Hochul is pictured here with Vice President of DePaul Properties Gillian Conde and Senior Director of Facilities Melissa O'Geen.

Awards and Recognitions

DePaul employees have recently been the recipients of several awards and recognitions.



In January, New York Governor Kathy Hochul presented "hero awards" for unwavering service during the Buffalo snowstorm at Buffalo State College. Several DePaul staff members were honored. Pictured with Certificates of Recognition are Executive Director/Vice President of DePaul Community Services/Living Opportunities of DePaul Chris Syracuse accepting the award on behalf of Seneca Square Program Director Mary Kay Rusinski, Seneca Square Medications Coordinator Telesia Mosley-Latson and Single Room Occupancy (SRO) Senior Program Director Heidi Augustyn.

Congratulations to Jerry Bennett, the Community Development Specialist with the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (NCADD-RA), for receiving the Community Youth Development Award from the Youth Services Quality Council of Rochester and Monroe County!



Mary Kay Rusinski was also recognized on The Supportive Housing Network of New York's Instagram and Twitter for demonstrating extraordinary leadership, compassion and dedication during the snowstorm.



Wheatfield Commons was honored to accept the 2022 Non-Profit of the Year award from the Chamber of Commerce of the Tonawandas. Marketing Director John Tomes accepted the award at the Network in Aging annual banquet. Seated, left to right, are Marketing Director John Tomes, Dining Services Director Tara Casey, Memory Care Director Caren Benn and Activities Director Laurie Tierney. Standing left to right are Administrative Assistant Joan Williamson, Resident Care Director Christine O'Connor and Activities Director Colleen Perkovich. Administrator Kathy Dion was present but not pictured.

Glenwell in Cheektowaga was recognized as the top fundraising team in the long-term care facility category for the 2022 Alzheimer's Association WNY Walk to End Alzheimer's in September! A trophy is now proudly displayed in Glenwell's reception area.

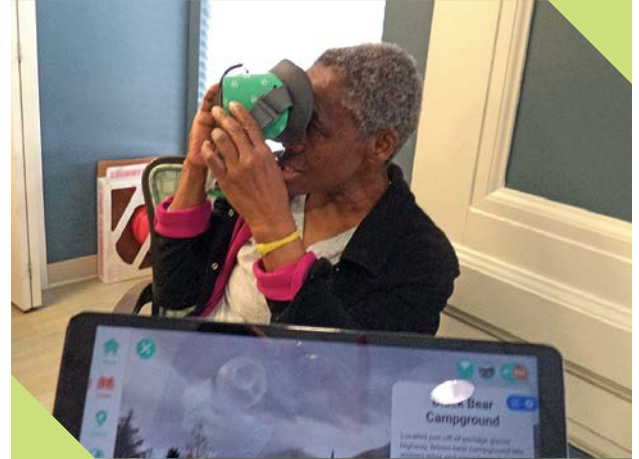
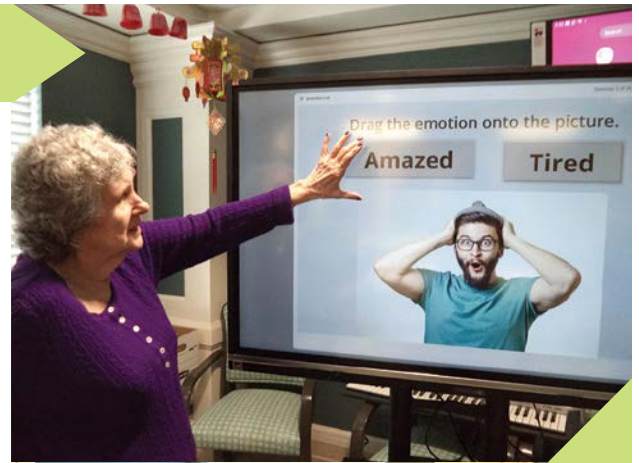
Seniors Benefit from Technology

Thank you to the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation for selecting DePaul Adult Care Communities, Inc. as a 2023 grantee! The recent \$75,000 grant will be used to support the ongoing cost of technology engagement programs at DePaul's senior living communities. Funds will be used to maintain the operational/subscription costs associated with Eversound wireless headphones, Rendever virtual reality headsets, and iN2L, a content-driven engagement technology, all of which were originally purchased with support from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation in 2021.

Pictured right, from top to bottom, Julie Darling and Ruby Joiner of Glenwell in Cheektowaga, Carol McCarthy of Heritage Manor of Lockport, and Anna Watroba of Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda have been leaping into the 21st century thanks to assistance from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

"This technology has been importantly beneficial to our seniors as it has opened up a whole new world of activities and has been an exciting opportunity to think outside the box," said Heritage Manor of Lockport Administrator Shannon Radlich.

For more details on how DePaul seniors are benefiting from technology, visit DePaul's Blog at www.depaul.org/2023/02/06/depaul-seniors-benefiting-from-technology/.



Updates at Westwood Commons

Renovations wrapped up at Westwood Commons, a DePaul Senior Living Community in North Chili. Improvements included painting all hallways, lounges, most common areas, the dining and activity rooms, a new beauty salon, new furniture in common areas, lounges and the activity room, boiler and HVAC upgrades, a new dishwasher, fire panel and system upgrades, and a new patio and sidewalks in the courtyard which will be installed in the spring.



Pan-American Square Receives Funding



DePaul was recently awarded \$40.1 million for Pan-American Square in Buffalo by New York State. Governor Kathy Hochul announced that more than \$390 million has been awarded through bonds and subsidies to create or preserve more than 1,600 affordable, sustainable, and supportive homes across the state. Pan-American Square will consist of three four-story buildings constructed on vacant land with a total of 150 units of affordable housing with onsite support services available for qualifying tenants. Anticipated for completion in fall 2024, Pan-American Square will be a high-performance passive building.

Black History Month

Black History Month is an opportunity to recognize, honor and celebrate the lives and contributions of Black Americans. Throughout the month of February, residents and visitors entering the Starting Line Apartments in Utica were greeted with a display featuring historical facts and honoring a number of significant Black Americans and their contributions. In addition, the community hosted a weekly raffle to win a t-shirt. Pictured is Carla Perry, winner of the first week's raffle.



Heartfelt Acts of Service

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, which is designated as a National Day of Service, seniors at Glenwell in Cheektowaga took pride in recreating a photo collage of his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech. They also made no-sew fleece blankets for Project Linus, a non-profit organization that provides comfort to children who are seriously ill or otherwise in need, and Valentine's Day cards for the Angel Card Program, which provides cards to people who receive Meals on Wheels. Ann Grosskopf is pictured with the photo collage and Ronald Janicki is pictured making a blanket.

Something Sweet

Love was abundant with colorful crafts and traditional treats during Valentine's festivities across DePaul. Pictured below are Debra S. of La Rosa Villas in LeRoy, Christina Luongo of the Trolley Station Apartments in Canandaigua, and Katherine Moore of Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda.



Cheers to 100 Years!

Heritage Manor of Lockport resident Mary Lenihan recently celebrated her 100th birthday! Her secret to longevity is a daily dose of chocolate. Mary has enjoyed a full and active life traveling, playing bridge, baking, reading, shopping, visiting with family and friends, and watching the Buffalo Bills and New York Yankees.

Ella Kraft, a resident at Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda, turned 102 late last year. Ella and her husband Ted loved to travel both domestically and abroad, as well as square dance and round dance. An avid seamstress and crafter, Ella made hundreds of baby quilts and bibs along with other items which she would sell at local craft shows. In her spare time she loves to read, color and solve word puzzles.



365 Days of Celebration

There is no shortage of reasons to celebrate and pay tribute at DePaul, from January to December.

Pictured clockwise from last year are Diane M. celebrating National Coloring Book Day in August at the Apple Blossom Apartments in Cheektowaga, Karen B. during a Super Bowl party at the Carriage Factory Apartments in Rochester, and Keith S. recognizing Kwanzaa with DePaul's Recreation Department.

For a full month-by-month list of some unique holidays and theme days which were celebrated across the agency in 2022, visit the DePaul Blog at www.depaul.org/2023/01/19/365-days-of-celebrations/.



Project ²⁰²² Thank You!



Clients, residents and staff throughout DePaul were the recipients of much generosity during the 2022 holiday season. Many thanks to DePaul staff members, scout troops, schools, places of worship, community organizations, businesses and individuals who came together to bring joy to all. Everyone who gave of themselves to those in DePaul's care made a tremendous difference!

DePaul is the grateful beneficiary of countless donations of time, talent, gifts and monetary contributions that make the holiday season brighter for those in our care. Space does not permit us to name every donor in this publication but please know that all contributions are known and appreciated. **You truly make a difference.**



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The holidays have been merry and bright across the agency with creative crafts, meaningful decor and festive celebrations! For more highlights, visit the DePaul Blog at www.depaul.org/2023/01/04/its-a-wonderful-life-at-depaul/.



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Save the Date: NCADD-RA Presents Annual Luncheon

The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area's (NCADD-RA) Annual Luncheon will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24 at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Rochester. Keynote speaker Kevin McCauley, M.D., wrote and directed two films "Memo to Self" and "Pleasure Unwoven" about the neuroscience of addiction which won the 2010 Michael Q. Ford Award for Journalism from the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers. He is a senior fellow at The Meadows of Wickenburg, Arizona and is currently a graduate student at the University of Arizona School of Public Health.

For more information or to register, contact Elaine Alvarado at (585) 719-3481 or ealvarado@depaul.org. You can also visit <https://ncadd-ra.org/events-trainings/ncadd-ra-annual-luncheon/> to register online.



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