Jewish Home Assisted Living Achieves “Advanced Standing” Certification

Lauren Levant, Executive Director, Jewish Home Assisted Living

Everyone is asking “What is Advanced Standing” and “What does Advanced Standing do for us?”

Advanced Standing has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Health as a distinction bestowed upon an assisted living facility that successfully complies with all state, federal and local regulations that pertain to licensed assisted living facilities and comprehensive personal care homes in the State of New Jersey. Additionally, these facilities prove their dedication to quality by participating in the National Center for Assisted Living’s Quality Performance Measures Survey and meet the benchmarks for certain prescribed quality indicators as chosen by the Peer Review Panel of the Health Care Association of New Jersey Foundation. To date, out of 248 assisted living facilities in the State of New Jersey, only 72 facilities have achieved this status...and JHAL has officially joined this prestigious group of elite assisted living providers.

Advanced Standing puts us in a small group of assisted living facilities that have met stringent quality standards. It’s recognition of quality and consistency. This is an important distinction to achieve. Receiving Advanced Standing reinforces all the hard work and dedication that the staff has shown since the day JHAL opened its doors. In addition, long-term care insurance companies are now encouraging policy holders to utilize their benefits with facilities that have this prestigious status. We could not be happier that our facility has been recognized with this certification, for both our residents and staff.

One of the many ways the Jewish Home Family is celebrating its 100th birthday is by hosting “Our Next Century Starts Now Centennial Series.” The year-long series of programs and events has focused on providing understanding into the myriad of issues that face our aging community as well as insight into the future trends in the world of aging. The events have been very well attended and received.

Since the beginning of the year, we have held nine events - entertaining and educational. A mini-film series kicked-off the programs and featured topics on longevity, as well as an inside look at families battling the effects of Alzheimer’s disease. The critically acclaimed film on Glen Campbell’s fight with Alzheimer’s, “T’ll Be Me,” was featured in early February.

Informational and educational programs have included nationally recognized experts in the field of aging services and have directed attention to topics such as “Future Trends in the World of Aging,” which took a look at the trends in physical facility development as well as “Aging Service Trend Watch,” an in-depth look at the emerging models of what senior care should and will look like by 2030.

Programs will continue over the course of the remainder of 2015, culminating in December when the Jewish Home Family will partner with Friends of Bar Ilan University and Englewood Hospital and Medical Center in presenting Dr. Eitan Okun, one of the world’s top researchers involved in the development of an Alzheimer’s Vaccine.

Please join us for upcoming programs and for sneak previews of what the Jewish Home Family will look to provide in our next century of exceptional senior care to the community.

Centennial Events Attract Turnout from Community

Melanie S. Cohen, CFRE, Executive Director, Jewish Home Foundation

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Centennial Event Series

OUR NEXT CENTURY STARTS NOW

Thursday, June 4, 2015
“State of the State”
Theresa Edelstein
Vice President, NJ Hospital Association and LeadingAge NJ Regulatory Consultant
6:00 P.M. - Light Dinner
6:30 P.M. - Program
Jewish Home at Rockleigh, Rockleigh, NJ
(Guests must RSVP to Darlene McGovern:
201-784-1414 x5538 or dmcgovern@jewishhomefdtn.org)

Thursday, June 11, 2015
“Live to be 100. We Did.”
Community Senior Health Fair
Over 30 vendors helping to promote healthy living to seniors
Blood Drive, Audiology, Massage, Chair Yoga, Tai Chi,
Blood Pressure, Nutrition, Emergency Preparedness,
Dermatology, Lifeline, Men’s Health, Sleep Disorders,
Integrative Healing/Brust Health, and much more
Door Prizes and Giveaways
12:30 - 4:30 P.M.
Jewish Home at Rockleigh, Rockleigh, NJ
Free and Open to the Community
(please contact Shari Buchwald for more information:
201-784-1414 x5524 or sbuchwald@jewishhomerockleigh.org)

Wednesday, June 17, 2015
Annual Meetings
Jewish Home Family
Jewish Home at Rockleigh, Jewish Home Assisted Living,
Jewish Home at Home, Jewish Home Foundation
6:00 P.M. - BBQ Dinner
6:45 P.M. - Annual Meeting
Jewish Home at Rockleigh, Rockleigh, NJ
(please RSVP to Dana Roberts:
201-784-1414 x5532 or droberts@jewishhomefamily.org)
Free and Open to the Community

All events are open to the public at no charge (unless indicated otherwise).

Please Join Us!

Centennial Connection

DID YOU KNOW?

• Every day almost 10,000 Americans turn 65. We are quickly approaching a time when people 65 and older will outnumber children 15 and under for the first time in history.
• The Center for Housing Policy tabulates that 40% of households 65+ have a median income of $13,825.
• At least 60% of the U.S. population believe they will need to provide care to someone in the near future.
Dear Friends,

During this Centennial year we have had, and will have, many special programs. Some of these are intended to entertain, others to stimulate discussion and conversation and still others to educate and enlighten. One of our areas of focus in the education arena has been growing our knowledge of the changing health care and long-term care environment.

There are many environmental factors that are impacting the Jewish Home Family and will help shape our efforts as we plan for the future. Among them are health care reform and the way it has impacted both care and reimbursement, decreases in State and Federal funding, changes in programs and service delivery including an emphasis on shorter lengths of stay for rehabilitation, shifting demographics with the “silver tsunami” of the baby boomers, and of course, the impact of technology.

We began our series of educational sessions with a visit from two national leaders in the field of aging services. Don Shulman, the President and CEO of the Association for Jewish Aging Services, joined us and discussed the overall health care environment and how things are changing. He also talked about our colleagues in other Jewish organizations across the country and the ways in which organizations are changing and innovating without compromising or losing focus on mission. Following Don was Dan Cinelli. Dan is a principal with Perkins Eastman, a firm that has been responsible for countless senior housing and long-term care projects around the country. Dan is both an architect and a strategic planner and he opened our eyes to some important work that is being done in long-term care, specifically with small houses or “greenhouses.”

Small houses are a reconfiguration of traditional long-term care to create smaller households of 10-14 residents. They’re being done as separate buildings but also developed by retrofitting existing long-term care facilities. Why a small house-hold model? Because living in a place that is not just “home-like,” but truly “home” enhances quality of life for residents in many ways. The small house movement began more than 15 years ago and there is a lot of research on its impact, demonstrating conclusively that older adults in that kind of environment are able to preserve their cognitive and functional skills for much longer at a much higher level. And the cost of running and staffing these small houses is the same, and sometimes lower, than the traditional model. Good food for thought!

Our second presentation was done by Dr. Robyn Stone, who is a member of the executive staff of LeadingAge, a national organization that represents more than 6000 long-term care and senior housing communities nationwide. Robyn shared vital trend information with us, helping us to see not only the growth in the aging population but also the link to income levels as well as number of chronic diseases and percent of disabilities. She also identified some key strategies for us to consider as we move forward including initiatives around data collection and technology and a shift in direction to thinking not about payor sources but about populations and how we can address their health needs. The trend toward “aging in community” will continue to accelerate and Robyn challenged us to think about ways in which we can address those new demands.

What does all this mean? Our world and our work is in transition – the more we know, the better prepared we will be to face those changes and continue to succeed.

All the best,

Melanie S. Cohen, CFRE, Executive Director, Jewish Home Foundation

First Time Resident Mission to Israel
Melanie S. Cohen, CFRE, Executive Director, Jewish Home Foundation

As the Jewish Home Family celebrates its Centennial year, a number of programs and events that recognize our past and focus on our growth for the future are being held. One of the most exciting Centennial events that we have planned is a Mission to Israel for our residents in October.

For many of our residents, a trip to Israel is the dream of a lifetime. It’s a dream that they thought would never be realized. It is an opportunity for learning and growth as well as connecting to history and faith in a very powerful and meaningful way.

Taking residents to Israel is far more than just taking a group of people on a trip. It is a project that will engage our other residents and staff before, during and after. It’s an opportunity to connect with our community as everyone from school children to community members has the ability to follow the trip daily and hear the stories upon our return. More importantly it sends a powerful message that just because someone is older, because they live in a nursing home or an assisted living, life does not stop. Age does not mean we cannot continue to grow, experience, achieve and learn.

Marilyn Wechter, a Jewish Home at Rockleigh resident who will travel as part of the group said “no one can understand the excitement in me. This is my dream of dreams my entire life!” “This is as exciting as having my first grandchild!” added Harold Cohen, another JHR participant.

The itinerary for our Centennial Mission is an exciting one. It’s been thoughtfully planned and the guide is very experienced in working with the older adult population. The Mission will be staffed on a one-to-one basis. Each resident will have a “buddy,” who is a member of our staff and serves as their roommate and helper. Other members of the staff will also play key roles such as one nurse whose sole function will be to manage everyone’s medications – in and of itself a complicated job.

In the excitement at the Jewish Home Assisted Living, staff member Honey Halas R.N. says “This will be my first visit to Israel. I’ve heard so much about this country and being able to see it for the first time with our residents and peers will make this an unforgettable trip! I’ve almost memorized the itinerary by now…” Miriam Goldfarb, a JHAL resident anxious for the trip added, “I want to visit because the country is beautiful… every place I will visit has its own history which is why I love the country of Israel so much.”

Some residents have the resources to pay for their trips. For others who can pay some or none at all, we have asked members of the community to provide funding. Of course we are also raising money to cover the cost of the staff trips, as that is critical to making this Mission a reality. Members of the community who are interested in “Sponsoring a Resident or staff member” will help make many dreams come true. For further information on Sponsoring a Resident, please call 201-750-4231.

The Centennial Mission to Israel gives the Jewish Home Family a chance to demonstrate our commitment to helping our residents experience an optimal quality of life, to truly recognize the abilities our residents have and to prove that age truly is just a number.

Honor Your Loved Ones
Residents, families and members of the community are invited to celebrate birthdays and simchas, or honor/remember loved ones by sponsoring either a Shabbat or Yom Tov Kiddush ($150), or by dedicating a large print Holiday Prayer Book ($36). For further information, contact the Development Office at 201-784-1414 x5538.

Prayer Book sponsored by Harriet Samuels & Lyn Frankel, in memory of Mildred Goldstein
Prayer Book sponsored by Evelyn Falick, in memory of Charles Falick
Prayer Book sponsored by Evelyn Falick, in memory of Nathan and Alice Schulman
Prayer Book sponsored by Evelyn Falick, in memory of Brenda Rose

Centennial Journal and Gala Dinner
Molly Shulman, Development Coordinator, Jewish Home Foundation

On Sunday, October 11th, we will salute the Jewish Home Family for 100 years of service to our community. We will celebrate our past and envision our future. This special evening will be marked with a commemorative Journal, enabling the community to express their well wishes to the Jewish Home Family by placing a business or personal ad.

With your support, proceeds of this Journal will be utilized to help sustain all of the programs and services that the Jewish Home Family provides to the elderly and their families in our community. Information about placing a Journal ad will be mailed in July.

Our Gala Guest Speaker will be Mark Kennedy Shriver. He has enjoyed a distinguished career in fighting for social justice with his involvement in advocacy and service organizations as well as elected office. Son of Eunice Kennedy and Sargent Shriver, Mark has been a spirited eldercare advocate in the fight against Alzheimer’s disease. He currently serves as President of the Save the Children Action Network.

Gala invitations will be mailed in August. Please mark your calendar, and we hope you will join us for a wonderful evening.
“Happy is he who performs a good deed: for he may tip the scales for himself and the world” — Talmud: Kiddushin 40:2
Gallen Adult Day Health Care Center – Alzheimer’s Advocacy

Shelley Steiner, LSW, Social Worker, Gallen Adult Health Care Center

In March, I had the opportunity to attend the Alzheimer’s Advocacy Forum in Washington, DC. Over the last three years I have taken an active role in Alzheimer’s Advocacy, serving as Ambassador to Congressman Bill Pascrell’s office. As the liaison between the Alzheimer’s Association and the Congressman’s office, I regularly update him on the Alzheimer’s Association agenda. At this year’s forum, I met with advocates from all 50 States, whose mission is to keep the politicians aware of the tremendous impact Alzheimer’s Disease has on our country and the future impact it will have, if something is not done. Alzheimer’s Disease remains the most expensive disease to manage without a cure or treatment.

This year’s forum focused on 2 specific requests. One was to support a request for an additional $300 Million in Alzheimer’s research to be included in the Federal budget. The second request is that legislators co-sponsor the HOPE (Health Outcomes, Planning and Education) for Alzheimer’s Act. The HOPE Act will ensure that Medicare beneficiaries newly diagnosed with Alzheimer’s Disease and their families will receive comprehensive care planning services. With comprehensive care planning services, they will be informed at an earlier stage of the available resources, which includes our Jewish Home Family services, in order to better manage the disease.

With the support of our politicians in Washington, we hope to change the trajectory of Alzheimer’s Disease. Please call your local officials and ask them to support these important requests.

For more information, please contact me or check the Alzheimer’s Association website — www.alz.org.

At the Alzheimer’s Advocacy Forum