



## CARES Chronicle

**C**ompassion | **A**ccountability | **R**espect | **E**xcellence | **S**ustainability

**July 2024**

**Here are some highlights from our communities that we'd like to share with you!**

## **DOING OUR PART TO MAKE TOMORROW BETTER**

Victory Housing is taking a big step toward fighting climate change. We recently joined the Better Climate Challenge, a program where organizations work together to achieve ambitious goals. In this program, Victory Housing will set goals to significantly reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) and energy use. We've pledged to cut GHG emissions by 50% and energy consumption by 20% over the next 10 years. To achieve this, Victory Housing will be partnering with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which will provide support and share best practices.

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### **Our Sustainability Journey**

Victory Housing is on a continuous journey toward sustainability. Since 2018, we've made significant strides: building five LEED-certified developments and installing solar panels in five communities since 2019. Our commitment continues – we prioritize sustainability in new construction, plan to bring solar power to 18 more locations, and actively track energy use across all properties.

Beyond construction, Victory Housing is implementing eco-friendly practices in our daily operations. When replacing equipment, we prioritize energy efficiency by seeking high SEER ratings and Energy Star certification. Our communities focus on reducing waste and environmental impact: cloth napkins replace paper ones when feasible; safe cleaning products are used; and grease traps installed to protect the sewer system. Additionally, Victory Housing diligently recycles all cardboard, cans and plastic. In 2023, we took a big step by banning single-use plastic water bottles within communities (except for outings). We have also invested in Victory Gardens at all assisted living locations, providing fresh herbs for their homemade recipes.

Looking ahead, Victory Housing is committed to further reducing our environmental impact. These ongoing efforts demonstrate Victory Housing's dedication to a sustainable future.

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## **U.S. News 2024 – 2025 Best of Assisted Living**



### **Victory Housing Assisted Living Sweeps U.S. News Best of Award Again.**

Thanks to the dedication, passion and care of our amazing team members, 100% of Victory Housing assisted living communities have won the U.S. News Best of Assisted Living award for the second year in a row.

This prestigious award is based on a survey of over 3,500 senior living communities across the U.S. Communities are evaluated on how well they meet the needs of residents and their families, including factors like safety, care quality, community management, staff performance, value for money, and the overall amenities offered.

Earning such high praise from residents and families is the ultimate honor for us. Their trust inspires us to keep innovating, striving for excellence, and making a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.

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## **Life Enrichment**

### **St. John XXIII Hosts Warm Gathering for Local Priests**



St. John XXIII recently hosted a delightful monthly luncheon for priests from the surrounding community. These luncheons are a cherished tradition, offering resident priests and their guests a chance to connect over delicious food, friendly conversation, and laughter.

The April 30, 2024, gathering welcomed a special guest: His Eminence **Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington**. The event featured favorite dishes, lively conversation, and plenty of joyful moments, as captured in the photo featuring **Cardinal Gregory; Bishop Menjivar; Father Kevin Regan, Secretary to the Cardinal; Father Soley, Father Mellone, Father David, Father Butta, Father Vincent, and Monsignor Wilson**.

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## **Victory Housing Independent Living Communities**

### **Hampshire Village**



At **Hampshire Village in Silver Spring**, the **St. Patrick's Day** party was a lively celebration. The atmosphere buzzed with good cheer, high spirits, and a celebration of Irish culture. As the saying goes, "Long live the Irish, long live their cheer. Long live our friendship, year after year." Everyone got into the festive spirit.

### Hampshire Village



**Mother's Day** was another delightful celebration filled with love and appreciation for the special women in our lives. The atmosphere was filled with soft pinks and delicious treats, creating a sweet and welcoming ambiance. Most importantly, residents enjoyed being celebrated and honored for their roles as mothers, grandmothers, and motherly figures. It was a day filled with heartwarming moments and expressions of gratitude.



## Victory Crest and St. Martin



A favorite across our communities, recent **bingo nights** at **Victory Crest and St. Martin's** were lively events that brought our apartment community residents together for a night of fun and excitement. It's a true bonanza of laughter, friendly competition, and fantastic prizes, offering people a chance to socialize, test their luck, and maybe even win a big prize.

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## Victory Lakeside



Sometimes, the most fulfilling activities are peaceful and reflective. Take Ms. Wilkins, for example, pictured here enjoying a book in our beautiful library at **Victory Lakeside**. With its tranquil lake views and a peek at the resident wildlife, it's the perfect spot to unwind and get lost in a good story.

## Assisted Living

## Raphael House Celebrates the Eclipse With a Stellar Party



Residents and team members at **Raphael House** had a blast **celebrating the solar eclipse**. The mood was out of this world, filled with moon pies, special eclipse glasses, and a shared sense of wonder as they witnessed the moon cast its shadow on Earth, blocking (or partially blocking) their view of the sun.

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## Bartholomew House – An Easter Celebration for All Ages



The **Easter celebration** was a delightful event filled with joy and laughter. A formal holiday feast provided a delicious start to the day, followed by a special visit from a friendly Easter Bunny. From the bright smiles of residents to the colorful Easter baskets and festive balloons, it was clear that the spirit of Easter resonated with everyone – young and young at heart. After all, who can resist the fun of Easter traditions!

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## Raphael House – Culkin Dancers Step Up the Fun for St. Patrick's Day Celebration





**St. Patrick's Day** was a lively celebration at **Raphael House**. The Culkin School of Traditional Irish Dance group brought the spirit of Ireland to life with a captivating performance during lunch. Throughout the day, residents enjoyed a variety of activities that explored Irish heritage and history. It was a day filled with music, laughter, and a deep appreciation for Irish culture.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

Victory Housing is a nonprofit housing development that provides affordable housing and related social services to low- or moderate-income, frail or independent senior citizens, families with children, and those with special needs.

Thanks to your donations through the Victory Housing Heartship Program, we are able to follow through on our commitment to provide a compassionate and fair environment for all.

***We appreciate our most recent donors!***

- Irma Maria Hartman Trust
- Kathryn McGlynn
- Kevin McGlynn
- Dennis Ponton in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton
- Katie Jagers in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton
- Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence O'Steen in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ryan in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton
- Jo Anne Johnson – in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton
- The Whitlock Family – in memory of Beverly Ann Ponton

For more information about Victory Housing as well as assisting us in furthering our mission, the following links are provided.

**Visit Our Website**

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