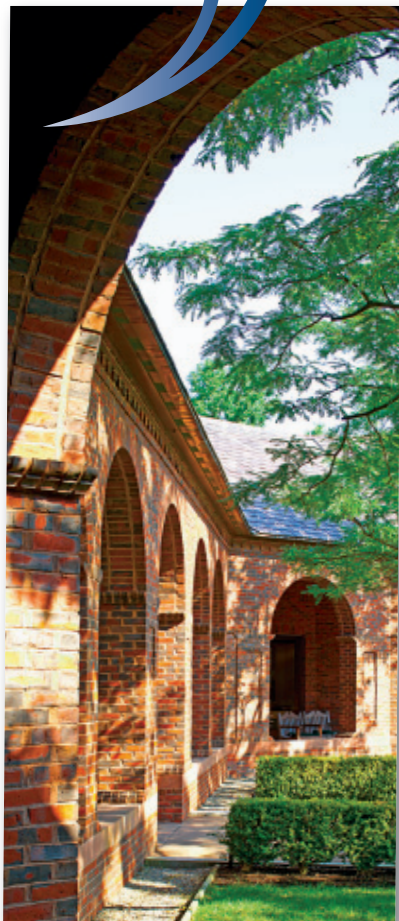


The HEALING SPIRIT

NOTRE DAME HEALTH CARE

Vol. 8, No. 1

SPRING 2018



Notre Dame Health Care Center Celebrates *25 Years of Service!!*

In each of our lives, there are significant milestones, achievements and accomplishments to commemorate and celebrate. Some of these wonderful events are intimately personal, while others have a broader impact, and touch many lives. One such milestone will occur this year at Notre Dame Health Care, as this calendar year officially marks our 25th year of operation and exemplary service to our community.

Notre Dame Health Care was created in November, 1990 to establish, maintain, and operate health care facilities while adhering to the applicable philosophy and tenets of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. Although not foreign to the SND's, operating health care facilities and programs is not the congregation's principal ministry. Still, in order to meet the emerging needs of both their religious congregation, and our local community, the decision was made to open Notre Dame Long Term Care and Rehabilitation Center, a skilled nursing facility, in June of 1993. Over the years, we have added our assisted living facility, educational bridge center, and adult and pediatric hospice and palliative care programs.

In the 25 years since opening, we have been proud to continue to expand our mission, providing a full range of services in a very unique way both in our facilities, and through home and community based programs. Our mission has been, and always will be, to provide exceptional care and service, giving residents, patients, families, students, volunteers and visitors the peace of mind they need and desire, in an environment of respect, love, and compassion. We believe these values are reflected by the caring staff of our long term care and assisted living facilities, hospice and palliative care programs, and our educational bridge center, which was opened to create opportunities for our employees to grow personally and professionally. It has been our pleasure to serve our communities.

Every milestone deserves a celebration, and our 25th anniversary is no exception! **It is therefore our pleasure to announce that we will be celebrating our anniversary on Sunday, June 24th, and all of our "friends and family" are invited!** Please mark your calendars to join us for a Mass of celebration at our du Lac Assisted Living Chapel at 10:30am, and immediately following in our Long Term Care Center courtyard for a cookout and other fun events geared toward every age. RSVP by June 15th via email to jsmith@notredamehealthcare.org.

*25 Years of Service
Celebration*

June 24, 2018

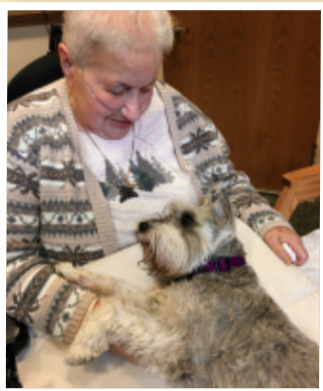
Mass at 10:30am
in the du Lac Assisted
Living Chapel
followed by a cookout
at Long Term Care

RSVP by June 15th via email
jsmith@notredamehealthcare.org

For additional stories and information, please visit our website notredamehealthcare.org and like us on Facebook.

A Special Friendship

Lucy, the happy, four legged, friendly, face that families and visitors see upon entering Notre Dame Long Term Care has become fast friends with Sr. Evelyn. It is very common to see them at the front desk together greeting our families and visitors. What is the connection you may ask? Those of us who own pets know they make us happy. Sr. Evelyn has always had a love for dogs, but with Lucy, it is her eyes that are so expressive. Lucy can sense when you are happy, or when you might be feeling a little down, providing comfort in her wagging tail way. High fives and tasty treats are just small pieces of this wonderful friendship Lucy and Sr. Evelyn share. As you can see from the photo, the bond that has been developed is undeniably special.



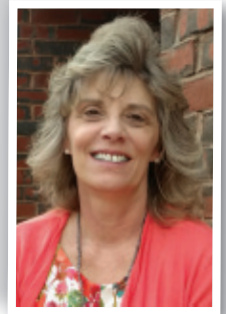
Sr. Evelyn with Lucy

Lucy is a wonderful gift to our community in many more ways. You can regularly see her and Emmanuel Ikomi (*Executive Director of the Long Term Care Center*) on our activities calendar bringing joy to all of our residents who love dogs!

Welcome new managers!

We are pleased to welcome three new managers to the NDHC family!

Sharon Blaine joined the NDHC team in 2016 and was recently promoted to Director of Nursing (DON) for the Long Term Care Center. She served previously as the MDS Coordinator, Sub Acute Program Manager/Case Manager, Assistant DON, then acting DON until her recent promotion. She is a Registered Nurse and first graduated from David Hale Fanning School of Nursing as a Licensed Practical Nurse. She earned her degree in Nursing from New Hampshire Technical College. Sharon was a military spouse for 14 years and travelled the United States working in rehabilitation hospitals, day centers for people with disabilities and skilled nursing facilities. Sharon is a strong advocate of staff education. She is very focused on the people she cares for, believing in patient centered care. Her positive attitude and openness to help her team members is one of her greatest assets. Sharon grew up in Sutton, MA and is strongly committed to the people of Central Mass. When not working, she loves spending time with her close knit family.



Mike Chiler brings nearly 40 years of food service experience to his role as Director of Dining Services for du Lac Assisted Living. Originally from Brookline MA, Mike and his wife, Patti, moved to Florida in 1991 to raise their two daughters. While in Florida, he was General Manager for a foodservice outsourcing company, where he ran five different food installations. In 2009, he returned to Massachusetts where he continued his foodservice career as a District Manager in the healthcare industry, overseeing the food operations of several nursing and assisted living facilities. Mike is an active member of the 24th Masonic District (Webster), where he strives to give back to the community by his participation in fundraising events and charity cook-offs. During the warmer months, he can be found on his pontoon boat on Webster Lake, listening to music and enjoying the outdoors. Mike is passionate about his most recent move to Notre Dame Health Care, and excited to bring a visionary approach to his team.



Paige Thayer recently joined the staff as the Director of Development and Philanthropy. Paige holds a B.A. in Communications from Norwich University, and she has had a long career in non-profit fundraising in both large and small organizations, including human/social service, and academia. Most recently, Paige served as the Director of Marketing and Community Affairs for DevelopSpringfield, and her experience includes development and fundraising, marketing and community relations, special events, and project management. She has recently located to Sutton MA and has already begun establishing roots in her community through volunteerism on town committees. She enjoys traveling, reading, cultural events, outdoor activities like hiking and kayaking, and spending time with family and friends. She is looking forward to serving the Central Massachusetts community and the entire Notre Dame Health Care family.



At Home Happenings

Sue Keefe receives certification as Hospice and Palliative Care Administrator

Susan Keefe, Executive Director of Notre Dame Health Care's At Home Division, recently received her certification from the Hospice and Palliative Credentialing Center (HPCC), the organization that works to advance expert care in serious illness. Over 8,000 health professionals hold HPCC credentials that demonstrate professional commitment to safe, ethical and evidence-based care. When asked why she felt it was necessary to achieve this credentialing Sue said "I feel it is our obligation to our patients and families to continuously seek professional growth. Notre Dame is committed to learning. This will enable us to provide the highest quality of care in a healthcare system that continues to evolve."



Notre Dame Pedi Pals Program expands

As the largest provider of Pediatric Palliative Care in Massachusetts, Notre Dame At Home is now caring for pediatric patients residing in the Merrimack Valley area.



Notre Dame At Home has been caring for children in Central Massachusetts diagnosed with life limiting illnesses since 2012. Notre Dame's "Pedi Pals" program is part of a state wide pediatric patient care network, funded by the Department of Public Health. Notre Dame's "Pedi Pals" program has flourished and now cares for more than 100 children and their families. Recently, with the help of additional funding approved by the state, an additional 40 children will be able to receive services on the "Pedi Pal" program. The supportive services are offered to address many of the unmet physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of children with life-limiting illness and their families.

Notre Dame At Home is chosen to participate in a pilot program

Notre Dame At Home is the only Hospice in Central Massachusetts chosen to participate in a pilot program funded by Medicare that will provide services to their beneficiaries facing serious illness. Notre Dame At Home, as part of the Notre Dame Health Care's Continuum of Care is now able to offer an additional choice for people with a serious illness. This new and innovative program offers, Choice, Continuity of Care, Care Coordination, and assistance Navigating Healthcare Choices. These choices "empower clinicians, beneficiaries and their families with greater flexibility in deciding between hospice care and curative treatment when faced with life limiting illness."



JOIN US ON CAMPUS . . .

Educational Bridge Center Classes:

Contact
Sue
Strandberg,
at
508-852-1589,
X2504
to register.

- ▶ **June 1st** 9am to 5pm ~ *Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia Care (CDP)*—\$150
- ▶ **June 4th** through August 6th (no class July 23) 5 to 8pm ~ *Math for Meds*—\$300
- ▶ **June 6th** 9am to 4:30pm ~ *Improving End of Life Outcomes (CNAs/PCAs/HHAs)*—\$75
- ▶ **June 13th** 9am to 5pm ~ *ServSafe Food Manager Certification*—\$185
- ▶ **June 20th** 8:30am to 5pm ~ *A Deeper Dive into Dementia*—\$89
- ▶ **July 20th** 9am to 5pm ~ *Alzheimer's Disease & Dementia Care (CDP)*—\$150

NOTRE DAME HEALTH CARE

Long Term Care Center

559 Plantation Street • Worcester, MA 01605-2350



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Worcester, MA

Worcester's Welcome

Oh, Worcester is a city west of Boston
And beyond the Pike you'll land
in old New York
But you'll always want to stop
and pay a visit—
In Worcester you'll be greeted on the dock.

(CHORUS)

Oh, hear the music now
to bid you WELCOME!

From plane and bus, the train
or fam'ly car

Let Worcester greet you here
in this great city

So nice to see you all from near or far.

Oh, joyful bells of Worcester now are calling
Come check the places here for you to dine,
And join the happy crowd and jubilation
For people here in Worcester are just fine.

(SING CHORUS)

So always come and stop to pay a visit
And have a cup of tea or glass of wine,
And know you'll never wear out
Worcester's welcome—
'Cause the people here in Worcester
are just fine.
'Cause the people here in Worcester
are just fine.

Written by
Bernice King, SND de N

The Healing Spirit

is published as a service
to the community.

EDITORS:

Cathy Smith and Paige Thayer

NOTRE DAME HEALTH CARE

555-559 Plantation Street

Worcester, MA 01605

508-852-5800

notredamehealthcare.org

JOIN US ON CAMPUS . . .

Upcoming Events:

- ▶ **June 7th** 8:45 to 10am ~ thrivin' ~ "Ageless Grace" ~ Learn the 21 Simple Tools for Lifelong Comfort and Ease—nourishment for the mind-body connection. FREE and open to the public, seating is limited. Please call 508-852-5800 to register.
- ▶ **June 24th** 10:30am ~ Notre Dame Health Care Center's 25th Anniversary Celebration. Mass of celebration at du Lac Assisted Living Chapel at 10:30am followed by celebration cookout and family friendly activities at our Long Term Care Center. RSVP by June 15 via email to jsmith@notredamehealthcare.org
- ▶ **November 24th** ~ Save the Date ~ 2018 Educational Forum. More details coming soon! Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for a fun evening of learning and laughter.

Hospice Bereavement Support Group

Contact Peggye Arcouette, Bereavement coordinator
at 508-852-5505 for information.

Eucharistic Liturgy

- ▶ Notre Dame du Lac: Daily (except Sat.) at 10:30am
- ▶ Notre Dame Long Term Care Center: Daily at 10am