



2022 Gratitude Report

Fullness of Life

Letter from CEO and Board Chair

Dear Friend,

As we look back on 2022, Nikki and I find ourselves reflecting on the ideal of fullness of life. This language is beautiful and lofty—but what does it actually mean?

You might remember that Jesus said it first: “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10:10). This is the heart of Jesus, and it’s the heart we have for those we serve.

At our Cassia communities, fullness of life has many different facets and looks different for each individual. In the following stories, you’ll see the many different elements that came together to embody fullness of life in 2022:

- A husband and wife who got to be reunited because of a new continuum of care, and worship together in a beautiful chapel made possible by donors
- The peace of mind and relief a family caregiver experienced through Open Circle, who was then inspired to give generously to help all afford these services
- The legacy of an incredible nurse who set the highest standard of service to residents, and the countless nurses who will follow in her footsteps thanks to a donor-funded memorial scholarship

...and so many more.

In reading these beautiful examples of fullness of life, you may find it surprising to hear: senior living communities across the nation, including Cassia, are grappling with serious financial challenges. In 2022, Cassia continued to deliver our mission with excellence despite a critical lack of funding to sustain it.

In just one year, healthcare operating costs skyrocketed by forty percent due to inflation and staffing shortages. Sixty percent of senior communities across the country are in a financial emergency; the remainder are on the verge.

It is in times of tremendous difficulty that people step up the most, and Cassia donors, partners, families, staff and residents did just that. Thanks to you, residents continue to experience fullness of life at Cassia. Words fall short in expressing our immense gratitude to you.

Thank you for sustaining fullness of life in the spirit of Christ’s love for older adults at Cassia.

CEO Robert Dahl and Board Chair Nikki Weber Daniels

Robert Dahl Nikki Weber Daniels



JEFF PLACZEK



Fullness of Life Is Local

Your local community is where the mission of Cassia is experienced each and every day. This is where you make your impact. This is where older adults thrive.

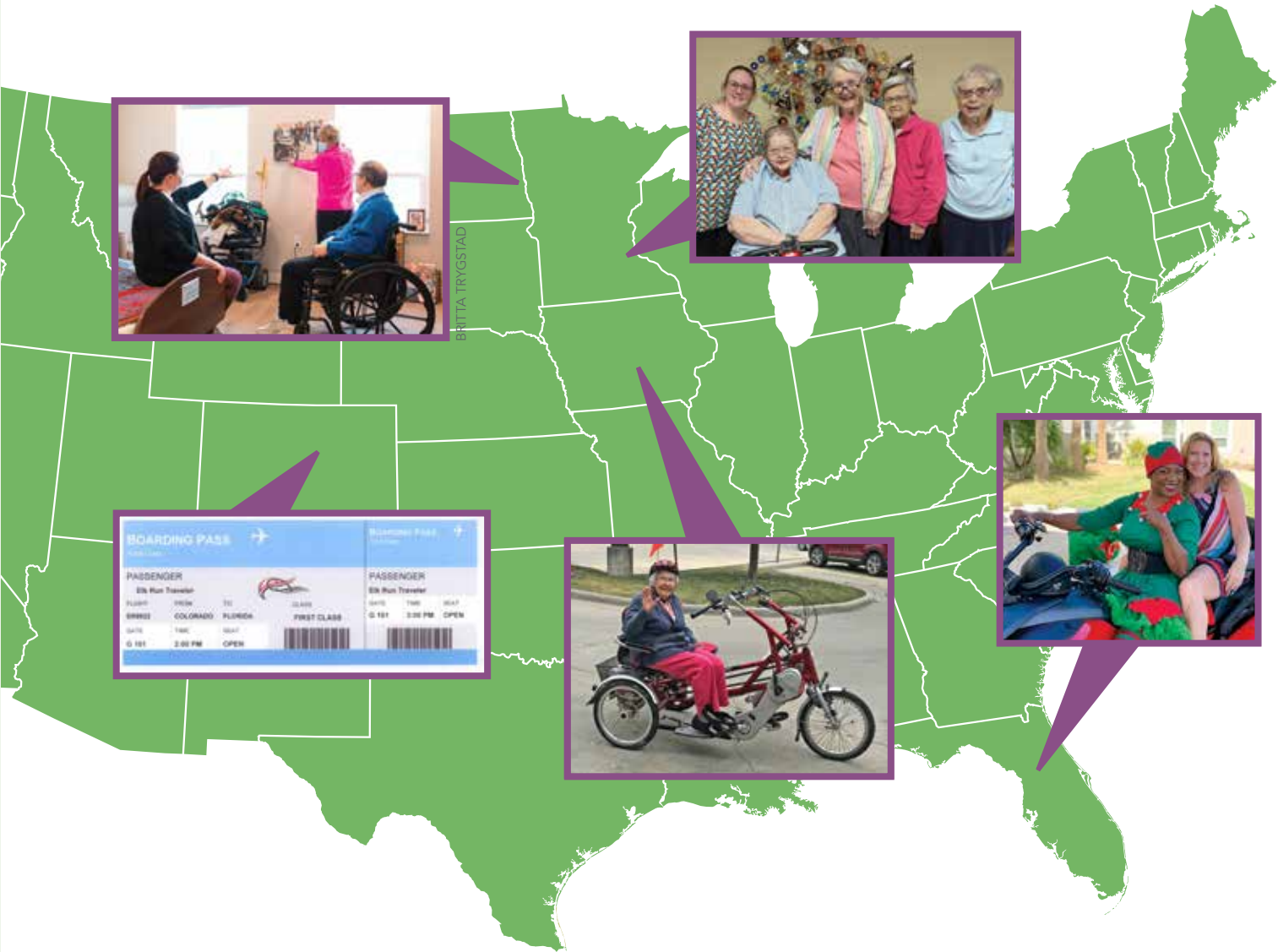
In a year’s time, there are more stories of fullness of life at each local community than we can even count. Several are included in this gratitude report, but we don’t have enough space to fit them all in print.

More local stories can be found via the link and QR code included below. We hope you enjoy these glimpses of fullness of life in your local community, whether in print or digital form. Thank you for making these stories possible.



Find many more stories in your neighborhood!

Scan the QR code with your phone’s photo app or go to cassialife.org/local-stories

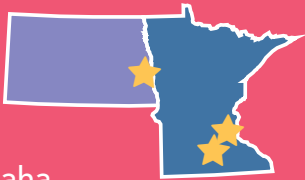


Celebrating a Long-Awaited Return Home



JC and Karen Cunningham

This past year, Cassia saw the opening of Fargo Elim in Fargo, ND and Harmony Gardens in Maplewood, MN. In addition, Praha Village, located in New Prague, MN, joined the Cassia family.



... to Fargo Elim

On January 23, 2020 John “JC” Cunningham watched the Fargo Elim care center, his beloved home of thirteen years, burn. As he watched firefighters battle the blaze, he wondered: “Will I ever get to go home again?”

We are thrilled to share the final chapter of this story with you. Despite rebuilding during the uncertainties and complexities of the pandemic, the brand new, state-of-the-art building was completed in fall of 2022. Almost exactly three years after the fire, JC got to return home.

While he waited, JC lived at a nearby care center. He and his wife Karen were thankful for this place, and appreciated the care he received there. But it just wasn’t *home*.

Home is the place where JC re-learned how to walk and speak, after he was partially paralyzed by a stroke in 2008. Home is the familiar faces and teasing of the staff who know him and Karen so well after so many years. Home is the smaller community, where neighbors grow to be family.

BRITTA TRYGSTAD



JC and Nurse Manager Michelle Sivertson

Before the fire, these things made Fargo Elim home for JC and Karen. The incredible care and tight-knit community easily overcame the shortcomings of the outdated, 1960s building.

But now, thanks to the generosity of many, the beautiful new building is *also* worthy of the title of “home.”

Neighborhood Model Reflects Culture of Home

When JC and Karen opened the doors to the new Fargo Elim, they found a homey “neighborhood” layout, complete with activity rooms, gathering spaces, light-filled dining areas and courtyards that, come spring, will be bursting with greenery and flowers. JC is also very excited about his new room, which is much improved from the previous one. “*Such an upgrade,*” he says with a grin.

The fire was an immense tragedy that disrupted many lives. But we know: God is always working for good, even in difficulty. We know God trades beauty for ashes. The beautiful, rebuilt Fargo Elim, bustling once again with residents and staff, is a testament to this. The building finally reflects the culture of home that staff worked hard to create for so many years.

A Heartfelt Thank You

The rebuilding of Fargo Elim was made possible in part thanks to people like you. Because of the incredible generosity of those who gave over \$650,000 to the “Returning Home” campaign, we can say: “Welcome home!”

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life by giving generously to help make beautiful new buildings like Fargo Elim possible.

Behind the Door at Open Circle

MaryBeth Blair didn't expect to fall in love with Open Circle in Hopkins, MN when she first encountered it. "The unassuming awning in the middle of the block gives you no idea of the great things happening behind that door," she admits. Yet, she adds, "I knew the moment we walked in this was the right fit for us!"

MaryBeth's late husband, former Vikings All Pro Linebacker Matt Blair, was diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment in 2015. Eventually, meeting Matt's needs and taking care of herself became too much and MaryBeth realized she needed support. They began to look for an adult day program. They toured many, but MaryBeth was beginning to worry if they'd ever find the right fit. That's when they discovered Open Circle.

Structure, Joy and Relief

Open Circle programs brought structure and joy to Matt's days and relief for MaryBeth. "I loved Open Circle. More importantly, Matt loved Open Circle." MaryBeth chuckled as she recalled, "On weekends and holidays when they were closed, he wouldn't take my word for it—more than once, we had to drive by so he could see for himself."

Cassia's adult day services may be found in several locations, and many of our members benefit from the generosity of people like MaryBeth!

- ★ Buffalo Adult Day Center – Buffalo, MN
- ★ Elim Oasis Adult Day Center – Princeton, MN
- ★ Open Circle Day Center in Apple Valley, Hopkins and Minneapolis, MN



Matt Blair
horsing
around at a
special Open
Circle activity

Open Circle allowed Matt to stay at home with MaryBeth, while offering her much-needed time for herself. "Sadly, not everyone can make that happen," she says. When MaryBeth learned that some are not able to afford to attend Open Circle, she was compelled to help. She donates monthly to Open Circle's Bridge Program, which helps bridge the financial gap for families with limited resources.

The Impact You Make

MaryBeth Blair believes strongly in philanthropy, donating to numerous charities. "Matt and I had a mutual love for helping others... it's a priority and an honor," MaryBeth says. "Not everyone can give financially, but if we each could give ten, twenty or thirty dollars, it would accumulate to a large enough amount to impact many."

In fact, Open Circle sees the impact of donations daily. We are grateful to donors like MaryBeth Blair—and *you*—for helping families attend adult day centers, regardless of their incomes.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life for older adults who have outlived their financial resources. Because of you, older adults are able to attend their adult day program or afford other services.



MaryBeth and
Matt Blair



Preston Brown,
Caregiver of the Year.

Awards Fueled by Passion and Dedication

When Cassia wins awards, what touches us most is the passion *behind* them—when employees feel called to go out of their way for residents and families.

2022 Award Highlight:
Nurse Preston Brown

Caregiver of the Year Award, Leading Age Iowa
Newton Village | Newton, Iowa

Whether providing excellent medical care or recognizing the interests of residents, Preston Brown’s singular focus on fostering fullness of life earned him the Caregiver of the Year Award from LeadingAge Iowa.

Preventing Hospital Readmissions

A woman battling a chronic condition without success at home or at various care communities made the move to Newton Village. After assessments and diligent care by Nurse Preston Brown, the resident’s condition improved dramatically.

Staff leadership say they believe it was Preston’s great care that prevented hospital readmissions and infection.

Deer Delights

Staff members describe Preston as “the first nurse to jump to answer a call light, help a resident out of the dining room or be the second man when someone needs assistance. This man never sits; he is always on the go, serving with integrity.” In fact, after learning of a resident’s love for wild-life, Preston bought corn to entice deer to visit the area outside the resident’s window.

Recognition for Excellence

Among other awards in 2022, Newton Village received the Governor’s Award. The award from the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals recognizes health care communities demonstrating the highest quality of care and commitment to residents.



Scan the QR code with your phone’s photo app to see six additional Cassia 2022 awards recipients.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life by shaping and sustaining our communities through your generosity.



Five of Cassia’s skilled nursing communities have been recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a Best Nursing Home with a High Performing designation for short-term rehabilitation. These awards and accomplishments showcase the incredible people that serve on our Cassia teams and the volunteers and donors who support them. Together, we strive for excellence in order to foster fullness of life for our residents and their families.

2022
Board of
Directors

Nikki Weber Daniels,
Chair

Charles Parks,
Vice Chair

Timothy Kuck,
Secretary

Jon Addington

Michael Aderinkomi

Paul Anderson

Kevin Bergman

Rick Ellingson

Larry Kula

Stann Leff

Cindy Morris

Pat Nuss

Jerry Nye

Scott Ramsdale

Guy Tangedahl

Micheline Verlautz

Lores Vlaininck

Gary Wilkerson

2022

More than
16,500
people received
community-based services
(in addition to residents,
patients and clients)

Services included:

- outpatient therapy
- adult day programs
- child care
- hospice and home health care
- technology training and
- caregiver support



JESSICA SCHELTZCHE

by the Numbers

More than
3,700 residents
lived in Cassia housing
or locations where we
provided services.

More than
4,350 people
were served at Cassia
health care centers.

528 students
participated in learning
programs, internships
or projects.

More than
5,000 employees
provided their time and
talents to Cassia.



In 2022
Cassia Served
more than
24,560
People



BRITTA TRYGSTAD

Built on a Foundation of Faith: A Place That Feels Like Home



Alice and Bruce Anderson have been married for sixty-two years. In marriages like theirs, a wife recognizes the worry line between her husband's eyebrows that appears when he's concerned. A husband has only to see his wife's subtle expressions to know how much she adores him. That's how it is for the Andersons.

The marriage was marked by all the joys and sorrows that come with serving in ministry together. Bruce was a pastor for fifty-two years and Alice supported him every step of the way. Their life was rooted in their faith and their love for each other grew through it all.

At Home and Together Again

When Alice needed more care than Bruce could provide, she moved to New Harmony in St. Paul, MN. She and Bruce were grateful for the excellent care she received there, but...it didn't feel much like home. The 1960s building was outdated and gloomy, and they missed each other desperately.

Then, Harmony Gardens opened in Maplewood. The brand new, beautiful continuum of care replaced the old New Harmony building and provided much-needed improvements for residents. Alice relocated to the care center, and Bruce moved into independent living! They spend their days side-by-side again, enjoying meals and playing dominoes—and attending worship together...just like they've done throughout their lives.

Rooted in Faith

At Cassia, a chapel tends to be the heart of a community. There, residents gather for worship and connection. We want to create spaces for worship in all our communities, as we believe a community cannot be home without access to worship.

The Harmony Gardens chapel was made possible entirely by generous donors! Maplewood's First Evangelical Free Church took the lead in giving generously, and many members served on the capital campaign. The new Rev. William J. Hamel Chapel is named in honor of the long-time board member and former EFCA president who helped shape Cassia's vision for senior ministry.

Cassia is grateful to all of the partner churches and donors who raised \$400,000 for the new chapel. "Their vision is rooted in faith," Church Deacon and Lay Leader Jon Addington says.

Alice agrees wholeheartedly. When asked how she feels about Harmony Gardens, her eyes grow warm. Of course, Bruce doesn't ask. He knows exactly how she feels.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life for residents and families by supporting chapels and spiritual life.

Alice and Bruce Anderson
in the new chapel at
Harmony Gardens

JESSICA SCHELTZCHE



Did you know that religious spaces like chapels cannot be financed with tax-exempt bonds? They are funded entirely through the generosity of people like you! Donors have recently made chapels or chapel renovations possible at Valley View Village in Des Moines, IA, Haven Homes in Maple Plain, MN, Fargo Elim in Fargo, ND, and Baptist Health & Rehab in Bismarck, ND.



International nurses enjoy winter and summer fun at Moose Lake

International Nurses: Something to Write Home About

One of the most innovative ways Cassia has found to address the nationwide nursing shortage is to hire international nurses from overseas. Today, we are sharing a letter from a nurse at Moose Lake Village to a friend back home.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life by supporting programs that allow Cassia to recruit excellent nurses when we are facing nursing shortages nationwide.



Dear Marisol,

Thank you for your last letter! I am glad you asked me what it's like to work as an international nurse, as I know you're thinking about becoming one yourself. I can certainly say my life has improved since I moved to Moose Lake, MN, and began working here.

Let me tell you about a typical day. With my husband Rupert and I working, we need a set schedule to get things done. Rupert works days, while I prepare our oldest son Luis for school. Our youngest son Julian wakes up with us and we enjoy the day together. The kids love playing in the snow!

Rupert gets home a little early so we can talk about the boys before I leave for work in the evening. It's good our apartment is only a mile away from Moose Lake Village.

We see residents each day and they share their life stories with us. They are like grandparents, because just as we look after them, they also look after us. They ask how our day is going, if the boys are enjoying the winter. Taking care of them brings real fulfillment.

My workmates on every PM shift are lovely. We always look out for each other, especially on busy days. Everyone is willing to help, which makes you feel you are not alone.

My family also enjoys time with other international nurses here. We have lunch together and celebrate birthdays and holidays.

If you are thinking about coming to the States, I say go for it! I think coming to the USA can open up opportunity for your nursing career and give you better choices for your kids' future.

I hope this helped, Marisol! If you ever want to visit, let me know!

♥♥ Jo-Ann

International nurses from the Philippines have been arriving since 2019 to work at Cassia communities in Minnesota, Colorado, Iowa and North Dakota. These nurses are invaluable additions to our teams, bringing two or more years of registered nursing experience in diverse medical settings. They speak two or more languages, which can help us meet the language needs of some of our residents.

The Privilege of Serving: A Nurse's Legacy

Teresa Andre wasn't focused on getting awards. She thought it was a privilege to serve residents at Baptist Health & Rehab in Bismarck, ND, where she worked for nineteen years. Yet, she received multiple awards from the North Dakota Long-Term Care Association, the Bismarck Tribune and a variety of reader polls and other community programs:

- ◆ North Dakota Long Term Caregiver of the Year
- ◆ Best of The Best #1 Nurse
- ◆ Best of the Best Favorite Nurse



Teresa Andre at work



Training Makes a Crucial Difference

Teresa passed away from cancer in 2022, but her extraordinary legacy lives on. Not only will Teresa be remembered as a remarkable nurse, but she was also a generous donor who inspired a nursing scholarship in her name.

“Teresa was one of the best nurses I ever worked with,” says Administrator Deanna Berg. “She was so on top of residents’ needs and medications and her advocacy has saved lives.”

Deanna recalls how Teresa persuaded a resident to restart an antibiotic he felt initially hadn’t worked for him. After taking the antibiotic again, the resident improved and recovered fully. It is that kind of skilled attention and knowledge—*being able to observe patients over time and understand what they need*—that shows the importance of training scholarships.

In addition to the new **Teresa Andre Nursing Scholarship of Excellence**, Fargo Elim offers the **Phyllis Ohrt Memorial Scholarship** and Park View offers the **Marv Schaar Memorial Scholarship**. Nearly every other Cassia community also offers a **donor-funded scholarship** to nurses and certified nursing assistants, though they may not be named in memory of someone.

Ripples of Kindness

Teresa was known for her sense of humor, kindness and her collection of angel figurines—as well as giving as much personal time off as she possibly could to coworkers who fell ill. When she herself became ill, she would accept no donations herself. She was pleased, however, to learn that nurses would benefit from the Teresa Andre Nursing Scholarship of Excellence.

“Walking through the halls, we look for her,” says Director of Marketing and Development Shelle Aberle. “She touched a lot of people, sending out ripples of kindness to create oceans of greatness. That’s who she really was.”

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life through scholarships. These scholarships allow employees to continue to learn and thrive, growing in their ability to serve residents with excellence.

Teresa Andre at home



Cassia's Legacy Society

The Cassia Legacy Society recognizes those who have generously chosen to support Cassia, Augustana Care, or Elim Care through their wills, estate plans or charitable life income arrangements, as well as Service Legacy Awards and outright gifts of \$10,000 to Elim Care.

A

Dorothy M. Abbey †
Donna Anderson
Ethel Anderson †
Gladys M. Anderson †
Irene L. Anderson †
J. Vincent Anderson †
Paul Anderson
Signe T. Anderson †
Anonymous
Lennie and Lois Arnevik †
Judy A. Askelson
Sophie W. Aspelin †
Edsel and Katherine Aswegan †

B

Bea Baker
Pearl Baker †
Chaplain Clyde and
Elizabeth Beissel
Clara I. Berg †
Ruth Berg †
Lorraine Berger †
Gerald Berglin
Lawrence and Audrey
Berglund †
Irene Bergquist †
Lois G. Bernhardson †
Julius Beuch †
Dick † and Sharon Bjerkaas
Jessie D. Bonn †
Margaret Borgman †

Maxine Brandt †
Adele Brown †
Lester and Mary Burg †
Wayne Burslie †

C

Therese Cain
Laverne Carley †
Aileen V. Carlson †
Clarence C. Carlson †
Clarence E. and Irene M.
Carlson Charitable Trust in
Memory of Leonard H. Berg †
Donald and Norma † Carlson
Irene V. Carlson †
Phyllis A. Carlson †
John Cevette
Rollin B. Child †
Donald † and Virginia
Christensen
Lorne and Kathy Christensen
Dorothy Christianson †
Rev. Dr. Theodore and
Alice Conrad †
Geraldine Coulson †
Ted and Rose Mary Coulson †
Chuck and Anna Mae Cullen
Lillian Cutler †

D

Ellsworth and Edna Dade †
Bernice Dahl †

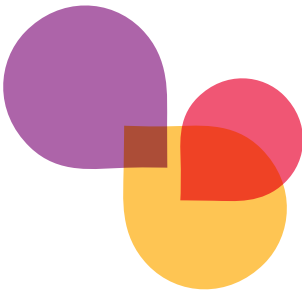
Bob and Diane Dahl
Luverne Dahlquist †
Sr. Irene Danielson †
Linnea Danielson †
Brian Daury †
Lucille Decker
Harold and Mildred DeSmidt †
Gregory and Sandy
Dickerman †
Karen Diehl
Ann Dirks
Ruth G. Doffing †
Cora Domholdt †
Selma Domstrand †

E

Florence Eckberg †
Luverne Eckstrom †
Fern Edstrom †
Art and Barbara Ellingsen †
Rex and Marjorie Emerson †
Alice H. Erickson †
Brad † and Peggy Erickson
Cecilia Erickson †
Doris Eloise Erickson †
Ethel A. Erickson †
Sr. Ethel Erickson †
Lucille G. Erickson †
Ruth C. Erickson †
Wendell Erickson †

F

Gust and Alice Fallden †
Naomi Fausch †
Charlotte E. Fernstom †
Charles and Gail Fiedler †
Donald and Erma Fillmore †
Elsie E. Fisher †
Mabelle Forsberg †
Eunice Fredrick
Julianne and Michael Fries
Steve and Jill Fritzke



G

Ruth M. Gabrielsen †
Signe Gabrielson †
LuJene M. Gedicke †
Bridget E. Gibson
James R. Gifford †
Werner and Frances Gillquist †
Rev. Ken † and Jeanne Gooden
Rev. Highland Goodman, III
Richard J. Grabow †
Dorothy Granquist †
Kay A. Gudmestad

Alpha M. Gustafson †
Bernice M. Gustafson †

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Nora H. Hagglund †
Margery Harris †
Mildred O. Hartji †
Edith G. Hauser †
Russell C. Hedlund †
Donna Hill
Helen E. Hokanson †
Evelyn Hollander †
Russell Holm †
Anna P. Huber †
George Hull †
Martha Humsik †

I

Linnea T. Ingman †
Esther L. Isaacson †
Eric and Cindy Iverson

J

Edna Jacobson †
Richard Jenkins †
Doris L. Johnson †
Dorothy E. Johnson †
Edythe Johnson †
Hilda Violet Johnson †
Ingrid E. Johnson
Janice E. Johnson †
Jean E. Johnson

Levina C. Johnson †
Pauline Johnson †
Ruth and Willis Johnson †
Sherman W. Johnson †
Sigrid Johnson †
Vern † and Phyllis Johnson
Rev. Vernon W. and G. Jean
Johnson †
Barbara Johnson-Nye
Vida and Richard Johnston †
Donna Jones
Norma Jorgensen †
Thelma M. Joy

K

Joanne and John † Kendall
William D. Kenyon †
Rev. David and Myrna Kiel
Leone R. Kinseth †
Craig and Lori Kittelson
Edythe H. C. Kjellin †
Paul and Marion Klett †
Violet J. Kloth †
Ruth Kockum †
John and Patricia Kojis Family †
LeRoy Kreitlow †

L

Vivian Ladwig †
Dorothy H. Lande †
Lorraine P. Larm †
Frances Larson †

continued

Grace H. Larson †
Karen M. Larson †
Mabel Larson †
Adeline C. Leraas †
Linda Letich †
Bowana V. Lietzow †
Lillian Lindahl †
Virginia E. Lindberg †
Arnold H. Lindfors †
Russell C. Lindgren †
Virginia Lindholm †
Fern Lindteigen
Ruth A. Long †
Judy A. Lunde †
Todd Lundeen

M

Victoria F. Mahoney
Maysil Malard-Lodoen
Rev. Gil † and Mary Ann Maple
Susan M. Marconeri †
Alice Marks †
Hazel Marsh †
Donald and Janet † Marxen
Irene Massman †
Arlene Mattson †
David and Harriett Mattson †
Mabel O. Mattson †
Marjorie McKean †
Doris McPherson †
Mildred Mead †
Hildur A. Meissner †
Robert W. Mellstrom †
Tim and Laurie Middendorf

David and Eileen Miller
Warren Moen †
Chris and Alice Mol †
Mark and Judith Monasky
Anita D. Moody †
Ruth Morris †
Ernest M. and Janette S. Muller
Anna Mumey †
Dorothy J. Murray †

N

Newell and Sandra Nelsen
Alida Nelson †
Anna V. Nelson †
Chrystal L. Nelson †
Dora S. Nelson †
Edith M. Nelson †
Ellen C. Nelson †
Elvina S. Nelson †
Joyce A. Nelson
Laurence and Allegra Nelson †
Mildred A. Nelson †
Ward Nelson †
Kenneth and Margaret “Peg”
Newell †
Edwin and Edith Norberg †
Mae Nord †
Violet L. Nordstrom †
Hildur Noren †
John A. Norgren †
Ardis M. Norlander †
Pat and Linda Nuss
Melvin and Ardis Nyberg †
Walter T. Nyberg †

O

Annette M. Oberg †
Edythe A. Oberg †
Laurence W. Odean †
Dale and Marilyn Ogle
Clarice Ohman †
Ethel M. Ohman †
Dr. Al Ohrt
Harriet B. Oleyar †
Mayme Olschlager †
Alvin A. Olson †
Catherine M. Olson †
Charlie O. Olson †
Clara Jeanette Olson †
Dale and Ione Olson
Lorraine Olson †
Frances Osborne †
Teola Otey †
Esther S. Oyaas †



P

Eleanor Paulson †
Lolita N. Paulson †
Rosalie Payne †
Norma Pennington
Martha M. Peterson †
Mildred Peterson †

Odrun E. Peterson †
Ralph J. Peterson †
Roland and Geraldine
Peterson
Sadie H. Ponwith †

Q

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Vivian Quist †
Walter Quist †

R

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Dr. Keith and Mary Pat Rapp
Orrin A. Redman †
Leo † and Marguerite Renaud
Audrey N. Rhodes †
Otis Robarge †
Annette Rodriguez
Oscar Roise †
Mary A. Roy
Leslie Rudell †
Helen M. Rush †

S

Rev. Tom Sahlstrom
Virgil B. Sandquist †
Ron Sanford
Ilene Saunders †
Ruth Scheuneman
Jake and Elsie Schlafmann †
Myrtle Schroeder †
Clara Seck †
Lorraine Seibel †
John and Margaret † Severson

Svante H. Severson †
James and Mary † Shirley
Rev. Dr. William J. Siegel †
Lois A. Simons †
Ruth Sjolin †
Effie Skoglund †
Blanche Smith †
Dorothy Smith †
Joyce Smith
Roger Smith †
Margaret Sorensen
William and Marcia Soules
Danny L. Spearman †
Clarice A. Staff †
Phyllis A. Stanley †
Raymond and Phyllis Stanley †
Olga M. Stone †
Chesley and Lory Strom
Janice E. Sullivan
John and Cheryl Sundman
Eleanor A. Sundstrom †
Evelyn M. Swanson †
Rev. Milton and Margaret
Swanson †
Myrtle W. Swanson †
Robert O. Swanson †
Victor Swanson †
Margaret E. Swenson †
Tekla Swenson †
Vernon S. Swenson †

T

Bernice W. Taylor †
Marlys Tellinghuisen

Mildred C. Templin †
Earl Tesch †
Genevieve C. Theurer †
Lyle and Evelyn Thomas †
Lillian Thompson †
Anna Thoreson †
Mary Jo and Jeffrey Thorne
Tim and Chicki Tucker

U

Inez Upham †

V

Ed and Margaret Victorsen †

W

Lawrence and Ethel Wagstrom †
Dr. Lois Wagstrom and Lou
Feagles
Ancil Walden †
William and Sandra Ward
Margaret Weber †
Mildred Weeklund †
Myrle Wehlau †
Betty J. Wellnitz
Claudia O. West †
Hazel Westlund †
Florence Q. Westman †
Christine Wierson †
Valorais L. Wiessner †
Adolph Wiken †
Warren and Gladys
Williamson †
Amy Woyke †

Thank you for fostering fullness of life!



HOLLY STREBEL



Castle Peak Executive Director Shelly Cornish with Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Shop Executive Director Greg Osteen



Thrifting for a Cause: Faith Leaders Support Castle Peak Residents

Since she and her husband began vacationing in Eagle County, CO, sixteen years ago, Castle Peak Executive Director Shelly Cornish wanted to move there. When the position opened at Castle Peak, Shelly applied and was overjoyed to be selected.

“It’s the most beautiful place you could imagine—and also the kind of place where neighbors care for and about each other,” she says. That neighborliness extends to businesses throughout the county—including Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Shops. The stores are part of a Christian help organization working to share the love of God by meeting people’s needs.

Bridging the Gap

Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Shops provide annual grant funding to support projects in Eagle County and elsewhere in the state. In 2022, Castle Peak received \$10,000 from Vail Valley Cares to support the Bridge Program, which helps older adults with lower incomes to be able to move to Castle Peak.

“We are a small community,” says Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Shops Executive Director Greg Osteen. “Everyone sees the need for a care community where people can go as they get older. We want people to be able to stay in the valley, near family and friends.”

Grants like the one received from Vail Valley Cares allow Castle Peak to provide necessary care to people who may otherwise be unable to access it. Providing high-quality care to seniors continues to be costly for a variety of reasons, but organizations like Vail Valley Cares and Castle Peak remain true to the cause despite the challenges.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Castle Peak’s neighbors support a continuum of care that offers assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing and rehabilitation. “Castle Peak is the only community between Grand Junction and Denver that provides this kind of care,” adds Greg Osteen.

Whether you donate or buy items at Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Stores, your contributions fuel Castle Peak’s ability to help older adults in Eagle County. Thank you for making it possible to enhance the quality of life for Eagle County residents.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life by giving to help older adults who struggle financially. Because of you, all older adults regardless of their financial situation can continue to thrive at their Cassia communities.

The Bridge Program helps residents who are struggling to make ends meet. Cassia envisions communities where all residents receive the care and services they need to thrive, regardless of economic circumstances. Bridge Programs are utilized throughout all of our locations.

Making Every Moment Count: Dolly's Story

by Bob Dahl

As CEO, my work often keeps me tied up at a desk more than I'd prefer. This makes opportunities to connect with residents very special to me. Last October, I got to visit Dolores "Dolly" Tweed. If you receive our fundraising letters, you might remember her—she's hard to forget!

Dolly embodied fullness of life. Before moving to Haven Homes, Dolly and her husband Jerry loved to travel together. They went on monthly adventures with a camping club called the Rum River Ramblers. She also loved family snowmobiling trips, bowling, volunteering and spending time in her beautiful gardens.

When Jerry passed away and she began to need more assistance, Dolly moved to Haven Homes. There, she continued to make the most of every moment: she never missed Bingo. She honed her corn-hole skills. She was at every hymn sing and Bible study—she participated with enthusiasm and told Chaplain Greg to elbow her if she talked too much. He appreciated how she got the discussion going.

Dolly had a way with people. That day in October, she and I were taking pictures for the fundraising letters. I think we were both nervous about having our photo taken. But within minutes, she had me laughing and we were both at ease.

Until The Very End

Early in December, I heard Dolly had passed away. I was surprised and heartbroken—it felt like just yesterday we were laughing together.

With the loss of a resident, there is always grief. But I'm comforted to remember: Dolly is now experiencing fullness of life beyond anything you or I could imagine. She's in Heaven, and I bet she's making Jesus laugh. The aches and pains of aging are gone and her vision is restored—although I sincerely hope she'll still be wearing her orange glasses when I someday get to see her again.

Until the very end, Dolly experienced fullness of life. Her experience was made possible in part by people like you.

Fullness of Life Sustained

Dolly was excited to help with our fundraising efforts by sharing her story. I know she would have been thrilled to hear about the incredible response her story inspired.

Across 27 Cassia communities, 456 donors gave a total of \$117,000.

To each of you who gave, *thank you*. During an unprecedented financial crisis for eldercare communities across the nation, you stepped up and helped sustain fullness of life for your Cassia community. Thank you for your heart for Cassia residents.

Thank YOU for fostering fullness of life in the spirit of Christ's love!



Bob Dahl enjoys coffee with Dolly Tweed



Located in five states, Cassia provides independent and assisted living, memory care, skilled nursing care, short-term rehab, adult day programs and a variety of community-based services. Dolly is just one beautiful example of fullness of life. Across all of our communities, we serve thousands of older adults. We are committed to fostering fullness of life for each unique person. Because of the generous partnership of people like you, we can.

Where Your Donations Go




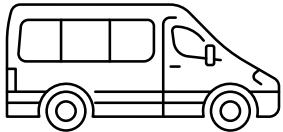

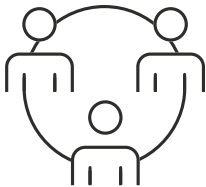


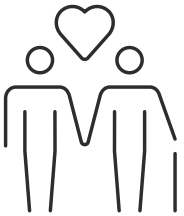



Donors, sponsors and grantors contributed \$2,058,456.59 to Cassia in 2022. Through your designated gifts, here are some of the ways your gifts helped foster fullness of life for older adults in the spirit of Christ's love throughout our communities.



For more information on ways you can make a difference in Cassia communities, visit **CassiaLife.org/Giving** or scan the QR code with your phone's photo app.

A PDF of this report is available at **CassiaLife.org/Gratitude-Report**.

Financial information is available on request by writing to **Philanthropy@CassiaLife.org**.

 <div>Bridge Program</div> <div>\$12,445</div> <div>to aid residents in need of financial assistance through the Bridge Program</div>	 <div>Building Enhancements</div> <div>\$18,780</div> <div>to enhance existing community buildings, improving the overall environment</div>	 <div>CARE Program</div> <div>\$27,394</div> <div>to assist staff experiencing financial emergencies due to unexpected difficulties</div>	 <div>Equipment Needs</div> <div>\$93,081</div> <div>to provide equipment to enhance care and fulfill Cassia's mission</div>	 <div>Greatest Need</div> <div>\$771,881</div> <div>to sustain the Cassia mission by supporting the area of greatest need</div>	 <div>Mission Expansion</div> <div>\$251,451</div> <div>to create new communities where older adults can experience the Cassia mission</div>
 <div>Outdoor Enhancements</div> <div>\$29,587</div> <div>to develop outdoor leisure spaces such as patios, gardens and walking paths</div>	 <div>Spiritual Life and Chapel</div> <div>\$375,111</div> <div>to provide spiritual life programming and worship spaces</div>	 <div>Staff Appreciation</div> <div>\$56,324</div> <div>to share appreciation with staff, lifting spirits and encouraging their work</div>	 <div>Staff Scholarships</div> <div>\$120,824</div> <div>to enhance staff care and mission delivery</div>	 <div>Cassia CONNECT and Workforce</div> <div>\$226,642</div> <div>to recruit, retain and enhance Certified Nursing Assistants and Cassia caregivers</div>	 <div>Therapeutic Recreation</div> <div>\$74,938</div> <div>to enhance therapeutic recreation programming, enriching resident community life</div>



cassia

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Serving all by following One

CassiaLife.org

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GRAPHIC DESIGN - Acorn Design | WRITERS - Megan Tucker and Jenna Zark

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