



Celebrating the Port Byron Apartments



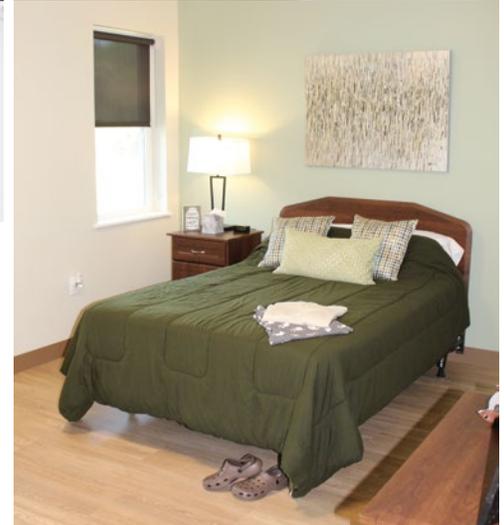
Pictured left to right are the speakers at the Port Byron Apartments Open House Celebration including New York State Homes and Community Renewal Upstate West Development Director Leonard Skril, Port Byron Apartments resident Carol T., DePaul President Mark Fuller, New York State Office of Mental Health Director of the Bureau of Housing Development and Support Julie Duncan, the Community Preservation Corporation Vice President and Mortgage Officer Tracy Conley and District Office Manager for New York State Assemblyman John Lemondes (126th District) Danielle Fabrizio.

DePaul joined state, county and local government officials, community agencies, and other partners to celebrate the opening of the Port Byron Apartments in June. Located at 27 Church Street in the Village of Port Byron, New York, the community contains 69 apartments for income-eligible tenants with 30 providing supportive services. The newly constructed, three-story building includes 21 studio, 20 one-bedroom, 21 two-bedroom and seven three-bedroom apartments.

The \$27.8 million development was constructed adjacent to an existing 39-unit building known as the Church Street Apartments that had previously served as the Port Byron Central School. Upon completion of construction, residents of the older building were moved into the new complex, with the previous building demolished and transformed into an outdoor recreation area available to tenants.

“DePaul is grateful to Governor Kathy Hochul and our esteemed partners for assisting us in expanding the availability of long-term and permanent housing coupled with access to vital support services,” said DePaul President Mark Fuller. “The Port Byron Apartments has already begun improving the lives of residents in Cayuga County by offering housing stability and support to some of the area’s most vulnerable populations.”

All apartments are affordable to households earning up to 60 percent of the Area Median Income. Thirty of the apartments include supportive services funded through the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) and administered by the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH). On-site staff will help connect residents with health and education services available throughout the county and region. Residents have access to on-site transportation services. A pet park, walking paths, community *continued on page 2*



Celebrating the Port Byron Apartments *(continued)*

garden and playground are under construction.

“Port Byron Apartments is a great addition to the neighborhood, providing a beautiful new building and green space; more importantly, the development’s supportive housing units with wrap-around services will allow people with mental illness to live successfully and independently in their own community,” said New York State Office of Mental Health Commissioner Dr. Ann Marie T. Sullivan.

Project partners include Christa Construction, the Village of Port Byron, DePaul, Cayuga County Community Mental Health Center, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), SWBR Architects, the Community Preservation Corporation (CPC), Red Stone Equity Partners, New York State Office of Mental Health, New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) and the Federal Housing Trust Fund.

Financing for the Port Byron Apartments includes Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits that will generate \$15.9 million in equity; HCR provided a \$4.26 million Supportive Housing Opportunity Program subsidy, a \$4.4 million Federal Housing Trust Fund subsidy, and a \$2 million HOME loan; CPC provided a \$14.5 million construction loan; OMH provided a Program Development Grant in the amount of \$168,750, and NYSERDA provided a \$69,000 energy grant. DePaul Properties, Inc. is the developer and DePaul Community Services, Inc. is the supportive service provider.

The Port Byron Apartments comply with the NYSERDA Low-rise Residential New Construction Program. Sustainable features include Energy Star appliances, water-conserving plumbing fixtures, and an electric vehicle charging station.

The apartments are located in a residential area in close proximity to many local amenities such as grocery shopping, schools, places of worship, medical care, banks, libraries, government agencies and general shopping. Heat, air conditioning, hot water and electric, local television cable service, and trash removal 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 throughout the building.

The building is 100 percent smoke free. There is a designated smoking area outdoors. A security deposit equal to one month’s rent is required at the lease signing and the applicant must meet the eligibility requirements of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. Income and occupancy requirements apply.



In the words of a tenant...

Carol T., a former DePaul employee during the late '70s and early '80s, now lives at DePaul's Port Byron Apartments and shared her story at the Open House Celebration.

Prior to moving into DePaul’s Port Byron Apartments last fall, Carol T. lived at the Church Street Apartments in the village of Port Byron for twenty years.

Situated in a former school building on the same property as DePaul’s newest community, Carol T. said the old apartments were beautiful when she first moved in.

“The outside was lit up, the doors were locked, no one could get in unless you lived there, and the intercom system worked beautiful(ly),” she recalls.

Ten years ago, the apartments were sold and as Carol said, “the rent went up and the maintenance went down.” Carol recalls the lights in the parking lot were broken and never replaced, the door locks were jammed with pebbles so anyone could come and go as they pleased, and the intercom system was removed altogether.

“I can’t tell you how many mornings I got a nice cold shower before I went to work because we either didn’t have water or didn’t have hot water,” she said. “It was horrible.”

A bus driver for the Port Byron schools for many years, Carol said she stayed because the apartments were conveniently located. When she heard that DePaul was going to be purchasing the Church Street Apartments and erecting a new building, Carol was ecstatic. As a former employee of DePaul, she knew she was in good hands.

“I knew how good they treated me, I knew how fair they were, and I just knew I was going to have a better life with them in my corner,” she said.

Carol said DePaul asked her what she would need to live in an apartment.

“Whatever I needed, they gave me,” she said. “I’m telling you it makes me just about cry, because walking out of that building...was like walking out of hell and walking into heaven. I absolutely love it here.”

Carol finally feels at home. She’s enjoyed getting to know her neighbors during community gatherings and she appreciates the ways the staff go that extra mile to make the living experience extra special, including little bags of presents on holidays.

“(If) anybody, anywhere, anytime, has a chance to work with DePaul, don’t throw it away,” Carol urged. “Take advantage because it’s the best thing that can ever happen to you.”

NCADD-RA Hosts Annual Luncheon

DePaul's National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (NCADD-RA) celebrated its 78th Annual Luncheon on May 15. Keynote speaker Dr. Stephen L. Dewey presented "Understanding the Science of Substance Use Disorder" to an audience of over 150 professionals in the addiction prevention, treatment and mental health fields, government officials, law enforcement agencies, and coalitions who attended this year's luncheon.

Congratulations to the NCADD-RA's team on another incredibly successful year of education and advocacy!



Pictured top row from left to right are NCADD-RA Director Jennifer Faringer with Keynote Speaker Dr. Stephen L. Dewey; Family Program Coordinator Bridget DeRollo presenting the Helen Guthrie Memorial Youth Advocate of the Year Award to Cristin Finch, a Professor and Health Studies Program Coordinator at Monroe Community College, and Jennifer Faringer presenting the Charlotte C. Hegedus Community Excellence Award to Action for a Better Community, Inc. Director of Health Services Linda King-Bronner. Pictured bottom row from left to right are Community Education Coordinator Delia Gallmeyer and Hispanic Prevention Education Program Coordinator Isabel Baldwin, NCADD-RA Staff Administrative Assistant Elaine Alvarado, Jennifer Faringer, Finger Lakes Addiction Resource Center Coordinator David Young, Finger Lakes Prevention Resource Coalition (FL PRC) Community Development Specialist Jerry Bennett, Community Education Coordinator Juliana Denning and FL PRC Project Coordinator Irene Lawrence.

Remember Garden Cleanup

Sincere thanks to staff from the Center for Community Health & Prevention, University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) and DePaul who helped refresh the Remember Garden in Highland Park! A living memorial to those who died while institutionalized over a century ago at the Monroe County Insane Asylum, Almshouse and Penitentiary, the Remember Garden signifies the strides that have been made to erase the stigma around mental health. Everyone worked hard to make the garden look beautiful in time for the Rochester Lilac Festival.



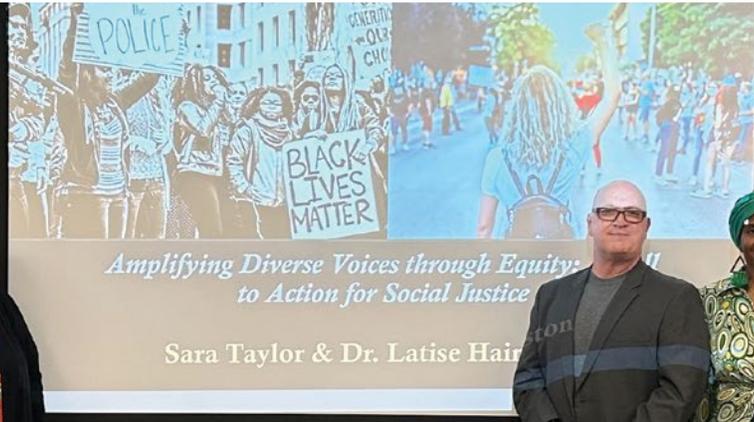
Awareness Across DePaul

DePaul residents and staff have been participating in recent diversity, equity and inclusion efforts and opportunities.

DePaul's Recreation Department honored Juneteenth with historic trivia, music videos and more. The Carriage Factory Apartments in Rochester marked the occasion with performances by representatives from Can Anybody Hear Me, a local organization dedicated to healing, hope, and mental health awareness.

Over thirty staff gathered for the Diversity at DePaul Racial Equity Summit in Buffalo in May. Sara Taylor and Dr. Latise Hairston spoke on the topic of "Amplifying Diverse Voices Through Equity: A Call to Action for Social Justice." Lunch was provided by women and minority-owned businesses and included jerk chicken, fried plantains, and rice and beans as well as cupcakes and cookies.

DePaul staff attended the Women Empowering Women Conference in Rochester in March. The conference was a fantastic event for networking opportunities with inspiring individuals and skill-building sessions tailored to personal and professional growth. In addition, Diversity at DePaul sponsored 13 staff members' participation in the two-day Women of Color Summit Kick-off in Niagara Falls in June. The 2024 theme R.I.S.E. – "Recognizing Our Influence, Success and Essence: Why We Matter" aimed to equip attendees with tools to navigate different areas of the workplace, including career goals, performance, relationships, growth opportunities and challenges.



Thank You for Your Support



DePaul extends our sincerest appreciation to Niagara County Legislator Rick Abbott (13th District) for making a difference in the lives of those we serve. Legislator Abbott sponsored the purchase and installation of accessible apartment doors at DePaul's Packet Boat Landing Apartments in Lockport through the new Niagara County Community Partnership Grant. He is pictured with Vice President of DePaul Properties Gillian Conde, Packet Boat Landing Apartments Property Manager Pauline Twardowski and residents Donald Swanson and Debra Kennedy.

Thank you to the Neighborhood of the Arts (NOTA) Neighborhood Association for providing goodie bags filled with cookies from Get Caked Bakery and other treats for residents of DePaul's Neighborhood of the Arts Apartments. Pictured below from left to right are Neighborhood Association President Joe McElveney, residents Todd Fink, Michelle N., Lucia P. and Carl M., Residential Counselor Alan Pochmara, Neighborhood Association Board Members Boo Poulin and Ethan Burnell, resident DJimmy Joseph and Residential Supervisor Yvonne Warren.



DePaul Staff Attend and Present at ACLAIMH Conference

Over 20 staff from DePaul Community Services and Living Opportunities of DePaul attended the Association for Community Living Agencies in Mental Health (ACLAIMH) Western and Central Regional Direct Care Conference in April. Designed to provide direct care staff with tools to continuously improve the services they provide to residents and to care for themselves, the annual event was held in Watkins Glen. DePaul's Senior Director of Specialized Programs and Community Engagement Kristen Grimaldi, LMSW, presented "Trauma Responsive and Resilience Informed Care" and Senior Director of DePaul's Reintegration Support Team Nicole Cianchetti, MS OTR/L, presented "Recovery Through Activity: The Role of Meaningful Occupations in Mental Health Recovery."

Never Too Late To Bloom

With Older Americans Month in June and National Senior Citizens Day on August 21, seniors at DePaul's Adult Care Communities across Western New York are demonstrating what it looks like to 'Age My Way' by staying active, engaged and involved!

Residents of Woodcrest Commons in Henrietta Linda Whitcomb, Diane Urban, Terry Glover, Brenda Casey, Candice Vroman and Andrea Y. Heath take in a big band ensemble concert at the Eastman School of Music's Kilbourn Hall.

Mary Ann Licker soaks up a sunny afternoon in the courtyard with a spirited game of ladderball at Glenwell in Cheektowaga.

Sally Schank and Rita LeBeau help get the gardens ready for summer at Westwood Commons in North Chili.

Heritage Manor of Lockport residents Mary, Joyce Atwater, Virginia Perkins, Julie, Geri and Joan DiCarlo relish a trip to the Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica.

Richard Koch listens to vinyl records and reminisces during men's club at Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda.



Spotlight on Centenarians

Congratulations to the many residents in DePaul's care recognizing milestone birthdays in the first half of 2024, especially those seniors who are celebrating birthdays of 100 years or more!

Glenwell in Cheektowaga honored Helen Sciolino's 100th birthday in May and Bertha Shipton marked her 102nd birthday at Wheatfield Commons in North Tonawanda in June.



Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month, celebrated in May, is at the heart of what we do here at DePaul every single day. Since 1958, DePaul has been providing support and advocacy for those with a mental health diagnosis. Collectively, DePaul has created significant change. Check out some highlights of the impact DePaul has had so far in 2024!

Players from DePaul and East House competed in the Annual Brian Salerno Memorial Basketball Tournament in honor of the late Brian Salerno, a longtime supporter of DePaul and a member of the men's basketball league. Congratulations to the green team for taking the win this year! Pictured front row, left to right, are Cynthia M., Heather M., Louis W. and Noreen Salerno. Pictured back row, left to right, are Vanni K., Quan M., Paul S., Michael M., and Mike B.

The Charles J. Lesh, MD Apartments in Batavia hosted a 'Meet the Artist' Exhibit featuring artwork by Peter Langen, a talented resident. Peter, who got his start on canvas in 2018, enjoys painting because he finds it relaxing and therapeutic.

Residents of the Riverside Apartments in Buffalo participated in a clean up day, volunteering to spruce up the green space and parking lots around the building. Pictured are Gary Schoonover and Robert Gardener.

Staff and residents of the Skybird Landing Apartments in Geneseo enjoyed a beautiful day at the Rochester Lilac Festival! Pictured are Property Manager Amanda Carey, Housing Specialist Laura Appleton, Colleen P., Leona T., Rebecca S. and Adam R.

Maria Quinones took part in a weekly sewing class at the Starting Line Apartments in Utica.

The Trolley Station Apartments in Canandaigua celebrated Mental Health Awareness Month with activities including chair yoga, a mindfulness/meditation workshop, coloring sheets, soothing herbal teas, information about crystals and their meanings, and more!





DePaul Community Services, Inc.

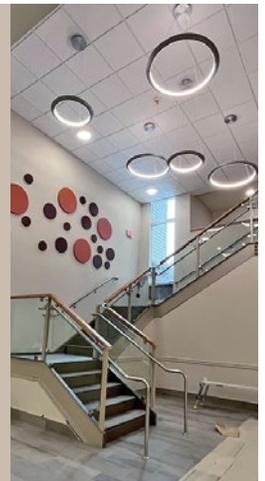
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Celebrating DePaul's Veddersburg Apartments

DePaul's Veddersburg Apartments in Amsterdam, New York were recently recognized by the Rochester chapter of the Construction Specification Institute (CSI) with the Value Engineering Award! This design award "promotes and recognizes efforts and creative solutions to meet project budget demands." Congratulations to project partners including SWBR Architects and Christa Construction!



 **DEPAUL** *Details*

President of DePaul is Mark H. Fuller. Copywriting, editorial and design by Monica Bulger, Amy Cavalier, Justine Smith and Crissy Welzen.



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 email address to Monica Bulger at mbulger@depaul.org in DePaul's Communications & Development Department.

www.depaul.org

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