HBH Beacon

April 2017



Stevenson Village to join the HBH Family

Most of you will have heard by now that just before Christmas HBH Senior Living agreed to purchase Stevenson Village, a 36 unit complex in Howick providing low cost housing for older people.

The village opened in 1975 as a charitable joint venture between the Howick RSA and Sir William and Lady Stevenson to provide accommodation for returned servicemen and more recently for older people who require social housing. In October this year Stevenson Village Trust decided it was time to hand over the mission of the Village to another provider and placed the Village on the market. The Trust is delighted that HBH Senior Living will be the new owner.

"The purchase of Stevenson Village is a natural fit. As a values-based organisation we want to make sure that this wonderful resource of affordable housing for older people remains available both now and into the future," says HBH Senior Living CEO, Bonnie Robinson.

As well as to a commitment to current and future tenants, HBH will be making additional support services available. The new services



STEVENSON VILLAGE IN HOWICK WILL BECOME A PART OF HBH SENIOR LIVING IN JULY

will focus on helping Stevenson Village's residents to be as independent as possible and to live life to the full. In future HBH hopes to develop the site and provide even more affordable housing for older people.

HBH Senior Living will take possession of Stevenson Village on July 1st, 2017. In the interim both HBH Senior Living and Stevenson Village Trust will liaise closely to ensure a smooth transition for tenants.

Playlist for life

Hi there, my name is Jo. My mum Wendy has had dementia now for 11 years.

As long as I can recall, music and dance have always been Mum's "thing". In fact Mum was one of Auckland's top ballerinas performing in big shows in the Auckland Town Hall. My brother and I have the most wonderful memories of Mum blasting her favourite records and dancing with us throughout the house.

As Mum started getting sick she lost interest in books, television and movies.

Sadly Mum has declined greatly in the last year or so. No longer able to walk or talk, we were really wanting to bring Mum joy in some way. The beautiful Occupational Therapist at HBH Senior Living introduced us to Playlist for Life. Knowing how much Mum loved music, Carol suggested giving it a go. My husband and I created a playlist from the songs I remember Mum listening to during my childhood. I popped on the headphones and as soon as the music started Mum was



WENDY LISTENING TO MUSIC

beaming! As the music played on Mum started to weep. Mum was listening to Swan Lake and was taken back to her heyday as a young ballerina. I was so moved to see her so connected I couldn't help shedding a few happy tears myself.

The staff at HBH Senior Living's Hospital have been amazing at recharging Mum's iPod mini and popping on the headphones for her to enjoy all her favourite tunes. I wish I had done this years ago and I'm so thankful to Carol for suggesting it. "Music is what feelings sound like."

HBH welcomes the Nihon Daycare Centre from Japan

At the end of January, HBH Senior Living hosted a delegation from Nihon Daycare Centre in Japan, a provider of day programmes for children and older people.

Due to changes in Japanese family structure (more families where everyone is working and children live away from parents), there is a need for more day programmes for older people. They spent time with us in our day programme, had a tour of our facility and a discussion with key staff. We were delighted when the delegation said that we did not feel like a service to them, we felt like a family. Since this is exactly what we are trying to achieve we were delighted to have outside observers who didn't even speak our language see and feel this enough to comment.

Eden AlternativeTwo Principles to Go

As you are aware HBH Senior Living is an Eden Alternative Registered facility. The Eden Alternative is a philosophy of care that identifies the major problems faced by older people as loneliness, helplessness and boredom.

Our job as a care provider is to support residents to overcome these through companionship, meaningful activity and the ability to feel useful and give back.

To become fully registered HBH must work through 10 Eden Principles and be audited on these by the 'Eden in Oz and NZ' organisation. Last year we achieved another 4 Principles so now we have 8 out of 10.

So this year we are focusing on the final two principles – principles 1 and 9.

Principle 1: Understand that the three plagues of loneliness, helplessness and boredom

account for the bulk of suffering in a human community.

Principle 9: Understand that the Eden philosophy is a never-ending process. It is a habitat that once created needs commitment to continually nourish growth like any other living thing.



For reflection

There are diverse gifts:

but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God: but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through people in different ways: but it is the same God whose purpose is achieved through them all.

Each one of us is given a gift by the Spirit: and there is no gift without its corresponding service.

There is one ministry of Christ: and in this ministry we all share.

Together we are the body of Christ: and Individually members of it.

Based on 1 Corinthians 12:4 and Basis of Union, para. 13

Rainbow training a positive light

Last month, 20 staff from HBH Senior Living took part in a Silver Rainbow training day, designed to help care facilities become more aware of the needs of people in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community.

HBH Training Manager, Lyn Ramsay, described the day as "a great way for us to better understand a significant part of our community".

The aim of the day was to educate staff about the needs of LGBT people and to ensure that HBH continues to follow its vision of a place that welcomes people from all communities. "It's about helping everyone feel comfortable with who they are," explains Lyn. HBH CEO, Bonnie Robinson, attended the training and said, "We want to make sure that everyone who needs care knows that we will treat them with respect and dignity." Everyone involved with the training responded positively to the day and understood how the Silver Rainbow values reinforce the vision HBH staff adhere to. As Lyn puts it, "We do everything we can to make people feel comfortable and feel like HBH is their home."



HBH STAFF AT THE END OF THE SILVER RAINBOW TRAINING

Passionate volunteers a big part of the HBH family

HBH has a large number of volunteers who donate their time to help care for our residents and clients.

Our Day Programme has a roster of around 12 regular volunteers who assist with meal times, activities and games. Volunteer Coordinator, Kim Thwaites, said the volunteers enrich the offering at HBH. "They have formed some great relationships with our Day Programme clients and really add to the fun time here."

Some of the volunteers have been helping for

years. One woman attends two to three times a week and another passionate young woman volunteers every day. Volunteers assist HBH residents out and about as well: driving the mini van on regular tiki tours to scenic spots around the city, as well as shopping trips for our apartment residents. Thank you volunteers, you really make a difference to the HBH family!

Phone 09 538 0800

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SOME OF OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS

