

Impact REPORT

2023: A YEAR IN REVIEW





FAITH.
WELLNESS.
COMMUNITY.

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Midlothian, Va.

GARY THOMSON
Richmond, Va.

REV. DR. JAMES VAUGHT
Land O' Lakes, Fl.



REMEMBERING:

Pamela Parsons

“Pam was an invaluable resource on clinical and nursing-related issues for LifeSpire of Virginia while she served on the Board of Trustees. Her impact as a trusted advisor and board member for LifeSpire of Virginia was immeasurable. We are grateful for her leadership, guidance and commitment to quality healthcare for senior adults.”

– JONATHAN COOK
PRESIDENT AND CEO

Leadership

JONATHAN COOK
President and CEO

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Chief Operating Officer

ERIK MAURISTEN
Chief Financial Officer

LISA LEGEER
Chief Strategy and Integration Officer

PETER ROBINSON
Chief Marketing Officer

JODI LEONARD
Vice President of VBH Foundation

TAMMY ARNETTE
Editor-in-Chief

ELIZABETH NEWPORT
Graphic Designer

HELLO!



Dear Residents and Supporters,

I'm delighted to share our annual report and celebrate the impact you have made through your generous gifts. The 2023 Impact Report highlights the incredible influence of donors, residents and team members in the areas of giving, volunteerism and social accountability.

Your generosity resulted in more than \$2.1 million in charitable gifts to support the programs of the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation: benevolence, spiritual life, employee education, employee crisis support and special projects.

By the numbers, thanks to you, we were able to provide \$1.2 million in benevolent subsidies to more than 43 residents across LifeSpire's five communities, enabling those residents to continue living purposefully in a loving environment. This support was at the core of the vision of Dr. J.T. Edwards in 1946 and we are honored to be part of furthering and expanding that vision.

Your gifts of time, talent and treasure have reached far beyond the walls of the LifeSpire communities and into our surrounding communities, supporting nearly 50 local, regional and national organizations that touch the lives of so many. Fostering a culture of giving back to our communities has enabled us to increase our social accountability efforts throughout the LifeSpire family.

We are grateful for your loyal support and as stewards of your trust, we recognize the profound importance of the responsibility we have to ensure that the VBH Foundation and LifeSpire continue to fulfill our mission for another 75 years and beyond. The LifeSpire Board of Trustees takes this fiduciary responsibility seriously and together, as we navigate an ever-changing world, we are committed to the faithful stewardship of resources with integrity, transparency and accountability.

Last year, I shared that growth is on the horizon and you can see that growth happening today across all LifeSpire communities and our innovative continuing care at home program, AgeSmart. While we continue to grow, we will remain steadfast in seeking opportunities that align with our mission to build a future of prosperity, security and peace of mind for all who live and work in our communities.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, team members and leadership teams, I thank you for your support.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan R. Cook'.

Jonathan Cook,
President and CEO

WE ASKED OUR TEAM
MEMBERS & RESIDENTS

“What is something
memorable for you
that happened at
your community
last year?”



“Last year’s New Years Eve party was truly special. We dropped the ball at 6pm. Everyone was singing and in the moment. It’s moments like these that make me realize why I do the job that I do.”

- TIFFANY COFFEY, RESIDENT
LIFE MANAGER, *THE SUMMIT*



“Last year, one of the residents I work with wrote a letter to The Chesapeake’s leadership team about the care I provided them. It was really touching.”

- KIRBY DOUGLAS
CNA, *THE CHESAPEAKE*



“Betty Brooks arranged for us to take a trip to the Riverside Theatre in Fredericksburg. It was such a good time. She is an excellent activities coordinator.”

- CAROL & FRED WHEELER
RESIDENTS, *THE CULPEPER*



“We feel appreciated with all of the recognition. The Glebe arranges food trucks, movie nights and an ice cream truck for us. It’s a great feeling.”

- NORMA HARRISON
HOUSEKEEPING, *THE GLEBE*

*Bob Johnson,
Influencer at The Summit*



CHECK OUT OUR INFLUENCER STORIES HERE!

INFLUENCERS

The 2023 class of the Virginia Baptist Homes (VBH) Foundation's Influencer Award recipients was unusual in several ways! An "Influencer" in the LifeSpire of Virginia communities is a person who has been nominated by their resident peers and team members because of their outstanding service and dedication to that community. A VBH Foundation Influencer is someone who causes a positive effect on their community and their neighbors. Influencers embody the core values of LifeSpire through their spirit, their engagement and their generosity.

The 2023 Influencer class was unusual because instead of five honorees

for the five LifeSpire communities, the VBH Foundation honored six! For the first time, an Influencer couple was nominated and it was determined that both should be honored for their generosity to their community. The 2023 Influencer Award recipients were:

- Jim and Sally Barrett
Lakewood
- Curtis Brooking
The Culpeper
- Rex Hogan
The Chesapeake
- Bob Johnson
The Summit
- Bill Overstreet
The Glebe

All five communities honored their Influencers with events tailored to the special people who were being recognized. Each Influencer has made an impact on their neighbors in different ways, and each community turned out to celebrate their Influencer in return.

In September, Lakewood held a dessert reception and awards program, and guests were invited to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the local food bank. Influencers Jim and Sally Barrett wanted to turn their event into a service opportunity! Also in September, The Culpeper hosted an "Evening in Japan" dinner and dancing event for Curtis Brooking.

In November, The Glebe honored Bill Overstreet with a dinner for his family and a dessert reception for the entire community. The Chesapeake hosted a private dinner for Rex Hogan and his guests, then the whole community joined in with a dessert reception in December. And finally Bob Johnson was honored in January of 2024 by The Summit with a program and three-course dinner open to all.

Read more about the 2023 Influencers and their contributions to LifeSpire and to their communities by visiting:

<https://lifespireliving.org/give/influencer-awards/>

OUR IMPACT

For over 75 years, LifeSpire of Virginia has been recognized as a beacon of compassionate care, program and services, and community support, empowering and enriching the lives of its residents, team members and families. As a nonprofit, we are committed to providing exemplary senior living experiences, while supporting those we serve within our walls and extending our positive influence to the surrounding localities. Through the work of the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation and the social accountability efforts throughout the LifeSpire family, we are fostering a culture of giving back and creating lasting impacts on the broader society. We are dedicated to enriching lives and strengthening communities across Virginia.

\$1.4M+

**SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY IMPACT
INCLUDES *BENEVOLENCE, MONETARY
DONATIONS, GOODS AND SERVICES.***



“The work I do here is not for me, it’s for the residents. They are the most important part of my job.”



- TERRY WILSON, MAINTENANCE TECH, *THE CULPEPER*

\$1.2M

Benevolence

Financial subsidies to residents.

\$371,901

Volunteerism

Total value of 11,695 volunteer hours contributed.

\$102,325

Contributions

Cash and in-kind contributions by LifeSpire of Virginia to local residents and community organizations.

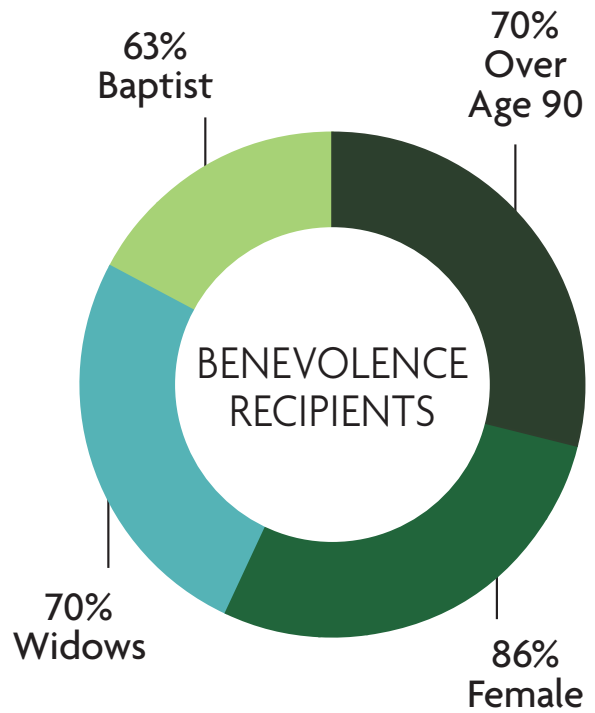


“My favorite memory from last year was going to Roaring Run. It was a beautiful day and The Glebe bought us lunch. The sound of the water was incredible.”

- JOAN ROOD, RESIDENT, *THE GLEBE*

FOUNDATION RESULTS

For more than 75 Years, LifeSpire of Virginia has remained committed to seniors. While LifeSpire of Virginia's communities have grown and changed over time, the mission to provide the best for seniors has not wavered. The Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation, through the generosity of loyal donors, is able to provide essential services and programs to enhance the lives of residents, no matter their level of care needs. Visit lifespireliving.org/give to learn more.

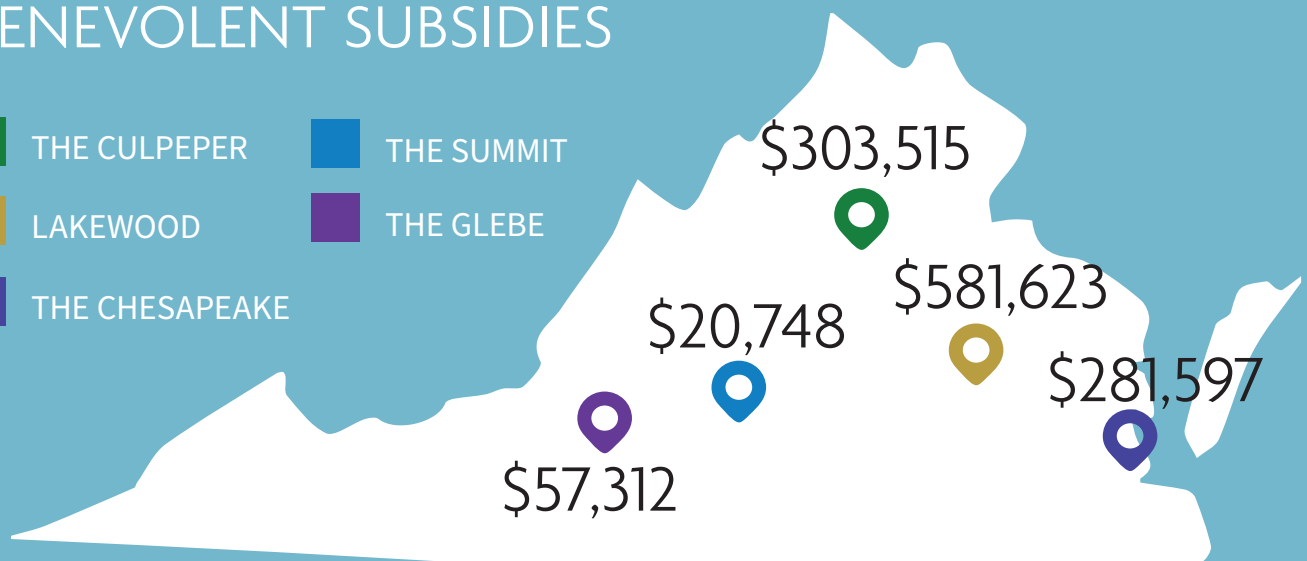


THE VBH FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO HAVE EARNED A GOLD TRANSPARENCY SEAL THROUGH GUIDESTAR/CANDID

\$1,244,795

BENEVOLENT SUBSIDIES

- THE CULPEPER
- THE SUMMIT
- LAKEWOOD
- THE GLEBE
- THE CHESAPEAKE



TOTAL CHARITABLE GIFTS RECEIVED OVER \$2.1M

Gifts Received BY CAUSE



\$1,022,605

Benevolence



\$436,727

Charitable Gift Annuities



\$423,673

Special Projects



\$21,920

Employee Crisis Fund



\$152,700

Community Restricted Funds



\$15,960

Endowment Funds



\$70,608

Spiritual Life



\$15,287

Employee Education Fund

Gifts Received BY ENTITY



\$1,130,719

Trusts & Estates



\$894,140

Individuals



\$134,621

Churches, Foundations
& Corporations



CHECK OUT OUR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS HERE!

FINANCIALS

On a consolidated basis, 2023 was a solid year for LifeSpire. Net operating income was \$1.2M, compared with a loss of \$4.4M in 2022, and our net asset position improved by \$7.6M. While we are confronted with the same staffing challenges and persistent inflation as the entire senior living industry, strong occupancy (more than 95% at the end of April) and the diligent efforts of our communities' operating teams are mitigating these impacts as much as possible. LifeSpire continues to reinvest in its communities and execute its strategic plan, updated in 2023.

LifeSpire remains comfortably in compliance with its debt covenants, and its debt remains rated "BBB" by Fitch Ratings, Inc. For more details, please see the most recent tax-exempt bond continuing disclosure ("EMMA") filing on our website: lifespireliving.org/financial-disclosures/.



INCOME STATEMENT

	2023	2022
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
Operating Revenue	\$ 122,455	\$ 110,184
Operating Expense	121,222	114,594
Operating Income	\$ 1,233	\$ (4,410)
Unrealized Gains (Losses)	7,109	(13,691)
Other Nonoperating Gains (Losses)	(517)	(426)
Increase in Unrestricted Net Assets	\$ 7,825	\$ (18,527)

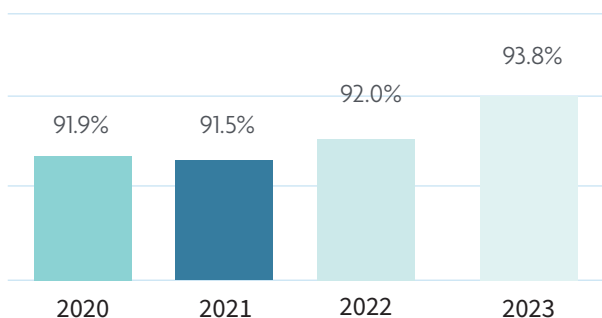
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

Increase in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 7,825	\$ (18,527)
Increase in Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	(152)	(2,811)
Increase in Net Assets	\$ 7,673	\$ (21,338)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	(38,233)	(16,895)
Net Assets (Deficit) - End of Year	\$ (30,560)	\$ (38,233)

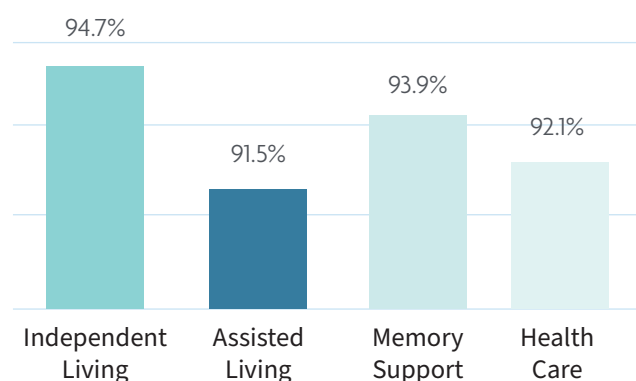
BALANCE SHEET

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current	\$ 56,039	\$ 59,744
Long-Term	90,586	81,995
Net Fixed Assets	271,090	264,462
Total	\$ 417,715	\$ 406,201
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
Current	\$ 38,618	\$ 33,701
Deferred Revenue	118,762	113,842
Other	59,695	57,523
Long-Term Debt	231,200	239,369
Net Assets	(30,560)	(38,234)
Total	\$ 417,715	\$ 406,201

AVERAGE OCCUPANCY TREND



AVERAGE OCCUPANCY 2023



SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY



“I will never forget Simone Stokes for stepping in and helping me out while I was in the hospital. She was there for me and our residents. She even came to visit me!”

- CINDY SEWARD,
ACTIVITIES
COORDINATOR,
THE CHESAPEAKE

THE CULPEPER

Partnering with local nonprofits and civic organizations including hosting the Rotary Club of Culpeper's Flags for Heroes event.

THE CHESAPEAKE

Encouraging Tidewater area first responders by hosting appreciation events throughout the year and the Newport News Citizen Police Academy for Seniors.

THE GLEBE

Passing on lived history and experience by hosting the Read Mountain Middle School's Living Libraries program.

LAKESWOOD

Giving back to the greater Richmond area with support for Feed More and CrossOver Healthcare Ministry.

THE SUMMIT

Supporting local faith communities with donations, resources, and space including hosting the Caregiver Support Group for the Lynchburg greater community.

LIFESPIRE / VBH FOUNDATION

Empowering future leaders by partnering with Cristo Rey Richmond High School to support student interns and offering scholarships to students in the healthcare field through the EverBless Foundation.

47

Total Number
of Participating
Organizations



CHECK OUT THE FULL LIST AT [LIFESPIRELIVING.ORG/SOCIAL-ACCOUNTABILITY/](https://lifespireliving.org/social-accountability/)

Social accountability for a non-profit organization is the impact that organization has on its wider community. It is a measure of an organization's commitment to its mission, stakeholders and the greater community.

Each of the LifeSpire of Virginia communities along with the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation are significantly impacting their localities. As part of our vision of vibrant living where faith, wellness and community flourish, that community extends beyond our walls.



“



“Maria Najera, (Environmental Services Aide at Lakewood), is wonderful! We have worked together as a team for five years doing flower arrangements. She is a dear person.”

- DOUGLAS PALMORE
RESIDENT, LAKEWOOD

“



“I love meeting new people and The Chesapeake offers a lot of opportunities for that with activities and the open atmosphere.”

- BETTY DAVIS
RESIDENT, THE CHESAPEAKE

MAKING A COMEBACK

TERESA LEWIS OF THE
CULPEPER HEADS TO
LAW SCHOOL



Teresa Lewis, CNA at The Culpeper, has always dreamed of becoming a criminal defense attorney. After a nearly 30-year educational gap, Lewis will be graduating with a bachelor's degree in criminal investigation from Liberty University in December 2024. The mother of four also minored in pre-law to prepare herself to attend law school.

Lewis and three of her children, Armani Hoffman, Capone Hoffman and Destinee Hoffman, all have a history of working at The Culpeper while attending college. To help pay for their education, the collegiate family was awarded scholarships from the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation.

When Lewis was fresh out of high school, she started taking classes at a community college, however she quickly found herself raising a family and having to adjust her educational goals. Now, Lewis has not only completed several educational milestones for herself, but she has also secured VBH

Foundation scholarships for her children to do the same.

"I take each step as it comes and I pray on it," said Teresa. "For the summer, I'm hoping to find an internship for criminal investigation. I hope my journey helps other team members realize they can work on their career goals and take advantage of resources like the VBH Foundation scholarship."

Her daughter, Destinee Hoffman is enrolled at the University of Southern California, pursuing a doctorate in occupational therapy. Her oldest son Capone Hoffman goes to the University of Virginia-Wise and just completed his accounting degree. Armani Hoffman is working on a



“

“As you approach the finish line for your undergraduate degree, your education and perseverance continue to inspire me. Your hard work and commitment to your studies are truly inspiring, especially considering all the adversity and challenging circumstances you have faced daily. I have no doubt that you will continue to achieve great things in the future. I feel so fortunate to have you as my role model, and I hope to pass on the same values, work ethic and commitment to my own children. Thank you for being the best parent anyone could ask for.”

- ARMANI LEWIS, SON OF TERESA

master's degree at Liberty University. Her youngest son is in the ninth grade at Culpeper High School.

"My mom has been a key inspiration in my life for as long as I can remember," said Capone. "She has pushed me and my siblings to do great things with our lives and it's only right for us to support her and give her the same. Alongside those things, she has done it all on her own and has shown us that anything is possible if you put your mind to it. I couldn't be more proud of what she has been able to accomplish."

Lewis's son Armani, a server at The Culpeper for a couple of years, graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science and is graduating with a master's in international relations this December.

"As I sit here reflecting, I cannot help but think about what it means to be a great parent," said Armani. "Love, structure, support, positivity, guidance, tough love and discipline, but the most important is instilling the same confidence you instilled in me into children. The amount of confidence in which anything is achievable with the proper mindset. If you have a dream, you chase it, if you fail; you get up and try over and over again until you succeed. No matter how many times we fall down in this life, we stand right back up. This is exactly what I learned from you every single day and you have no idea how much it meant to me. Without you, there's no telling where I'd be."

EDUCATION FUND



The Team Member Education Fund provides financial assistance through scholarships to team members, their children and grandchildren to pursue opportunities for higher education. Our organization depends on the talent and dedication of our team members, and the impact of these awards extends to our residents as trained and educated employees deliver the ultimate in care, service and hospitality. Gifts are welcomed to invest in the education of our team members who work to make our communities warm, welcoming and safe places to live.

In 2023, \$25K in scholarships were awarded to eligible applicants pursuing higher education degrees.

CRISIS FUND



The Team Member Crisis Fund is a lifeline to team members in need during emergency situations – a blessing for those who experience a crisis and need extra support. Each LifeSpire entity has a dedicated Crisis Fund to support their employees, and gifts can be designated to the community of choice.

In 2023, \$13K in grants were awarded to those team members needing some extra support.



"I am so grateful to be a part of an organization that truly cares about their employees! The VBH Foundation helped me through a very difficult time last year. Without the assistance, I would've lost our transportation, which would have made it impossible for me to come to work. Words cannot express how appreciative I am! I wouldn't have been able to make it through without support. I am indebted to LifeSpire and the Foundation for demonstrating compassion and support towards my family."

- CRISIS FUND RECIPIENT

KNITTING FOR A CAUSE



A close-“knit” group of residents at Lakewood use their knitting and crocheting talents to support The St. Mary’s Hospital NICU and Pediatric Wards. The group meets weekly and hand-knits hats for newborns and children at the hospital. These extraordinary ladies selflessly give their time to the cause throughout the year while enjoying precious time and fellowship together.

Leading this initiative are residents Peggy Harvey, Janice Gravitt, Phylis Doswell and Gail White.

Peggy, also fondly known as the knitting lady at Lakewood, began her knitting journey while attending college. She taught herself how to knit from a book and her passion has only grown stronger over the years. “It takes

about five hours to knit a hat for the hospital,” said Harvey. “We love doing it and spending time together each week.”

Peggy and her husband, Albert Dabney Harvey, attended numerous knitting conferences worldwide, from Niagara Falls to the British Isles, Wales, Scotland, Norway, Alaska, Sweden and Denmark, blending her love for knitting with their love for travel.

“My husband is a bit of an enabler! He would attend conference sessions for me while I was attending another and when I would find yarn that I thought I couldn’t live without, he encouraged me to seize the opportunity and buy it. I am so grateful for his support over the past 58 years we have been married.”

Lakewood newcomer Janice Gravitt generously donated her extensive yarn collection when she downsized to move into the community. At the age of 15, she was taught by her mother, Phylis Doswell, through a mirror image technique. Throughout the years, she has honed her skills to make anything, from hats to scarves and shawls. Janice also enjoys crocheting



just as much as knitting and uses both techniques for various projects. Her grandchildren, unfamiliar with which technique she may be using, has nicknamed her skillsets yarning. “It’s so funny when my grandchildren call me and ask if I’m yarning today,” said Gravitt. “It makes me giggle every time they call.”

Janice’s mother Phylis learned to crochet when she was 10 years old and has taken a preference to it over knitting. The dynamic knitting and crocheting duo are both active members of the prayer shawl ministry at St. Andrews United Methodist Church, further extending their talents to provide comfort and solace to those in need.

Knitting has shown to have many health benefits such as helping with muscle memory and coordination. For Gail, knitting is something she can still do, despite losing most of her eyesight. She shows up every week to knit with her friends at Lakewood. “Seeing detail up close is difficult,” she admits, “but I can still knit.” Gail’s passion for the craft was kindled at a young age when her mother and grandmother taught her the art of creating intricate patterns with yarn. Over the years, she has created countless hats, chemo caps, dialysis knits and scarves, each one a testament to her unwavering commitment to serving others.

With each stitch, these ladies pour their hearts into creating cozy gifts, knowing that they will provide not only physical warmth but also a sense of care and compassion for the little ones and their families.

FIVE SENIOR COMMUNITIES, ONE PURPOSE

Each year, all five LifeSpire communities and AgeSmart raise money for local Alzheimer's associations with the goal to help find a cure. In total, \$28,000 was raised in 2023 by residents and team members with another \$5,000 sponsored by the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation. LifeSpire communities held events such as 5K walks, longest day summer kickoff, doughnut sales and flowers for a cause. These efforts not only raise funds to help find a cure for Alzheimer's, but also bring awareness to this unforgiving disease.

According to research by the Alzheimer's Association, 55 million people worldwide are living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. Alzheimer's is a type of dementia that affects memory, thinking and behavior. Symptoms eventually grow severe enough to interfere with daily tasks. Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia, a general term for symptoms like a decline in memory or other cognitive abilities. Living with Alzheimer's is not a normal part of

aging and currently, there is no cure. LifeSpire's Cornerstone Memory Support program is currently available at Lakewood, The Glebe, The Culpeper and The Chesapeake. This program provides purposeful living in a comfortable, safe environment with compassionate and specially trained team members. Residents have the ability to engage in meaningful relationships with a sense of belonging.

Team members working in Memory Support are certified dementia specialists who are understanding of every circumstance. Together, they provide the highest quality care and service that promote dignity, independence and socialization in a stimulating environment. This includes helping residents enjoy all the things they love to do.

Thoughtful design of LifeSpire's Memory Support neighborhoods reduces confusion and provides around-the-clock security. With special programming designed for those with memory loss, Memory Support provides more opportunities for pleasant and peaceful days. To find resources about Alzheimer's and dementia, visit <https://www.alz.org/>.



“Your support makes a difference in the fight against this devastating disease.”

**- BRENDA DIXON
MARKETING DIRECTOR,
THE SUMMIT**



The Chesapeake:

Building Strong Bonds with Local First Responders

The Chesapeake hosts local first responders throughout the year with cookouts and breakfasts as a way of honoring and thanking them for their service to the local Newport News community. Team members and residents pitch in to help cook meals, prepare packaged meals and serve them up as firefighters, paramedics and law enforcement officers stop over for a quick bite to eat.

These events hosted by The Chesapeake promotes camaraderie between the residents, team members and local first responders. In June of last year, The Chesapeake hosted a special cookout to pay tribute to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line daily to keep the local area safe. The Chesapeake's Executive Director, David Loop took charge of the grill, preparing burgers and hot dogs while residents were available to lend a helping hand by bagging lunches and ensuring every visitor felt welcomed and appreciated. Members of the Newport News Police and Fire Departments showed up for a quick meal and engaged in fun and friendly conversations with residents. First responders were treated like celebrities, being honored for their service to the community and posing for photographs with The Chesapeake residents and team members. "A hot meal is the least we can do to give our thanks," said Loop. "An enjoyable summer meal

is a small way to relay our appreciation of their dedication and work."

In addition to providing meals, The Chesapeake hosted a Citizens Police Academy in partnership with the Newport News Police Department. The intensive workshop covered 20 different law enforcement topics with the K9 unit presentation

being particularly popular among residents. Twelve dedicated residents of The Chesapeake completed the eight-week course. In November of last year, a graduation ceremony took place honoring each resident who completed the 28th class of the Citizens Police Academy.

Each graduate, including class president Karen L. Pagel, received a certificate presented by Chief of Police Steve Drew and Assistant Chief Brandon Creswell. The ceremony included patriotic and ceremonial components, followed by a celebratory lunch reception catered by The Chesapeake.

Chief Drew expressed his gratitude during the event, saying,

"I appreciate the time you took to sit through the classes and the time I had with you. I want to say thank you and I hope you learned more about our department and what we do. I think it's a benefit to stay in constant contact with our community."

Karen Patel reflected positively on the experience, "Thank you. You made us feel really good."



**"Thank you.
You made us
feel really good."**

**- KAREN PATEL
RESIDENT,
THE CHESAPEAKE**



SPIRITUAL *Life*

In 1949, the pastor of Culpeper Baptist Church founded Virginia Baptist Homes (now known as LifeSpire of Virginia) to provide and care for retired pastors and their families. While our roots are in the Baptist tradition, today each LifeSpire community welcomes and celebrates people from every faith and background.

Chaplains are available at each community, serving as resources for residents, families and their fellow team members. Chaplains support the spiritual journey of everyone, offering blessings in times of joy and celebration, and encouragement in times of crisis, need and bereavement.

The Spiritual Life Fund was established to financially contribute to the faith-based programs and the people providing those services within our communities. Linking back to the original mission of the organization, the Spiritual Life Fund honors the mission and vision of LifeSpire, which includes envisioning a future where faith, wellness and community spirit lead the way.

Grants are made available annually to each

community through the Fund to support spiritual education, worship and small group resources, musical instruments, and appreciation efforts for the local community pastors and congregations who take part in the ministries of a LifeSpire community.

A resident donor to the Spiritual Life Fund recently said “our chaplains are so busy and so committed to supporting us, the residents, in everything we do. It’s important for us to support them by giving to the Spiritual Life Fund.”

One community utilized a grant to offer a lecture series from Rabbi Dr. Michael Panitz on World Religions. Over 65 residents attended and many remarked that they enjoyed the presentations immensely. A resident who attended expressed her appreciation “I love that our community offers faith-based programs like these, giving us an opportunity to learn new things and expand our awareness. Not all senior living communities have faith-based programming, and it’s one of the reasons why I chose to live here.”

Gifts to the **SPIRITUAL LIFE FUND** have funded:

1

Songbooks and supplies for a new Taizé worship and prayer experience

2

Grief and bereavement support resources

3

Supplies for Advent and Christmas devotions for the residents in Memory Support, Assisted Living and Health Care

4

New sets of chimes to be used in worship services and other musical offering opportunities

5

A new set of seasonal banners and worship paraments to bring color and life to worship experiences



EDWARDS SOCIETY

1946

In January 1946 Dr. James T. Edwards, pastor of Culpeper Baptist Church, introduced the idea of establishing a home for senior adults to live out their retirement years. Over 75 years later, his vision continues to thrive and expand.

1996

The J.T. Edwards Society (JTE) was established in 1996 to honor those who support Dr. Edwards' legacy through any form of planned giving, including bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts or gifts of life insurance. These gifts provide the Foundation with the ability to plan for the future success of this ministry.

TODAY

JTE Society members extend a lifetime of support through giving, volunteering and membership. Like Dr. Edwards, these visionary individuals are leaving their own legacy for future residents and the Foundation is proud to honor them through membership in this society.



Barbara J. Begor

Ruth Bokun

Curtis and Dee Brooking

Jacquelyn K. Brooks

Bessie Brooks

■ Bert and Rose Browning

Montgomery Cale

Jeannette Cantrell

Hilary and Gina Claypool

Carolyn Coffman

Jonathan and Barbara Cook

Robert Copenhaver

Anne daCosta

Carole A. Edwards

Emily W. Fitzgerald

Linda Fleshman

Audrey Guild

Nelson and Cathy Harris

Monica Hillery

R. Craig and Sharon W. Hopson

Peyton and Nancy Jefferson

Latham and Linda Jones

Michael and Joan Keck

Maurice C. Law

George and Virginia Leftwich

Thomas and Elizabeth Mabe

Guy and Vivia Mattox

Joyce G. McCall

Donald and Lida McKinney

Joy McNabb

Rachael D. Mothena

Barbara W. Murphy

Margaret J. Oliver

Elizabeth Payne

Elizabeth Ann Peterson

Doris S. Pritchard

Hunter Riggins

Randall and Linda Robinson

Peter and Myra Robinson

Hap and Kay Robson

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48 EDWARDS SOCIETY LEGACY GIFTS

In 2023, 48 donors made their ultimate gift to LifeSpire through estate planning. Some created a trust that provides income every year to support benevolence and our communities. Others gave through bequests. These generous expressions of faith humble the LifeSpire team. While their passing saddens us, we remember the way they lived—with love and kindness for others.

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“The Summit is extraordinary. When dining in the dining room, people invite you to come sit with them. The staff include you in everything.”

- JOHN BATES, RESIDENT
THE SUMMIT



“We do so many fun things. The residents gave the team members a Christmas party. We had so much fun at the photo booth! We played games with residents at different stations, like Wheel of Fortune which had us dancing with the residents. It was a great time!”

- LAUREEN PAGE
 CNA, LAKEWOOD

OUR BENEVOLENT *Mission*

Every year, the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation raises over \$1 million to benefit seniors in LifeSpire of Virginia communities, thanks to those committed to taking care of residents who need help. Gifts to the Benevolent Fund support those residents who, through no fault of their own, need additional financial resources to stay in their homes. In 2023, 43 residents were provided peace of mind with benevolent assistance.

Supporting the Benevolent Fund assists residents like Barbara. She and her husband spent their married years serving Baptists throughout Virginia. He was a well-loved pastor throughout the commonwealth, and she worked at her local Baptist Association serving its churches and leaders. Their ministerial work made them familiar with the mission of Virginia Baptist Homes, and Barbara remembers fondly when the fundraising office for her future LifeSpire of Virginia community opened in the same building where she worked.

At the time, she had no thoughts of ever living in a retirement community. Time proved her wrong, and she and her husband found a way to move into a LifeSpire community. Her husband passed away shortly after moving in, but Barbara kept active with her church ministry, new friends and so many activity choices. For a number of years, her community has been her safe and comfortable home.

As the cost of living increased, Barbara's anxiety also increased. Savings for retirement dwindled to a dangerous level. "Much to my relief, our community's Benevolent Fund came to my rescue! It provides a subsidy which gives me security and peace of mind. I truly believe that my community's leaders try to meet the daily needs of residents by providing attractive living spaces, nourishment and activities. I continue to offer my sincere appreciation for these blessings."



"Thank you to our donors who give to support this benevolent mission. Every gift makes an impact to those we serve and provides peace and compassionate care to those in need. Your continued generosity can set the stage for future years to come."

- JODI LEONARD, CFRE
VICE PRESIDENT
VIRGINIA BAPTIST
HOMES FOUNDATION



Martha Bradshaw, a resident at The Chesapeake, is proud of her family's legacy within LifeSpire. Her parents lived at Lakewood, as well as her late husband's parents, aunts and cousins, and daughter's in-laws, making them the largest legacy family at Lakewood. This strong sense of heritage is what motivates Marty to support the benevolent fund.

"It doesn't matter who you are or what you have – it's important to share to help those that are caught in the stress of running out of their assets."

- MARTHA BRADSHAW, RESIDENT, *THE CHESAPEAKE*

2023 SUPPORTERS



Sincere appreciation to every donor! Whether your gift provided support to residents through our benevolent mission, or you gave to a special project or a team member fund, you made a difference and touched the lives of the entire LifeSpire of Virginia family. A full roster of donors can be found on pages 25 - 30.

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TRIBUTE GIVING

Each holiday season, the Virginia Baptist Homes Foundation sponsors an Honor Tree in each LifeSpire community. All loved ones who were honored or remembered by a gift made to the VBH Foundation at any time in 2023 had their names placed on the Honor Tree in the community. Ornaments were also created for those residents who passed away during the year.

“Tribute Giving” is a significant way that donors give to the VBH Foundation every year. In 2023, nearly 400 gifts were received in memory of or in honor of a loved one, generating well over \$100,000 in support.

A full listing of those who were honored in 2023 can be found on pages 31 - 32.

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