



Saint Elizabeth Community

Where RI seniors come first

News

FALL 2020

From Dietary Aide to Registered Nurse One Employee's Career Journey



Rachel Hazard with resident, Gloria Farina

“Saint Elizabeth Home taught me what nursing is all about and set me on the path to become one. I am so grateful for my experience!”

When you work in an environment you love, your first job can lead to your ideal one. That's what happened for Rachel Hazard, who was a 17 year old high school senior when she started working as a dietary aide at Saint Elizabeth Home in 2007. Working with long-term residents, she quickly found that she loved her job, her coworkers, and the residents. "It truly was like a family environment," Rachel said. When she began a family of her own, the staff and residents joined in celebrating with her.

Rachel knew she enjoyed working with residents, but also knew she wanted to advance her career, so in 2011, she applied for a CNA training course offered right at Saint Elizabeth Home. By June 2011, Rachel had her CNA license and was able to continue working with the same long term residents she had gotten to know as a dietary aide. Rachel's love for her job motivated her to want to do more for herself and the residents, and in 2015 she left her position as a CNA to begin nursing school.

In early 2020, Rachel graduated nursing school. While in nursing school, she'd known that her ideal job was at Saint Elizabeth Home, and so when a job as a nurse became available, she applied and was hired. She was delighted to return in August to familiar faces among coworkers and residents.

Thirteen years after she started working at Saint Elizabeth Home, Rachel continues to make a difference in the lives of the residents she cares for. She hasn't stopped setting career goals for herself, either. She is currently working towards a bachelor's degree in nursing, and hopes to take advantage of SEC's tuition reimbursement program. The community Rachel found at Saint Elizabeth Home led her to a rewarding career path, and we are fortunate to have Rachel as a member of our SEC family!

Some of Our Best Employees Come From Readers Like You!

At Saint Elizabeth Community, our employees are our greatest asset. The exceptional quality of care we provide is only possible thanks to our staff, who, like Rachel Hazard and the CNAs pictured right, are dedicated, compassionate, and hardworking. We are currently seeking highly qualified individuals to join our team. If you know someone who would be a great addition to our community, please encourage them to visit our website at stelizabethcommunity.org/joinourteam.



(l-r) Jocelyn Duarte, Adrianna Landis and Kerri Esteban

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Saint Elizabeth Community is a not for profit 501(c)(3), charitable organization



Dear Friends:

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. We are now over eight months into this pandemic and I could not be more grateful to those in our care, their families and the staff across Saint Elizabeth Community for their understanding and patience as we navigate this new reality together. These are trying times.

This pandemic has brought many issues to the forefront: the daily heroic work of front line staff, the emotional toll on families who miss their loved ones, and the importance of vigilant infection control protocols in all settings. One thing is clear, there is little room for error. When Saint Elizabeth Community staff end their work day, whether it is at one of our residences, adult day centers, or in a home care setting, they are aware of the great responsibility that awaits them the next day, and so they conduct their lives with this in mind. There truly is no way to express the immense gratitude I feel towards our caregivers across our settings.

The emotional toll on families is real. The stress and sadness that families feel over the change in visitation is both heart-wrenching and understandable. Residents and staff miss the families who frequented our buildings, and across the U.S. families are taking precautions, grandparents are skipping visits with grandchildren, young adults are keeping their distance from their parents, health care workers are isolating themselves from loved ones – all to try to stop the spread of this often undetectable virus. If COVID 19 enters a congregate care setting, it has the potential of moving swiftly putting the most vulnerable at great risk. That is the reality we guard against.

We rely on the RI Department of Health, which has the best interests of all Rhode Islanders in mind, to make policy decisions as it relates to COVID 19. We are grateful for the guidance, and will continue to abide by their decisions, and to provide exceptional care.

Thank you to the many families who have reached out with gratitude and understanding. Your support is passed onto our caregiving teams, who for months have worked to keep those in their care healthy, happy and safe, and will continue to do so with vigilance, as we all await a safe and effective vaccine.

Be well.

Sincerely,

Matthew R. Trimble
President and CEO



Welcome to Nursing Leaders at Saint Elizabeth Manor and Saint Elizabeth Home

Chuck King, R.N., joins Saint Elizabeth Manor as Director of Nursing. Chuck has prior experience as a Director of Nursing Services, as well as responsibility for Staff Development and Infection Control. Chuck earned his nursing degree at CCRI and is a Warwick resident. Welcome Chuck!



Keeley Dante-Card, R.N., has taken on the position of Nurse Manager on Saint Elizabeth Home's Cove neighborhood. Keeley most recently worked as a Memory Care Nurse Manager and is passionate about providing support to elders and their families. Keeley lives in Charlestown and received her degree from Rhode Island College. Welcome Keeley!



SEC In Our Community



Green House Home Elder, Elaine Machado, and Shahbaz, Chryssy Yuras, chat outdoors on a beautiful afternoon.

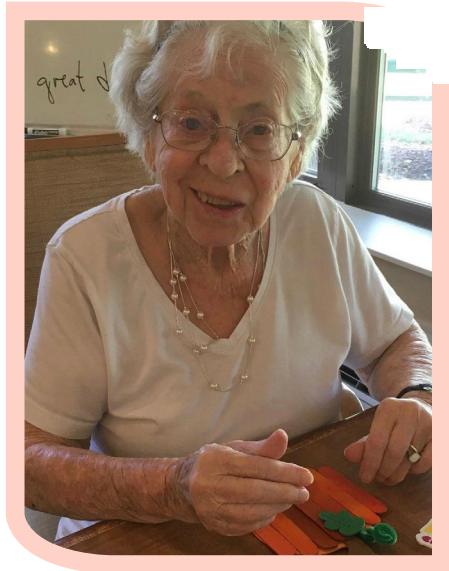
Our Mission... to provide exceptional, compassionate care in an array of settings. We embrace the needs of each individual in an environment where those we care for, and work with, are treated **just like family.**



When only the best will do! Cornerstone participant, Daniel Osborn works on a paint project at the Apponaug Center.



Saint Elizabeth Court residents keep safe by socially distancing while enjoying the music of Vini Ames.



Mary Kenney enjoys doing crafts with fellow residents at Saint Elizabeth Manor.



Meeting Needs

Cornerstone Adult Services Supports Family Caregivers



After a temporary closure at the onset of the pandemic, Cornerstone’s three adult day health centers reopened in August. The reopening of the centers has brought a sigh of relief to many participant family caregivers who have been juggling more challenges than ever while trying to keep their families safe. Upon reopening, Ken Lantagne son of day center participant, Leona (pictured left) says, “The services are a huge relief for our family, and everyone inside is always professional and happy.”

Cornerstone Adult Services helps families keep their loved ones at home by providing care and support during the day at our medical model day centers. We care for seniors, adults with disabilities, and adults with memory loss. Our nurses, CNAs, occupational and physical therapists and social workers work as a team to meet the unique health, social and personal needs of each participant, and caregivers are able to have peace of mind, knowing that their loved one is in a safe and enriching environment.

Following extensive safety protocols at the adult day centers, Cornerstone staff strictly adhere to RI Department of Health COVID guidelines. The day centers have convenient locations in Bristol and Warwick and are open Monday – Friday. Participants/families can choose how many days they want to attend. Fees are on a sliding scale and preauthorized Medicaid residents are able to attend free of charge.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Bristol Center 401-254-9629 • Apponaug Center 401-739-2847 • Memory Care Center Warwick 401-739-2844

SEC’s Human Resource Team Expands

Focusing on Recruiting, Retaining, and Streamlining

The Human Resources department has recently been restructured to support Saint Elizabeth Community’s 800 employees, and to heighten focus on staff retention as well as recruitment efforts. Donna Shirley, Director of Human Resources, heads the team, which includes three Human Resource Business Partners (listed below in box), and Amy Vakalis, Talent Acquisition Specialist; Donna Birmingham, HR Administrative Assistant; and Lindsay Sisson, HR Coordinator.

Who to turn to with your HR questions

If you are an employee of:

Saint Elizabeth Manor or Cornerstone Adult Services –

Kim Cairo, 401-342-7202

Saint Elizabeth Home, Court, Terrace, Place or Community –

Gina Clapprod, 401-336-3522

Cathleen Naughton Associates –

Marybeth Carey, 401-773-7469



Kim Cairo, HRBP, reviews benefits with CNA, Alisha January, at Cornerstone’s Bristol center

RESOURCES FOR FREQUENTLY ASKED HR QUESTIONS:

Health care deductible questions: Call London Health @ 1-800-343-2236 or the Benefit Help Line @ 1-800-388-9771

MassMutual deduction questions: Call Mass Mutual @ 1-800-743-5274 or go to www.retiresmart.com

To change my direct deposit or get copies of my paystubs: Go to your self-service portal on Paylocity at www.paylocity.com login

Locked out of my Paylocity account? Call Donna Birmingham @ 336-3541 or Lindsay Sisson @ 342-7234



Grateful Families Inspire Starfish Award



MJ Hanley with her caregivers.

When Mary Hanley’s mother, MJ, passed earlier this year at Saint Elizabeth Home, Mary and her five siblings thought of all the ways they could say thank you to the staff for all their love and support. Nothing quite seemed to fit...until Mary learned of the Starfish Award.

In 2014, Saint Elizabeth Manor received an anonymous donation in honor of the many employees who demonstrate exemplary service to patients and families. This gift served to establish a new employee recognition program: The Starfish Award. The annual award, presented in November, recognizes employees whose care philosophy touches the hearts of those they serve in a way that is above and beyond any job description.

“The staff of the Home work so hard and showed our mom so much love and compassion,” begins Mary. “When I learned about this program I was excited at the thought of celebrating their dedication in such a meaningful way. I knew immediately that making a gift to bring the Starfish Award to Saint Elizabeth Home would be the perfect way to honor my mother and express our family’s gratitude.”

To learn more about gifts of gratitude please contact Erica Bryson at 401-773-7419.

DESIGN YOUR PRIZE RAFFLE

THANK YOU to all who participated in Rose Bids Design Your Prize Raffle held Friday, September 11th.

Congratulations Winners!

Summer Getaway
Kathie and Joe Giorgi

Backyard Oasis
Gina Clapprood

Ultimate Dinner Party
Gina Richards

Wine Cellar
Kathleen DeVault

Spa Day
Robin Dziuba

Golf Outing
Lisa Johnson Ogrinc

Pub Crawl
Frederick McMillan



SAVE THE DATE!

We look forward to seeing you next year at the Rose Bids Auction and Gala on Friday, September 10, 2021.

Event Sponsors Answer the Call



Each year we look forward to celebrating the mission of Saint Elizabeth Community at our two signature fundraising events, the Golf Classic and the Rose Bids Auction and Gala. This year, however, COVID-19 had other plans.

“Our special events provide critical support to our programs and services. When we realized in-person events would not be possible this year, we immediately began to reach out to our event sponsors and donors to ask for their continued support even in the absence of live events. The response was incredible,” explains Matthew Trimble, President & CEO.

We are so very grateful to the many individuals and businesses who continued their support this year and to those who joined us for the first time by participating in the *Design Your Prize Raffle*.

We can’t wait to see you all in person next year!

A very special thank you to the following event sponsors and donors who made leadership gifts during this very challenging time:

Anonymous, Bank of America, Carpenter-Jenks Funeral Home & Crematory, Citrin Cooperman, Greenwood Credit Union, Grace Pedagno and Steven J. Horowitz, Healthcare Services Group, Inc., Jeffrey W. Kasle, Esq, Jay and Barbara Pease, Slocum Realty/Slocum Insurance Agency, Unidine Lifestyles, Washington Trust Company, Niles and Ying Wilcox, The Gregory and Claire Wilcox Family Foundation.



SEC In Action

Congratulations Beth Russell and Maureen Graziano Recognitions and Honors Received during Pandemic



Across our organization, all Saint Elizabeth Community entities have made adjustments during the pandemic, but none greater than our two nursing/ rehab centers, Saint Elizabeth Home and Saint Elizabeth Manor. And the work and efforts put forth by these two organizations has not gone unrecognized. This month two honors/ awards were bestowed on employees at both organizations.

Beth Russell, Administrator holds plaque recognizing Saint Elizabeth Manor with the Ocean State Charities' Helen A. Marandola Award. This award was given in recognition "of the dedication to provide comprehensive programs and care to those living at Saint Elizabeth Manor." Also noted in the award letter was that the trustees felt Saint Elizabeth Manor epitomized the qualities of Helen A. Marandola exemplified in her life by reaching out and helping others make their lives better, one step at a time. Congratulations to Administrator Beth Russell and her staff for receiving this honor.



Maureen Graziano, Activities Assistant, Saint Elizabeth Home, has been honored with the COVID-19 HERO AWARD. The TLC 4 LTC award is given to a nominated health care worker who has gone above and beyond during the pandemic. "During this uncertain time, Maureen has taken on additional responsibilities by helping to keep Home residents engaged and motivated," shared Terry Cambio, Assistant Activity Director. "Maureen's brother spent months in the hospital battling COVID-19, and as difficult and emotional a period it was for Maureen, she stayed strong, focused and positive at work, giving 100% of herself every day." Maureen, your commitment, gentle spirit and compassion to help others is an inspiration to us all.

Open Enrollment for Employee Benefits Begins Mid-November

New this year –

All SEC employees will either choose to elect or waive benefits for 2021 through the Paylocity system.

Rates and benefit information will be available in Paylocity.

The HR department will be scheduling virtual employee meetings to guide staff through the enrollment process and answer questions.



Stay tuned for additional information!

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