

Inspirations

WINTER EDITION 2016



Jewish Senior Housing
and Healthcare Service

Dubin House | Gesher House | Saltzman House | Lions Gate

www.jshhs.org
(856) 667-6826



LIONS GATE

Lifestyle. Care. Community. Tradition.

www.lionsgateccrc.org
(856) 782-1200

*Inspiring
Wellness!*

Lions Gate Launches *Capital Campaign*

Lions Gate officially launched its capital campaign at a recent kickoff celebration that included trustees, residents, staff, administrators, families and friends. The campaign is a fundraising endeavor to raise \$5 million to support necessary improvements to the community that will enhance life for our residents now and competitively position us moving forward.

"Lions Gate has experienced some remarkable progress since its inception," says Felice Kelem, Director of Development for Lions Gate. "From the addition of the rehabilitation center to the number of high-quality programs we've added along the way, I am optimistic that our many friends will once again join us in supporting Lions Gate as we make the improvements necessary to further advance our mission."

Zev Rose, a dear friend and honorary member of the Lions Gate Board of Trustees, has dedicated over one-third of his life to Jewish Senior Housing and Healthcare Service (JSHHS). His significant gift will honor the memory of his parents, Dora and Leon Rose, and will help to enhance and strengthen Lions Gate. The newly renovated entryway will be a permanent reminder of his commitment to ensuring excellence for future generations.

"We are not renovating Lions Gate so that we have the newest or shiniest or biggest," says Mr. Rose. "This campaign is not about bells and whistles. We are doing it to meet a demonstrated need and to provide a quality retirement living experience for our residents today – and tomorrow."

"Lions Gate strives for excellence on many fronts," says Lions Gate Board Member Ian Meklinsky, who also made a significant contribution to the campaign. "We must maintain our leadership position to ensure area seniors have access to the level of accommodations and programs to which they are entitled."

"We are very grateful for the generous gifts we've received so far," says Dr. Ken Maurer, another campaign donor and board member of Lions Gate. "They will go a long way, but Lions Gate needs the support of everyone to continue the excellence of what has been established."

If you are interested in making our community stronger and improving the lives of local Jewish seniors, this is a meaningful way to support Lions Gate. There are wonderful opportunities for you to make a permanent tribute to family, dear friends or just to mark a special occasion.

For more information or to make your donation, please contact **Felice Kelem** at (856) 679-2189 or fkelem@lionsgateccrc.org.



Ceremonial groundbreaking for the new construction and renovation project at Lions Gate.

RESIDENT PROFILE: *Abe Zitren*

Every person has a unique story to tell. We each walk our own journey through life and while sometimes our destinations are the same, the paths we take to get there vary greatly. That's often the case for our residents at Lions Gate.

For Abe Zitren, his path crossed several continents, encompassed a World War and two major battles before he and his wife could begin building their lives together.

Ninety-two-year-old Abe, a World War II Veteran, fought in the Battle of the Bulge and other battles across Europe. Like many WWII Veterans, he doesn't talk much about his service, except to say that it had a profound effect on his life. Abe went to war in Europe while engaged to his fiancée— who desperately wanted to get married before his departure. Although he was very much in love, he would not marry her because he did not want to make her a war widow.

Fortunately, Abe survived the war and in 1945 – one week after his return – the two married and would go on to spend nearly 65 happy years together.

Abe earned a degree in accounting from Pace University, but quickly determined he did NOT want to be an accountant. Instead, he began a successful career in commercial real estate, working with well-known national and international companies. For more than 20 years, he managed the Smith Haven Mall, the largest shopping mall on Long Island, NY.

“It was the perfect career for my wife,” says Abe. “She was a committed and passionate shopper!”

Abe looks back on his nine-plus decades and acknowledges his good fortunes. “I’ve been lucky in life,” he says. “I loved what I did, I met fascinating people – from politicians to business leaders – and I had a wonderful family.”

Abe spent most of his life in northern New Jersey. After his wife passed away five years ago, he continued to live on his own for nearly four years. While still mentally and



Abe Zitren, left, with other honored Lions Gate military veterans.

physically healthy, he realized the many benefits of moving to a community where he wouldn't have to maintain a house, cook all of his meals, drive or worry about what to do if his health needs changed. So, a year and a half ago, he moved to Lions Gate to be closer to his daughters and grandchildren.

“I appreciate the help we have here, and I take comfort in knowing that healthcare is available if I need it,” says Abe. “I especially like being close to my grandchildren!”

“The best way to get to know a community is to get to know the residents,” says Cristina Palella, Director of Residential Life at Lions Gate. “While Lions Gate offers people the chance to live out their retirement dreams and aspirations without needing to worry about home maintenance or safety, it's the residents who truly make it a community. **Abe is one of those truly special people who make this community great!**”

“We're proud that some of the most fascinating, educated and accomplished people you'll find have chosen to make Lions Gate their home,” adds Lions Gate Executive Director of Operations Susan Love.

Abe is still fiercely independent and still likes to do things for himself – the Lions Gate housekeeping staff recently told him he keeps his apartment too clean!

Abe is also a great advocate for his fellow residents. “He has a lot of good ideas on how we can make life even better at Lions Gate,” says Scott Bemish, Director of Sales & Marketing for Lions Gate. “Much of what he has suggested has already been put into place!”

A Message from CEO *Morris “Mo” Funk*

Since our inception, Lions Gate has defined leadership in retirement and senior living. As we approach a decade of service, we are still very committed to our mission of meeting the needs and exceeding the expectations of our current and future residents. As evidenced by our current renovation project, we are continually exploring and creating new and better programs and services, new and better living environments and new and better life experiences that deliver what our residents want and need.



Hospice care is another service we'll begin to offer our residents within the next year. Adding a uniquely Jewish hospice care service to our network will help to ensure that residents who are struggling with advanced and life-limiting illnesses receive support that eases their pain and takes care of their end-of-life needs.

Hospice care reflects our commitment to build bridges to a lifetime of care for our residents so they may comfortably transition in peace. The emphasis of hospice care is on providing comfort, not a cure. Hospice also focuses on the families, not just the resident. Our program will provide exceptional end-of-life care that supports dignity, comfort and peace of mind for residents and their families while honoring Jewish cultural traditions and customs.

Our hospice care will initially be available to Lions Gate residents and those living in the Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses. As we grow, we will make our hospice services available in home to the southern New Jersey community.

At Lions Gate, we continue to focus on the future and on the needs of a new generation of seniors. We will always remain true to our mission of providing compassionate healthcare services. Hospice care is yet another example of our dedication to that cause.

THE HEALTH CENTER AT LIONS GATE

5-STAR

5-Star Community

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



When it comes to quality care, nobody does it better than Lions Gate! The Centers for Medicare

& Medicaid Services (CMS) has awarded a 5-Star Rating – its highest rating – to the Health Center at Lions Gate. This rating reflects excellence in programming, community management, patient care, medical practices, staffing, amenities and patient satisfaction.

Less than half of all nursing homes nationwide receive four stars, and even fewer earn the 5-Star Rating. Here in New Jersey, only 27 percent of nursing homes have a 5-Star Rating. Nationally, as you'll see on the next page, the averages are much, much lower.

“We made a commitment to our residents and to our community to provide the best care and services possible,” says Susan Love, Executive Director of Operations at Lions Gate. “The recent 5-Star Rating is the culmination of that commitment. Results like these would not be achieved without the hard work and dedication of the staff at Lions Gate. It is because of them that we received this exceptional rating!”

“The 5-Star Rating for our Health Center reflects our staff's promise to ensure our patients' stays are overwhelmingly positive experiences,” adds Lions Gate CEO Mo Funk. “Our goal has always been to return patients to their prior living situations with an improved level of functioning in the most expeditious way possible.”

About the 5-Star Quality Rating System

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services is a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). One of its responsibilities is to monitor and rate nursing homes nationwide. CMS created the 5-Star Quality Rating System to help consumers and their families and caregivers compare nursing home options and identify specific areas that they should inquire about when visiting a community.

ATE RECEIVES

5-Star CMS Rating

The Nursing Home Compare website features a quality rating system that gives each nursing home a rating between one and five stars. Nursing homes with five stars are considered to be of premier quality, while nursing homes with one star are considered to be far below average. Here are the national averages:

- 10% in each state receive a 5-Star Rating
- The middle 70% of facilities receive a rating of two, three or four stars, with an equal number in each rating category
- 20% receive the poorest score – a 1-Star Rating

CMS' health inspection ratings are based on the relative performance of communities within a state. Here are a few of the measured standards:

Health Inspections – The health inspection rating contains information from the last three years of on-site inspections, including both standard surveys and any complaint surveys.

Staffing – The staffing rating has information about the number of hours of care provided on average to each resident each day by nursing staff.

Quality Measures – The quality measure rating has information on 11 different physical and clinical measures for nursing home residents. More than 12 million assessments of the conditions of nursing home residents are used in the 5-Star Quality Rating System.



Now that we have earned this top-tier status, Lions Gate is determined to keep moving forward and improving our level of care. “We know we must continue meeting needs and exceeding expectations,” adds Susan. “And we will.”

HEALTHY SMILE. *Healthy Senior.*

- Over 30% of older adults have untreated cavities.
- Nearly 25% of adults between the ages of 65 and 74 have periodontal disease, which is linked to diabetes, heart disease, stroke, respiratory disease and pneumonia.
- Only 2% of older Americans have dental insurance.
- Medicaid is not universally available.



Poor oral health can lead to serious health issues in seniors and can severely impact their quality of life. It's a widespread problem for a variety of reasons. Some lose dental benefits when they retire. Many suffer from diseases like arthritis and Alzheimer's, which can make good dental hygiene a challenge. For others, it's something as simple as transportation to and from a dentist.

JSHHS is working toward improving access to quality dental care, with the hope of building a permanent Dental Operatory at Lions Gate. Designed to provide effective, affordable strategies for better general health and an enhanced quality of life, the clinic is expected to serve residents at the Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses.

“Regular preventive care is essential to improving quality of life,” says Lions Gate Director of Development Felice Kelem. “Easier access to even the most basic dental care, such as a regular oral exam, can make a big difference in a senior's overall health and self-esteem.”

JSHHS is currently raising funds to make the Dental Operatory a reality. If you'd like to help us make this happen, please contact **Felice Kelem** at fkelem@lionsgateccrc.org or (856) 679-2189.

INDEPENDENCE. AFFORDABILITY. COMMUNITY.

Jewish Senior Housing and Healthcare Service

Tradition.

The names are well known in our community. Dubin. Gesher. Saltzman. Collectively, these names help us to put a face on the mission of JSHHS. These are the names of our affordable housing options where seniors can continue to live their lives, despite the financial pressures that otherwise might make that more difficult. These homes, and those who manage them, are committed to creating a dignified and respectful environment that's consistent with Jewish values. JSHHS is widely recognized for the quality of its three affordable independent apartment communities, all located in Cherry Hill.

Together each community fosters an independent lifestyle. Residents live in spacious apartments with full kitchens and ample storage space. Like every thriving community, those who live at the Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses look out for one another and work together with the JSHHS staff to maintain a fulfilling, healthy lifestyle.

"Understanding the key ingredients for successful aging, each of our communities is rich with activity," says JSHHS Director of Property Management MariAnne Torres. "Each promotes a wellness focus and encourages social interaction. Residents engage with friends, play games, discuss books, learn computer skills, strengthen muscles, improve their balance and entertain their own families in attractive surroundings."

From regular exercise classes and arts programs to rehabilitation and housekeeping services to healthy kosher dining and home health care, MariAnne says the lifestyle offered within each community empowers residents to lead more active, healthy lifestyles each day.

"Physical exercise is a strong focus for residents," adds MariAnne. "On a recurring schedule, Fox Rehabilitation™ conducts physically engaging, age-appropriate programs and classes that inspire residents to live well and be well. Programs focus on overall wellness – strengthening the mind and body – as a consistent means to longevity and quality of life." Those residents in need of short-term subacute care or inpatient short-term rehabilitation may receive it at Lions Gate. Fox Rehabilitation provides rehabilitation services at Lions Gate, and if necessary, can continue these at home once a resident is discharged.

An Unprecedented Opportunity

There is currently a rare opportunity to join our waiting list at our JSHHS communities – perhaps without a long waiting period. If you believe this may be an option for you or a family member, age-qualified seniors in need of affordable housing may contact **JSHHS** at (856) 667-6826 or www.jshhs.org for more information or to request an application.



What Is Life & Legacy?

Life & Legacy is a partnership of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) and the Jewish Community Foundation, Inc. that promotes after-lifetime giving to benefit local Jewish synagogues, social service organizations and other Jewish entities.

JSHHS is one of 18 local organizations that has been accepted to participate in this program that will collectively raise many millions of dollars in after-lifetime giving and assure tomorrows for Jewish seniors. JSHHS will receive an incentive grant of \$5,000 from the HGF with the identification of at least 18 legacy commitments no later than March 31, 2016.

Why Participate?

By considering leaving a legacy to JSHHS, you can ensure that the traditions and institutions like JSHHS that mean so much to you today will exist for future generations. By making a legacy commitment today, you can preserve the programs and organizations that support Jewish life in southern New Jersey.

Continued on back cover



In our next issue . . .

Learn about a unique intergenerational program between Lions Gate and the Kellman Brown Academy.



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Be more environmentally friendly and receive *Inspirations* electronically. Please email **fkelem@lionsgateccrc.org** to sign up.

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LIONS GATE WELCOMES *New Team Members*

MariAnne Torres is the new Director of Property Management for JSHHS. Over the past 25 years, she has held numerous positions throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania in both conventional and affordable markets.

"I am thrilled to be working with such an experienced team and look forward to providing superior customer service to our senior population."

Cristina Palella, our past JSHHS Director of Property Management, is now Director of Residential Life at Lions Gate. In her new role, Cristina oversees all Independent Living and works directly with our residents to make sure they have everything they need to lead a full and rewarding lifestyle.

"I love working with seniors. They have a different perspective on life – and I feel like I learn from them every day!"

Continued from inside

Why Life & Legacy?

This program is a great honor for the southern New Jersey Jewish community and will establish a culture of legacy, giving and camaraderie among the several Jewish organizations in the region. As a not-for-profit organization and one of the community's most valued Jewish organizations, JSHHS is committed to providing the benefits of quality housing and compassionate healthcare services to our senior residents while providing a dignified and respectful environment that's consistent with Jewish traditions and values.

As the Talmud says, "I did not find the world desolate when I entered it, and as my ancestors planted for me before I was born, so do I plant for those who will come after me." Your endowment gift will help ensure that the Jewish traditions and institutions that mean so much to you will exist for future generations.

Your legacy gift of any size can be customized and structured to fit your lifestyle, family and financial needs. For further information, please contact **Felice Kelem** at (856) 679-2189 or **fkelem@lionsgateccrc.org**.

