

Community



The Episcopal
Diocese
of Milwaukee

alzheimer's
association



MILWAUKEE
MUSEUM MILE



Saint John's On The Lake is committed to serving older adults in the community as well as on campus. Outreach efforts impact individuals directly, such as the SPARK! Program, and indirectly via sponsorships of organizations like the Alzheimer's Association. Much of our effort is future-focused as we seek to develop a workforce trained to work on behalf of our aging population.

We are proud of our employees' commitment to service and grateful for the support of our residents and Board as we seek to create meaningful experiences and leave a lasting impact.

EFFORT BY AREA OF FOCUS

Charitable Care

In 2016, Saint John's provided health care and housing to individuals who have exhausted their personal resources totaling \$103,000. Further, we participated in the Medicaid program which reimburses Saint John's for care in skilled nursing at a rate far below the actual direct cost of providing that care. Last year, the difference between our cost and reimbursement was \$409,000.

Preparation of a Workforce Trained to Serve Older Adults

Thirty-seven nursing, social work and exercise physiology students from four different colleges, universities and technical schools completed internships, clinical rotations and practicums on our campus, totaling 1,974 hours of education under the supervision or joint oversight of Saint John's staff. It is our hope that these students received not only a valuable hands-on learning experience but that their involvement with our residents will influence their opinions about aging, helping to break down negative stereotypes. Myth-busting continued in Aged to Perfection's second semester with 20 students enrolled in the course now required to receive an Undergraduate Certificate in Healthy Aging. This collaboration of UWM, residents and staff meets weekly each fall at Saint John's. Co-taught by residents, the course has been life-changing for all involved.

Saint John's encourages staff to share their gifts and talents assisting in the development of a future workforce with the skills and passion to serve older adults. Saint John's President, Renée Anderson, functions as a coach for the state association's leadership academy. Twenty participants working in various roles in senior living organizations across the state gather 4 times during the 9 month program. Each two day meeting, held at a member site, consists of interactive learning, tours, panel discussions and book reviews. Vice President Donna Spars and LifeStreams Coordinator Angela Crimmings, serve on a committee and the Board of Directors, respectively, of James Madison High Schools' Academy of Health Sciences. The school, at 81st and Florist, offers students a focused learning experience coupled with an internship with the goal of graduates proceeding immediately to the workforce. This is the first time Saint John's has employed high school students, so we are learning along with them!



Impact

In addition to providing our employees with a thorough 2-day orientation to Saint John's, a tailored departmental onboarding, mentors, role-specific training and required inservices, we support those individuals who are pursuing continuing education that supports their advancement in the field of senior living. In 2016, 14 employees participated in our Tuition Reimbursement program receiving credit for successfully completing 24 semesters of coursework.

Support of Dementia Education, Research and those living with Dementia

Saint John's supports the Alzheimer's Association through sponsorship of events including the annual Alzheimer's Walk. Last September, a team of 20 hardy residents, Board Members and staff joined 1,400 other walkers who endured cold rain to complete the 2-mile loop in Waukesha.

SPARK! is a multi-sensory creative engagement program for people with memory loss. Monthly, Angela Crimmings and the LifeStreams team host The SPARK! Program connects museums with local partners in healthy aging providing an opportunity for those with dementia and their caregivers to enjoy art and artifacts in a comfortable setting. Each month, Saint John's Museum of Wisconsin Art On The Lake hosts SPARK! for people who live in the greater Milwaukee Community providing an opportunity for those with memory loss to enjoy art in a welcoming and stimulating environment.

Support of the Basic Health Needs of Older Adults in the Community

The vast majority of older adults chose to live not in a retirement community, but in their own homes, often facing the challenges of aging alone. Saint John's supports a variety of organizations that provide care and services to address health changes often associated with growing older. In 2016, our Foundation granted Audio-Braille Literacy Enhancement, Center for Deaf-Blind, the Eye Institute and Vision Forward each \$2,050 to pursue their missions. Direct financial support was also provided to Eastside Senior Services, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, SET Ministry and Sojourner Family Peace Center. Additionally, the Milwaukee County Commission for Persons with Disabilities holds monthly meetings at Saint John's.

Beyond these four core initiatives, community outreach occurred in the form of sponsorship of the Milwaukee Black Excellence Awards, The Milwaukee Film Festival and The Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee's Haiti Project. Saint John's, along with our Museum Mile Partners, hosted Milwaukee's first Plein Air painting competition in 2016. Further, we annually conduct a joint resident and employee Unity Way fundraising drive.

Community outreach is essential to the health of Milwaukee; Saint John's is proud of our contribution and committed to extending our impact.

