Community

SPECIAL EDITION: An Update from the UMRC and UMRC Foundation Board Chairs







A New Year of Service

A Letter from Marianne B. Conner *UMRC Foundation Board Chair*

Happy New Year!

United Methodist Retirement Communities has been an important part of my family for over 50 years, when my father, Cliff Bath, began serving on the UMRC Board of Trustees. As a lifelong Methodist, my dad felt a deep connection to the faithful work of UMRC. My parents' Christian concern for the elderly has become my life's work as a CFO and consultant in the field of senior living, and an advocate for older adults.

When I was asked by a group of Board members from my childhood church to serve UMRC in 1998 and to help establish the UMRC Foundation, it seemed only fitting that I put my professional experience and passion for older adults to work, following in the footsteps of my father. It was an exciting time at UMRC as we launched the ground-breaking memory care center, Towsley Village, on our flagship Chelsea campus. Philanthropy was, and still is, vital to the success of such a large capital project, and I am proud of the opportunity I had to help shape the UMRC Foundation as the official fundraising arm for our organization.

I circulated off the Board in 2011, but, three years later, I was drawn back to the organization whose mission and Methodist roots have meant so much to my family and me over the years.

⁶⁶ Thanks to the generosity of so many of you, 2016 was UMRC's most financially successful year on record! ⁹⁹



UMRC is committed to serving Michigan's rapidly growing population of older adults. We are currently in the midst of UMRC's greatest period of growth in its 110-year history! As UMRC continues to expand its reach in southeastern Michigan and across the state, we know these goals for growth are only possible thanks to the philanthropic groundwork set by the UMRC Foundation. I am thrilled and honored to be serving the UMRC Foundation as its Board Chair, and I am eager to work with each of you to make 2017 our best year yet!

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Marianne B. Conner
UMRC Foundation Board Chair



A Letter from Rich Brown UMRC Board Chair

UMRC's first residents moved to our Chelsea campus 110 years ago and found a home built on faith where they could live with meaning and purpose. As we celebrate this monumental anniversary, I am proud to serve an organization that continues to demonstrate its vision and entrepreneurial spirit, yet also remains true to its Christian roots, to provide the most advanced and compassionate care for older adults of all walks of life.

The work of UMRC has never been more important, as the population of older adults is on pace to double by 2030, and triple for adults 85 and older. 2017 promises to be a year of unprecedented growth at UMRC as we continue to put our faith-based mission into action: to promote the wellness, dignity, and independence of older adults by providing high-quality, innovative residential and support services. Goals for the New Year include launching renovations to Kresge Skilled Care Center, beginning construction of the Tom and Debby McMullen Wellness and Aquatic Center, and completion of the Prairie Cottages on our historic Chelsea campus; expanding PACE, or Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly; and exploring a host of growth opportunities to reach more seniors of all income levels in the communities they call home.

This is no small task. Yet, it is one the UMRC Board of Trustees embraces wholeheartedly.



We believe in the importance and necessity of serving older adults, and we are confident in the talents and commitment of UMRC's leadership, staff, and friends like you to help accomplish these goals. 99

As a member of the UMRC Board since 2004, I am honored this year to serve as Board Chair for this distinguished and dedicated group. I have big shoes to fill: Cliff Bath, Roger Spry, Dorothy McVittie Kresge, Stan Jones and, more recently, Rick Bluhm and John Nixon III, to name just a few of the men and women who have helped make UMRC the outstanding organization it is today. Thank you for your important role in UMRC's current and future success!

Here's to a wonderful year of service to older adults!

Rulard Brown

Rich Brown
UMRC Board Chair

★★ An Honor Worth Celebrating

It's official! UMRC has been recognized with EAGLE Accreditation by the United Methodist Association. EAGLE, or Educational Assessment Guidelines Leading toward Excellence, is the only faith-based accrediting body in the world. UMRC is one of only 17 EAGLE-Accredited older adult ministries in the nation, and the first in Michigan.

Following a thorough, peer-review Site Visit at our Chelsea campus in early October, UMRC received one of the highest scores ever for outstanding quality, service, and best practices in caring for older adults.

⁶⁶It is truly a mark of distinction for our organization, ⁹⁹

says John Thorhauer, UMRC President and CEO. "Our 18-month EAGLE Accreditation process was a time of not only self-reflection and assessment, but also a time to ensure that our faith-based mission is reflected in all of our policies and actions. UMRC's dedicated, hardworking staff and board leadership can be very proud of all their work to accomplish this success together."

This honor will be formally presented to UMRC at the United Methodist Association annual meeting in Maryland in May 2017.

COMMUNITIES IN Harmony

Chelsea Retirement Community

805 West Middle Street Chelsea, Michigan 48118 P: 734.433.1000

The Cedars of Dexter

411 Cedars Lane Dexter, Michigan 48130 P: 734.792.9702

The Pines

325 Wilkinson Street Chelsea, Michigan 48118 P: 734.433.9130

Silver Maples of Chelsea

100 Silver Maples Drive Chelsea, Michigan 48118 P: 734.475.4111

The Thome

Rivertown Neighborhood

250 McDougall Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48207 P: 313.567.8045

Huron Valley PACE

2940 Ellsworth Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197 P: 734.572.5777

Thome PACE

2282 Springport Road Jackson, Michigan 49202 P: 517.768.9791

Senior CommUnity Care of Michigan

1921 East Miller Road Lansing, Michigan 48911 P: 517.319.0700

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