Bishop Drumm Strong!

With adversity comes opportunity and throughout the Bishop Drumm campus, we have experienced just that. However, through this challenge, we have pulled together, supported one another with individuals stepping up with courage, strength, and determination, to do their job and care for our residents. Residents, staff and families have been resilient in following the guidelines required by our local and state governments and understanding the changes that came with it. We found new unique ways for families to connect with loved ones and for our activity team to keep our residents engaged. We are proud to say that we have heroes that both work and live here.

As Bishop Drumm moves forward, we begin a new chapter in our 80 plus year history. This adversity and opportunity has made us stronger, a more resourceful team that will persevere through the challenges that come our way. We have a greater appreciation, bond and love for one another among our staff and residents. One way this was recently evident is each staff member received a Bishop Drumm Strong t-shirt they proudly wore throughout the building to signify we are a team and that we are stronger together.

“A heart is a muscle… and what do muscles do when they are torn? They grow back STRONGER!”

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN

We thank our team, residents, and families for working together and staying strong to overcome our challenges to make for a new and better tomorrow.

“"The future of CHI Living Communities is very bright. We’re starting an exciting new chapter, and I know we will accomplish many great things by writing it together.”

AARON D. WEBB, CEO, CHI Living Communities
Community Support for Bishop Drumm, Martina Place and McAuley Terrace

We want to say thank you to all those who have supported us and donated their PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) talents, time, gifts, meals, snacks and words of support these past several months. Thank you to the following businesses, organizations, individuals, and families!

- Rachel at Goodwill donated button down shirts to support need for PPE’s and bud vases for Mother’s Day flowers
- Youth Team Leader Joyland McKoskey brought team of high school girls to decorate the windows with flowers and upbeat messages.
- Connie from Boesens Florist donated flowers for residents rooms
- Residents Family Member Melissa Nordell hired a bagpipe player from Mackenzie Highlander Pipes and Drums to play tunes outside windows
- Pet Therapy Visits brightened the day and brought smiles to faces
- Bishop Drumm Guild provided lunch for staff and donated snacks, and happy hour items
- Lifestyle Director at Unity Point Methodist Hospital - Denice Millhollin played Tic Tac Toe with residents on the Activity Room window
- Entertainer Scott Smith and Bill Conet provided entertainment by phone in the Chat Room at Martina Place
- Des Moines Art Center Docent Sally provided ongoing lessons on artwork and artists by phone in the Chat Room at Martina & McAuley
- Ramsey Village Retirement Center team visited BD and cheered on team members, brought flowers for the residents and signs of cheers for team members.
- Jean Fitzpatrick made facemasks for staff
- Pastor Tim Deatrick and First Baptist Church donated snacks for staff
- Immanuel Pathway dropped off treats for staff
- Rhonda Martin donated two beautiful daffodil plants to brighten the day
- Dunn’s Funeral Home donated toilet paper for staff
- A local crafter donated ear savers for staff
- Northern Iowa Nursing Home Art Project donated art supplies
- Cedar Ridge, Prairie Vista, and Kennybrook facilities donated lunch
- Mersims Kitchen brought their food truck and provided lunch
- Many resident’s families (not named) donated lunch, snacks and words of support
- Mercy Home Health & Hospice donated snacks and Kleenex and later donated lunch
- Christy’s set up in the parking lot and donated Tropical Sno
- Suncrest Hospice donated Smokey “D’s BBQ lunch
- Fongs donated pizza
- Suncrest Home Health donated a bird house
- Cyd’s Catering donated sack lunches
- Hailey, former dietitian donated snacks
- Employees family members (not named) donated self-care items, cookies to snacks to lunch to words of support
- Plunky Paws of Ames donated Virtual Pet Therapy materials
- Central Iowa Alliance Softball Organization girls decorated residents windows and left inspiring messages on our walkways
- Latinz Knock & Drop Iowa donated face shields
- Dowling Students made Mother’s Day cards for our residents
- Bill from Caseys donated pizza for staff
- Urbandale Healthcare donated a cake and delivered a message of support
- Dr. Connor Elmitt and his staff at Dental Studio in Johnston donated PPE for staff
- Holy Trinity School 7th grade dropped off homemade Easter cards for our residents

continued on next page
Community Support continued

- Caitlyn Dean of Johnston High school sang for residents outside McAuley
- Murdock family of DM entertained McAuley & Martina residents with music and singing
- Snacks donated by community healthcare partners Granger, Polk, and Altoona Nursing
- Snacks donated by Campbell Street Services
- Local church members donated many snacks and drinks for employees
- Mercy Nutrition Services donated pop and water for staff
- Homemade masks were donated by Jodee Cross (former employee), Caroline Vershuer (Johnston Senior Center) and Elizabeth Spinsby (granddaughter of McAuley resident)
- Karen Jorgensen, resident’s daughter, donated plants, pots and soil for McAuley residents
- Peggy Rasmussen, from Johnston Public Library providing Terrace Book Club by conference call for McAuley residents
- Homemade Easter cards from a resident’s grandchildren.

Some donations provided by families and others may have preferred to remain anonymous. Please know we appreciated your donation and support. If we have missed anyone, we apologize. We are so humbled at the overwhelming support received by our community, friends and families! We are blessed to be a part of this great community!

COVID-19 Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus,
We pray for care and healing.

For those who are particularly vulnerable,
We pray for safety and protection.

For all who experience fear or anxiety,
We pray for peace of mind and spirit.

For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety,
We pray for policies that recognize their plight.

For those who do not have adequate health insurance,
We pray that no family will face financial burdens alone.

For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status,
We pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all.

For our brothers and sisters around the world,
We pray for shared solidarity.

God of Many Names, during this time may your people be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all.

Grant peace.
Grant comfort.
Grant healing.

Be with us, Loving God.
Amen.

Adapted from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Activities Continue in Unique & Safe Way

Our team interacts with residents through many varied activities around campus:

- Delivering daily activity packets delivered to each resident that include; games, jokes, prayers, songs, reminiscing, coloring pages, crosswords, good news stories and more
- Balcony, conference call, & week long Bingo
- Exercise balcony style and mediation by conference call
- Conference call concerts with their favorite musicians
- Piloted virtual art museum tours with the Des Moines Art Center
- Weekly Sweet Treats
- One on one visits
- Happy Hours by making the rounds door to door delivering goodies
- Exhibition art performed by residents
- Green Therapy – each resident given a seed to nurture
- 5 day Poker Run, where residents get a card each day and best hand wins
- Entertainment and sing-a-long led from the outside of the building
- Craft and painting kits given to residents to complete a beautiful piece
- Virtual Art Tours, Book Club meetings, and informational meetings via conference call
- Garden cart made the rounds where residents can plant their own plant.
- Name That Tune game played on the kazoo
- Skype connections and phone calls to connect family members with their loved ones
- Window activity and visits to connect with residents

Our Activity team does a great job connecting with residents providing activities for them to enjoy. Please say a thank you when you have the opportunity as they daily look for ways to help our residents live a happy fulfilling life. If you have requests or questions on any activity please reach out to:

Jeanne Altman - Bishop Drumm Care Center
Sarah Bosch - Martina Place
Teri Cadman - McAuley Terrace

Pictured at top - Carol and her dog Happy at McAuley Terrace
Middle photo- Activity Supervisor Sarah and Martina resident Ivy receiving daily activity packet & mail
Bottom right photo - Sister Karen at McAuley Terrace - Best hand!
Bottom left photo - Evelyn enjoying happy hour at Bishop Drumm Care Center
VINA EARLES  
**Care Center Resident on Central**  
Vina was born in Leon, Iowa and her family moved to Chicago, Illinois when she was still a baby. At 8 years old her family moved to the Eastside of Des Moines and she remembers living in a Catholic neighborhood where the Sisters would be outside walking around and visiting with the children, she loved the nuns. Vina's father worked in an Eastside factory and her mother worked at Spiegel. She was close to her father who used to tease her about being headstrong, “You are as independent as a hog on ice!” he told her.

Schooling started at Saydel High School and then Drake, followed by Bethany Fellowship in Minnesota. After college, Vina moved back to Des Moines for her first job with Principal Finance. She then decided to go into Nursing after Bethany Fellowship where she became an LPN. Her first nursing jobs were with Mercy and Methodist hospitals, but her favorite job was working for 20 years at Child Serve. “Working with the children was the best part of my career, I loved it!” When asked about how she likes retirement she stated “What’s not to love about retirement?” After a hospital stay she made Bishop Drumm her home.

During the COVID pandemic, Vina stated that the hardest part of the pandemic was not having the freedom to come and go. She paused and said how enlightening it was to be on the other side of the caring profession. “It gave me a different perspective on compassion and kindness, our staff was so kind. I hope I was that kind when I was a nurse.”

Vina's best friend lives in Atlanta, Georgia and she is looking forward to a visit from her soon. Vina had been taking confirmation classes and will continue those classes when they resume. She was so grateful to April, our Mission Integration Director, for giving her a beautiful rosary, “It is very special,” she stated. We think Vina is very special too, we love having her in our community!

MARSHA JAMES  
**Assistant Director of Nursing at the Care Center**  
Marsha was born in Maquota, Iowa and grew up with 5 brothers and 1 sister in Lost Nation, Iowa. Growing up, Marsha said that all she wanted was to be a “farmers wife with six kids”. After graduating from high school, she married her high school sweetheart and they moved to Ames where she and her husband attended Iowa State University. Graphics Arts Horticulture was Marsha’s major. Her husband received a job offer in Madison, Wisconsin where they moved and began their family of 3 boys and 1 girl. Marsha worked on a dairy farm and milked cows during their time in Wisconsin until they moved back to Lost Nation.

Medical Assisting peaked Marsha’s interest so she returned to Kirkwood College where she received her degree and subsequently worked for the local hospital and also for a podiatrist. Being a lover of learning, Marsha returned to Scott Community College and became a nurse. After graduating, she worked on a surgical specialty floor for a year and a half. Her friend encouraged her to think about working in Long Term Care so she decided to try it and has been working with seniors for the last 15 years. After the passing of her husband, she remarried a wonderful man, Shawn and moved to an acreage in Perry where they have lived for the last 6 ½ years. She is extremely proud of her 4 grandchildren and enjoys their time together!

During the COVID pandemic her biggest challenge was keeping up with all the daily updates and changes. Marsha said it was amazing to work with such a close team, one that supports and takes care of each other. She also appreciates Bishop Drumm’s values of Compassion and Integrity, which her team displayed so prominently during the pandemic.

Her favorite-live-by saying is, “Appreciate what you have and stop looking for something more.” We are so grateful she stopped looking and continues as an integral part of the Bishop Drumm team.
Jubilee Anniversary Celebrations
We congratulate the following Sisters on their Jubilee anniversary this year.

Sister Karen Yarkosky entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy in 1945 and is one of two Sisters of Mercy in Iowa. Sister Karen is at McAuley Terrace and said; “I am grateful to my merciful and loving God, who called me to be of service to others as a Sister of Mercy. I thank my family, friends and Mercy Community who have journeyed with me during these happy and rewarding 75 Mercy years.” Happy 75th Jubilee Anniversary Sister Karen!

Sister Rosalia Riedel entered the Congregation of the Humility of Mary in 1945 and made her first profession in 1948. Her positive attitude and spirit bring joy to all around her. She makes her home at the care center where she is active in a ministry of prayer and witness. Happy 75th Jubilee Anniversary Sister Rosalia!

Sister Nancy Schwieters entered the Congregation of the Humility of Mary in 1960 and made her first vows in 1963. We welcome her as a new resident having made her home at the care center the end of February 2020. She is active in a ministry of prayer and witness. Happy 60th Jubilee Anniversary Sister Nancy!
Hawaiian Luau Celebration

We had a fun Hawaiian Luau day to end our Nursing Home Week in May. There was plenty of yummy food for everyone to enjoy. What a spread!

JULY 4TH

Independence Day

We wish you and your family the best this nation has to offer as we celebrate our country’s independence. As we remember our national heroes, let us renew our pledge to always uphold our national unity so that we can live together in peace and harmony.

“The essence of America — that which really unites us — is not ethnicity, or nationality, or religion. It is an idea — and what an idea it is: that you can come from humble circumstances and do great things. That it doesn’t matter where you came from, but where you are going.”

- CONDOLEENZRA RICE

Happy Independence Day!