

THE JOURNAL

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab

A Jewish Senior Life Community

WINTER 2023

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Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, June 1, through Friday, June 2, 2023, is NEPA Gives—a 24-hour online giving extravaganza that's all about giving back to the community. Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab will be participating again this year.

Strengthening Care Coordination Ensures Seamless Transition Between Elan Skilled Nursing And Rehab And Elan Gardens Senior Living

We're with you for every step.



In August 2022, an organizational restructuring more closely aligned Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens Senior Living as providers within the same organization offering a continuum of senior care and services.

One benefit of this restructuring is the impact to residents with care transitions, particularly between skilled nursing and personal care. Moving from one care setting to another creates a period of significant vulnerability for residents, including an increased risk of a negative, adverse event due to the lack of or mistakes in communication between the care settings. A safe and effective transfer between care settings relies heavily on communication- from the discharging provider to the receiving provider- about key aspects of that resident's care, such as medical diagnoses, current medications, treatments, and follow-up plans.

The restructuring provided an opportunity for our teams to look closely at our internal processes, including how we worked together in coordinating care for residents who move from one location to another within our Jewish Senior Life organization. Key elements of our internal focus included our existing channels of communication and care management protocols. Our relationship positioned us to pool our collective resources and establish a model of care coordination that now incorporates our organizational best practices.

At one time, the typical progression through the senior living continuum of care saw residents move from independent living to personal care and then to a skilled nursing facility. Over the past several years, we have seen a huge shift in utilization of both skilled nursing and personal care services. We now care for individuals who enter the continuum at all levels of care. Movement through the continuum is no longer solely based

on declining function; instead, quite frequently it is based on improvement in function. We now see individuals transition from the hospital to skilled nursing and then into personal care.

A skilled nursing facility provides a variety of models of care, all of which are focused on seniors with very different health problems and care needs. One transformation in skilled nursing care has focused specialized care for residents requiring complex care management and therapy services following an inpatient hospital stay.

The average length of stay on the typical post-acute care unit averages 14 to 30 days. There are times when individuals meet their goals for skilled nursing discharge but are not quite ready to transition back home to the community. Perhaps they need more staff support than can be provided at home, their home requires modifications for safety, or they need more therapy in an outpatient setting to improve strength and function to safely navigate their home layout. Personal care can be a cost-effective and a less restrictive care alternative for short-term outpatient therapy needs. Because Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens Senior Living share the same therapy provider and the same therapists, transitioning from Elan Skilled's short-term care unit to Elan Gardens transitional care suites to continue outpatient therapy can be seamless.

"One of our goals with the restructuring was to create a transitional care team that consists of key staff members from both Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens. We have seen first-hand the powerful impact of thoughtful care management to facilitate a seamless transition between our organizations supporting our residents on their journey to recovery. Residents can enter our continuum at any level of care and know that should the need to transition to a different care setting that our transition team will ensure a seamless hand-off," says Mary Rose Applegate.

Brittany Elko, Elan Gardens Senior Living Administrator, is proud of the team effort between Elan Skilled and Elan Gardens in strengthening their care transition services. "Often, this is the first experience a resident and their family has in an inpatient post-acute care setting," she says. "They don't know what to expect and the senior living continuum can be extremely complex to navigate. Our team helps fill those knowledge gaps providing valuable insight into the variety of care and services offered within the Elan family. Providing the right care in the right setting at the right time for every resident our team touches is one more step in preventing a negative adverse outcome and ensuring a safe transition."



Capital Campaign For The Short Term Rehab Unit And Dialysis Den Is Moving Forward



Jewish Senior Life of Eastern Pennsylvania is a premier healthcare provider in the community. Our innovative mission focused programs and services deserves broad support. Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab – formerly known as the Jewish Home - serves people from all faith communities, we make our facilities welcome and encourage the diversity and participation in faith observances celebrated by our residents and staff. The center of our mission is the commitment that we make to serving members of the Jewish Faith. As the only facility in Eastern Pennsylvania providing kosher meals and Jewish observances, residents from our Jewish community feel especially at home.

Our short stay 20 bed rehab unit - the Bridge at Elan is scheduled to be completed in early April 2023. This unit incorporates a 6 chair dialysis den which will be available exclusively to all residents of Elan Skilled. The dialysis den is a state of the art investment serving seniors and demonstrates why mission based not for profit healthcare is so important for our community. Elan Skilled Nursing was only able to make this investment because of the confidence the leadership has that our generous donors and supporters will continue to support us, and strategically is using the launch of this unit to help sustain our mission as we move forward.

A capital campaign was formally launched to assist fund raising to support this capital project at our Elan Skilled community. As we are going to press we have received donations and pledges from Foundations (including the Weinberg Foundation which has been remarkably supportive of the institution over the years) and individuals amounting to over \$2,175,000. There are many expected donations are still outstanding. Pledges may be spread out over several years,

The Board anticipates investments of \$7 Million dollars over the next several years, and we have applied for matching money from the Pennsylvania State’s Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RCAP). This new floor is only the beginning. We have at least \$7 Million in additional investment to make to keep our facilities state of the art and competitive. Many thanks to our committed supporters who make it possible to continue to work and mission of services that we provide to our residents.

There will be more to report detailing the capital fund donations in future editions. Please reach out to Rabbi Samuel Sandhaus, Managing Director of the Foundation for Jewish Elderly or Mary Rose Applegate, Administrator if you would like to learn more about sponsor and naming opportunities for this capital campaign.



Clip And Save Phone List

MAIN NUMBER (570) 344-6177

Name	Department	Ext.	Name	Department	Ext.
Anglin, Jim	Director of Facilities	1128	McCabe, Gina	Director of Nursing	1131
Applegate, Mary Rose	Administrator	1101	Menachem, Ahava	Director of Life Enrichment	1113
Bednar, Missy	Director of Human Services	1151	Nurses Station	3rd Floor	1143
Burman, Sue	Beautician	1115	Nurses Station	4th Floor	1145
Caviston, Carol	ADON	1173	Nurses Station	5th Floor	1147
Chellino, Kathryn	Admissions Nurse	1136	Pepson, Kelly	Clinical Director 3rd Floor, 408-417	1134
Coulthard, Brian	Assistant Administrator	1102	Petrovsky, Joyce	Business Office Manager	1132
Gibblets, Melissa	Therapy Manager	1157	Rielly, Beth	Director of Food Service	1119
Giuliani, Christine	HR Coordinator	1110	Ryan, Jud	Dietary Supervisor	1120
Harris, Nancy	Clinical Director 401-407, 418-425, 5th Fl.	1133	Sandhaus, Samuel K.	Development Director	1170
Klemick, Lynn	Secretary	1109	Tetreault, Kevin	Director of Project Management	1159
MacDonald, Gayle	Business Office	1107	Wyant, Bryon	Social Worker	1160



Nursing Leadership Team Provides Critical Support to Advancing Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab's Competitive Advantage

As Elan Skilled forges its latest path in implementation of its strategic plan, the impact of Elan Skilled's clinical leadership has been felt at all levels of the organization. In just a few short months, The Bridge at Elan will begin caring for its first patients in need of rehabilitation and clinical management for medically complex patients transitioning from the hospital to their community home or from one care setting to another. Care on this specialized unit will focus on assisting in recovery providing the complex rehabilitation and nursing care the patient needs to regain their usual level of independence. This highly specialized care is considerably more complex and intense than the care typically provided for our long-term residents or those who live on the Weinberg Alzheimer's Unit.

The type of care that will be provided on The Bridge at Elan is quite familiar to Elan Skilled's Clinical Operations Executive, Gina McCabe, who brings 30+ years of acute care experience with her to Elan Skilled. While Gina has vast experience caring for patients with complex medical conditions, she also has several years' experience providing leadership to the nursing teams who provide the day-to-day care. "One of the things I am most proud of in my time at Elan Skilled is the professional develop-

ment of our nursing team. We have a cohesive group of very capable nurses and nursing assistants who are empowered to take responsibility for their resident's care needs. We have spent a lot of effort transitioning from being primarily task - focused to educating our team on the rationale and implications behind the tasks - continually building and honing critical thinking skills," reports Gina. "We have really focused on team building, frequent touch points with the staff, and celebrating the successes".

Elan Skilled certainly has a recent track record of successes to celebrate. The Department of Health recently finished Elan's annual inspection in early February noting just two minor findings. The average number of citations issued to nursing facilities annually in Pennsylvania is 8 and nationally averages 8.6. Since 2021, Elan Skilled has performed better than their peers at both the national and state levels with improvements in survey performance noted each year.

Along with the stellar survey performance, Elan Skilled is currently rated a 4-Star in their Overall Rating on CMS' 5 Star Rating System. Health inspection performance is one part of this overall rating along with staff-

ing and quality measures. The quality measures star rating measures the home’s performance in certain areas of resident care intended to reflect the quality of the care provided. Elan Skilled was most recently awarded a 5-Star by CMS in their quality measure performance. “These quality measures reflect the care provided to both our long-term residents as well as our short-stay, transitional care patients. We were awarded a 5-Star score in our care of both populations. I could not be more proud of our team here at Elan Skilled. Our staff in all departments have worked incredibly hard for these achievements - these are monumental successes in our industry that is 100% attributed to our staff and the efforts they give each and every day in the care of our residents”, explains Mary Rose Applegate, Executive Director Administrator.



Elan Skilled’s performance in certain key quality measures provides valuable insight into the quality care that seniors will receive on The Bridge at Elan. Some quality measures are reflective of the quality of care provided to residents with more intense care needs, such as rehabilitation and management of complex medical conditions. Preventing readmissions to the hospital and emergency department visits are two indicators that health systems and insurers really focus on in evaluating a nursing facility’s care. Elan Skilled performs far better than their peers at both the state and national levels in both of these indicators. Only 12.6% of Elan

Skilled short-term residents were re-hospitalized after admission compared to 21 – 22% across the state and nation. Similarly, just 4% of Elan Skilled’s short-term residents were transferred to the emergency department for evaluation or treatment compared to 9.3% and 11.8% at the state and national levels respectively. Gina McCabe credits this to the focus on the Home’s education and training programs that have provided the staff with the resources they need to effectively perform their jobs. She pulls on her vast experience in creating a positive, team-oriented environment where learning opportunities move you one step closer to mastering or honing your skillset.

The utilization of telemedicine services provides another resource that improves patient care and outcomes and is not available in every nursing facility. Providing residents with access to medical care on a 24/7 basis allows individualized care to be delivered timely and more effectively, often mitigating serious complications that can quickly impact vulnerable seniors. This is another benefit available to all residents at Elan Skilled. Gina adds, “Our nursing staff are intimately familiar with the residents in their care and are quick to identify subtle changes in condition that can be effectively addressed by a physician through our telemedicine program. We utilize specialized equipment, such as stethoscopes, cameras, otoscopes, EKG machines, and other assessment and monitoring equipment designed for our telemedicine platform that allows the physician to effectively assess the resident and provide an “in person” experience. Adding the telemedicine physician(s) to our highly competent Elan Skilled nursing team provides our residents with the best quality outcomes.”

The Bridge at Elan is expected to begin caring for residents in April 2023, offering rehabilitation programs, high acuity nursing care and clinical management for medically complex patients, and onsite dialysis services for seniors transitioning from the hospital to home or another care setting. Accommodating up to 20 patients on our newly renovated unit offers a well-appointed environment and amenities to enhance healing. Multi-disciplinary care, that includes physical, occupational and speech therapy rehabilitation, specialized medical services available around the clock, and discharge planning that accommodates patient goals are among the broad range of services provided to effectively bridge the gap between acute care and home. Onsite dialysis, managed in partnership with DaVita Kidney Care, will be provided in the 1200 square foot dialysis den located directly on the unit. Both long-term and short-stay residents can receive dialysis services onsite promoting more effective care coordination and improved quality of life.

A Note From Our Administrator

Please join me in welcoming spring! The past few months at Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab has been filled with new exciting advances and changes from our rebranding change to the new unit that will be opening shortly. Our board support and focused staff team have helped make these successes happen.



I personally want to thank our staff for the achievements in our annual survey this past month as well as all of the efforts to which impact our quality measure on our five star rating. As an industry we still are facing many challenges especially related to staffing. Our board support and focused staff leadership team have worked together in this time to continue to advance our mission and care to our residents. Please enjoy a safe and sun-filled spring and summer!

-Mary Rose Applegate, MBA, RD, NHA.



Bednar Hired As Elan Skilled Nursing And Rehab's Director Of Human Services

Melissa Bednar has joined Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab as its Director of Human Services. In this role, she will work with admissions and marketing as well as the director of social services to maintain appropriate compliance with regulatory agencies.

Prior to joining Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, she worked in healthcare for 20 years, having developed expertise in regulatory compliance and becoming a subject matter expert for social services and quality assurance.

A native of North East, PA, she is an honors graduate from Indiana University of PA with degrees in Family Studies (Child Development and Family Relations) and Human Services.

Melissa said she looks forward to making a difference for Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab.

"I have been honored to have shared the journey with many residents and families and look forward to continuing to serve our aging community," she said.



Your Help Is Needed To Bring Our 2022 Annual Fund Drive To A Successful Finish

Donor support of Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab through our Annual Fund drive is significant to sustaining the high standard of services which we provide to our residents. This year the co-chairs of our annual campaign are Louis Nivert of Scranton and Marshall Kornblatt of Wilkes Barre. As we go to press our campaign has raised over \$102,000 from more than 270 donors.

Louis Nivert and committee members will be holding a telethon in March to help bring our Annual Fund drive to a successful close. Nivert expressed his appreciation to all donors who acknowledge the importance of services provided by Elan Skilled to seniors in our community and anticipation that more responses will be forthcoming as the campaign comes to a close. For those who wish to donate and be a part of the important work of the Home, please go to the Home's web site, www.jhep.org for the donor page. The listing of donors will appear in our next Journal.

Building Community Connections

At Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, we strive to enable our residents to remain a part of our local community. One way that we are able to facilitate that is through interactions with students. Volunteers from Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine engage our residents in conversation and activities. Students from Bais Yaakov High School and Beth Shalom Academy entertain and cheer our residents with their youthful spirit.

Here is what these students have to say:

"The people there are really sweet and they love seeing children and getting pictures from children."

- Nina Vogel, age 9, Beth Shalom Academy

"I like going to see all the people. I don't know why but it makes me happy to visit them and they seem to be happy when I visit too."

- Lani Itzkowitz, age 8, Beth Shalom Academy

"Visiting the residents at the Jewish Home is always a joy, it is so nice to talk to all the people about their experiences and to learn about their lives. The residents always compliment me and are so nice. Visit Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab today!"

- Sara Grossman, age 11, Beth Shalom Academy, great-niece of one of our residents

"I like to see residents be happy when we get here."

- Shira Guzman, age 16, Bais Yaakov High School

"I like to see them smile when we visit."

- Hadassah Lopez, age 15, Bais Yaakov High School



Reflections From Geisinger Commonwealth School Of Medicine Volunteers

"I had so much fun today getting to know some of the residents living in the community. I sat at a table with three ladies and really hit it off with J. She was so sweet and welcoming. She shared stories about her childhood and the passing of her mother at a young age. While this story was sad, she quickly turned it into a life lesson and said that even when you lose a loved one, life still goes on. I'm looking forward to visiting her again and getting to know her better."

- Veronica Bohl

"I spoke with L about where she is from, her career as an OB nurse, her family, and her life in the nursing home. I enjoyed being able to connect with her over a common love of medicine."

- Julie Marchioni

"I thoroughly enjoyed it and developed a new appreciation for how distressing and difficult things can be while dealing with dementia."

- Julia Kooser

"It felt nice just to be there and talk with each of the individuals. It was nice to see them smile as they told stories of their experiences or family. It made me feel like I was able to make at least a portion of their day positive."

- Shelley St Omer Roy

"The conversations I had with each of the residents were each varied and different, but engaging with each of their stories and listening intently provided each buddy with better understanding. I think trying to understand their point of view, rather than finding the differences with my personal reality, helped me provide more compassionate care to the buddies. Additionally, I loved observing how the staff interacted with each resident with care and personal attention. I particularly picked up the narrative affirming responses that people used that provided better comfort to each of the residents."

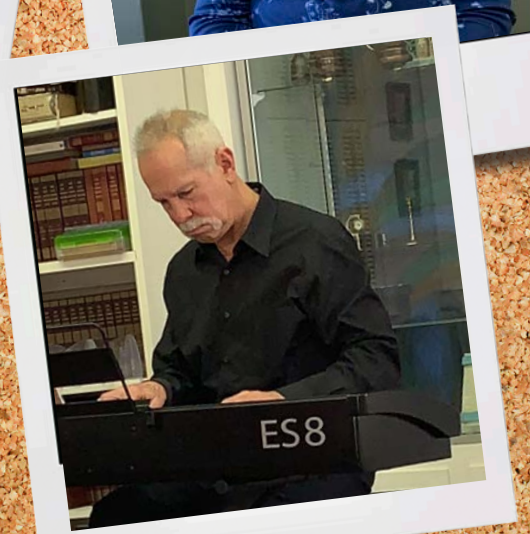
- Tracy Tran

"I really connected well with M during my visit today and had a wonderful conversation with her about skiing and her daughter, who shares a name with me! I felt like I connected well with her and would be happy to visit her each week."

- Jennifer Simmons



Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab Scrapbook



Foundation For Jewish Elderly Assists Elan Skilled Nursing And Rehab To Continue Support Outreach Parkinson's Programs In The Community.

In 2019, prior to the world-changing COVID-19 pandemic, Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, formerly the Jewish Home of Eastern PA, was successful in launching a Parkinson's disease program to serve both our residents and the general community via outreach programs co-sponsored with the Jewish Community Centers in Wilkes Barre and Scranton.

Grants from the Parkinson's Foundation and the Moses Taylor Foundation were obtained by Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab to support the outreach programs to community free of charge. While the pandemic in 2020 did impact these program initially, both JCC's were successful in continuing to offering virtual programming for these programs during pandemic. At this time, both community programs have been able to return to in person classes.

Elan Skilled supports the instructor expense for a once weekly Dance for Par-

kinson's class and equipment which we were able to obtain from a grant from the Moses Taylor Foundation used in their Pedaling for Parkinson's Program and Dance programs. Dance with Parkinson's program has moved to swim exercise class lead by Linn McDonald. The program is held each Thursday from 1 pm to 1:45 pm. Pedaling for Parkinson's will be starting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30am-11:15pm led by Jo Akers. Please contact Mindy Van Fleet from the Scranton JCC at 570-346-6595 if you or someone you know with Parkinson's would like to join these programs in the Scranton area.

The Jewish Community Alliance of the Friedman JCC, Parkinson's Program jointly started prior to COVID, is back in full operation and growing. We have continued this relationship with them by covering the cost of the program instructors for their twice a week Parkinson's exercise on Monday's and Thurs at 11:00 am lead by Debbie Grossman,

and weekly Dance with Parkinson's Program lead by Linn McDonald on Tuesdays at 11:00 am. Please contact Brando Heffelfinger at the Friedman JCC at 570-824-4646 if you or someone you know with Parkinson's would like to join these programs in the Wilkes Barre area.

In 2020, the Spitz Foundation provided funding to support music therapy for Parkinson's through a grant administered by our Foundation for Jewish Elderly to residents at Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab. This program is still ongoing. Our residents continue to enjoy benefits of resident specific music therapy weekly through this grant.

Many thanks to for the support received from the Foundation for Jewish Elderly which allow us to continue and hopefully build upon these programs that serve both our residents and the general community.

Jewish Home Wish List

You can make a difference in the lives of the Jewish Home's residents while honoring or memorializing a friend or loved one. Please contact the Jewish Home's Business Office Secretary Lynn Klemick at

(570)-344-6177 extension 1109 for information. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

LIFE ENRICHMENT DEPARTMENT- Heightens awareness to encourage mental function

- \$6 Scented Lotion
- \$5-\$10 Adult Coloring Books
- \$10-\$20 Craft Supplies
- \$13 Package of Pocket Journals
- \$15 Exercise Balls
- \$18 Conversation Balls
- \$19 Drum Sticks
- \$20-\$30 Tactile Sensory Items
- \$20 Jigsaw Puzzles w/Magnetic Pieces
- \$25 Sensory Gel Maze
- \$27 Crayons
- \$30 Molding Clay
- \$40 Hand Towel
- \$60 Amazon Fire Tablet
- \$120 Towel Warmer
- \$150 Live Entertainment

DIETARY DEPARTMENT-Creating tasty, nutritious meals served in an elegant environment

- \$30 Coffee Carafe
- \$50-\$100 Serving Platters/Bowls for Parties
- \$55 Air Pots for Coffee & Hot Water
- \$75 Ice Tea, Lemonade & Water Pitchers
- \$100 Special Occasion Placemats and Napkins
- \$100-\$250 Table Skirts
- \$500 Serving Carts
- \$4000 Robot Coupe (Commercial Food Processor)

NURSING DEPARTMENT- Compassionate, skilled care in a state- of-the-art facility

- \$150 Oxygen Conserver
- \$200 Tympanic Ear Thermometer
- \$250 Slings for Lifts

- \$250 Pulse Ox Machine
- \$300 Pressure Reduction Mattress
- \$500 Wheelchair
- \$600 Reclining Chair
- \$600 Low Air Loss Mattress
- \$650 Apex Lift
- \$800 Oxygen Concentrator
- \$2,000 Resident Beds
- \$3,600 Sit to Stand Lift
- \$4,200 Viking Lift

REHAB THERAPY DEPARTMENT- Renews our residents' physical well being and self esteem by focusing on restoring their skills.

- \$2,204 Ultra Sound Machine
- \$3,500 Care Form Chair Specialized Positioning
- \$4,000 Omnicycle



The Telehealth Benefit At Elan Skilled

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, telehealth physician visits were strongly encouraged and, in some areas, were the only form of healthcare service available. Telehealth was the saving grace for the healthcare industry throughout the public health emergency. While not everything that was forced upon us during the pandemic will remain as we continue to move along, it seems that telehealth services may remain permanently.

In December 2020, Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab initiated the use of telehealth services for our nursing facility residents. "At Elan Skilled, we were looking not only to better position our campus through the remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as any future public health emergencies but to also employ an innovative way to provide the necessary medical services within the walls of our facility without sending our residents to the hospital unnecessarily," according to Mary Rose Applegate, Nursing Home Administrator.

"Treating our residents here at Elan Skilled provides higher quality outcomes while avoiding unnecessary care transitions, which further increases the risk of negative outcomes for our residents."

Nursing home patients are among our most vulnerable population. Hospital stays for seniors residing in nursing homes often result in poor outcomes. Removing seniors from their home environment and from the caregivers who know them best often results in increased confusion and disorientation along with the increased risk of missed identification of early indications of changes in condition that allow for early treatment of acute health problems.

Additionally, nursing home residents

often have vulnerable immune systems and exposing them to hospital germs for any period of time can increase the risk of infection.

Gina McCabe, Director of Nursing at Elan Skilled, notes that: "Our residents are being admitted with more medically complex needs that require our nurses to perform more frequent assessments and have a higher competency level caring for complicated medical conditions that are often significantly progressed when they come to us.

"When our residents need medical care, it often cannot wait until their physician's next scheduled visit. We need access to physician services, at all hours of the day, night and weekend to respond to our resident's medical problems timely and avoid hospital transfers and declines in condition."

As of February 2023, Elan Skilled has completed over 1,000 telehealth consults since implementation, averaging between 40 and 50 resident consults each month.

Telehealth visits are typically used for abnormal assessment findings, such as vital signs, lung sounds, or heart sounds. New concerns that develop, such as skin abnormalities, swelling, lethargy, pain, and abnormal test results are also common visit reasons. Residents who fall may also warrant a telehealth visit.

Gina McCabe reports: "Staff are strongly encouraged to utilize telehealth for even subtle changes or findings. We know from experience that when problems are identified and treated early before they are allowed to exacerbate, our residents have much better outcomes."

5-Star Quality Measures Rating

Elan Skilled scored a 5-Star on their most recent Quality Measure Star

Rating issued by CMS as part of the 5-Star Rating Program.

The percentage of Elan Skilled's short-stay residents who were re-hospitalized after a nursing home admission is 12.6%, significantly less than the state and national average of 21% and 22% respectively.

The percentage of short-stay residents who have had an outpatient emergency department visit is only 4% compared to 11.8% at the national level and 9.3% across Pennsylvania.

For our long-stay residents with outpatient emergency department visits per 1,000 resident days most recently scored 0.42 compared to the national performance benchmark of 1.02 and state performance of 0.67.

Mary Rose Applegate offers: "These key performance indicators are reflective of the impact of our very competent nursing team coupled with our telehealth physician services.

"Our nursing leadership team has really worked with our nursing staff to teach and train on complex care management strategies and early identification of key changes in condition that has afforded our residents to receive medical treatment in the very early stages of their health problem before it requires a hospital level of treatment. I am so proud of our team and their success in treating 96% of our telehealth resident consultations right here on the Elan Skilled campus last year.

"I am so grateful for our Board of Director's support in agreeing to support this project. Our telehealth medical service is doing exactly what it is intended to do – improve our resident experience and quality of care and improve Elan Skilled's quality measures and performance indicators."

Blossoming Into Our New Brand

In a few short weeks, the seasons will change and we will see, blossom by blossom, the new life of the Spring Season! Spring is often associated with a season of rebirth and rejuvenation and a lovely reminder of how beautiful change can truly be.

As we move into the Spring Season, Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens Senior Living will show signs, blossom by blossom, of their new name, new brand and rebirth as a continuum of care provider.

Our new website – www.elanseniorliving.org – will represent Jewish Senior Life, our board leadership and governance along with our premier senior services providers: Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, Elan Gardens Senior Living, and Webster Towers. The new website represents the connection between people, places and future possibilities that now exists through our full continuum of senior living housing, healthcare, and services. Each location along with their services and amenities are highlighted.

Representing all of our services on the same domain will make it easier for prospective customers, family members, employees, and friends to learn about all that Jewish Senior Life has to offer. Our recent rebranding efforts, reflecting our new logo and color schemes, will allow customers to recognize us without even seeing our name.

Our new collaterals will premier around the same time as our new website. One collateral that includes all Jewish Senior Life's housing, healthcare and services offerings provides consistent messaging to our valued stakeholders, allows prospective customers to learn about the entire organization, and represents our organization as a continuum of care provider.

Updated external signage will appear at both Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens Senior Living just as the flowers begin blooming. Additional signage at Elan Skilled will allow name recognition from both near and far... in daylight and dark.

Our final blossom this spring will be the opening of **The Bridge at Elan** at Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab. The newly renovated 2nd floor will feature 20 private suites catering to seniors in need of rehabilitation following joint replacements or injuries, high-acuity nursing care and clinical management for medically complex conditions, and dialysis services. Our 1200 square foot den can provide dialysis treatments for up to six residents, at one time, with improved quality of care and quality of life outcomes.

The collaterals and website were developed by Varsity, a senior living marketing group who assisted the organization through the rebranding, renaming and restructuring exercise completed in Fall 2022.



Renovation Of The Bridge at Elan Moves Toward April Completion

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab's second-floor renovation project is steadily progressing as the opening of the state-of-the-art short stay rehab unit with a Dialysis Den draws near. The targeted completion date is mid-April 2023.

Elan Skilled is partnering with DaVita Kidney Care to develop the space, which will accommodate residents in need of transitional care to bridge the gap between their hospital stay and a return home.

The dialysis section is just part of the renovation project, which also includes updated flooring, paint, counter tops, doors, lighting, heating system, and furniture.

Painting is 90% complete. New VRF (Variable Refrigerant Flow) heating units have been installed, cabinetry work is being completed and flooring installation is next.

Elan Skilled looks forward to the completion of this project and the ability to expand services to the local and surrounding communities.

Elan Gardens Senior Living

A Jewish Senior Life Community

Elan Gardens Is Part Of Our Community

Elan Gardens Senior Living has made great strides to be an ever-present face in our local community.

This past fall, we participated in local community events such as the “Back to School” event. Our residents wrote their good-luck wishes for a good school year to local students and attached them to free school supplies.

Elan Gardens also participated in the local “Fall Festival” and shared delicious cookies made in our own kitchen! All of our efforts have been focused on getting the word out to the community about the wonderful programs that Elan Gardens Senior Living has to offer.

To learn more about our Personal Care, Memory Care, Respite Care or Step-Down Program, please reach out to Cindy Mauriello at 570-585-4400 . We look forward to meeting with you!



Donations to Elan Gardens 2022 - 2023

General Donations

Shelley Block
Ann Monsky
Harris Cutler
Lewis Sare

Celebrations

Harris and Janice Cutler's 40th Wedding Anniversary
Phyllis E. Feibus

Shirley Nudelman's Birthday
Ruth Gelb

Birth of Edward and Ann Monsky's Granddaughters
Ilise and David Rubinow

Mia Jacob's Career Change
Paula Wasser

Birth of Len and Lainey Denis' Granddaughter
Ilise and David Rubinow

Mildred Weinberg's 100th Birthday
Lois Weinberg and Ann Weinberg Smith
Ruth Gelb
Sharon Levy
Barb and Lou Nivert
Edward and Ann Monsky

Marriage of Ben and Haley
Edward and Ann Monsky

Dr. and Jonothan Sullum's 30th Anniversary
Ruth Gelb

In Memoriam

Paul Ziff
Bob and Dale Hersh

David Dickstein
Bob and Dale Hersh
Ilise and David Rubinow

Anthony J. Cali
Bob and Dale Hersh

Shirley Friedman
Ruth Gelb
Gary Friedman

Lenny Scheck
Ruth Gelb

Peter O'Donnell
Richard Bishop

Lorraine Goodman
Deborah Burman
Nancy Kreimer
Lisa Gordon

Judy Brodman
Harris Cutler

Dorothy Silverman
Molly Grossinger
Mildred Weinberg
Edward and Ann Monsky
Alan Goldstein
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Lester Block
Shelley Block

Eileen Baine
Neil and Donald Baine

Edmund Bezak
Mildred Weinberg

Greetings from Webster Towers!

We've had a busy few months at Webster Towers. Summer ended with the annual Labor Day Party and the Farmer's Market was added to our shopping trip list. The sounding of the Shofar was held in our Community Room at the end of September and was enjoyed by our residents. October brought a chill to the air and plans were underway for the annual Halloween Party. Residents were encouraged to dress up, prizes are awarded and a fun time is had by all!

During the winter months we offered inside games, as well as weekly exercise. We celebrated a Holiday Dinner with our residents and the annual New Year's Eve party, hosted by the Resident Association, was a wonderful night.

Our residents gathered in our Community Room for the Super Bowl, sure to bring some cheer! We are always open to and encourage suggestions for activities to add to our monthly Calendar. Seasons come and seasons go; life changes in the blink of an eye...learn to enjoy the moments!

Stay Safe and Be Well,

Pamela Goodall
Building Administrator



The Jewish Resource Center Of The Poconos (JRC) – A Hub Of Activity For All Ages

On Thursdays in Stroudsburg, the JRC is the place to be! Since the Thursday luncheons for seniors resumed at the JRC's new location on 5th Street, the attendance at the luncheons has steadily increased and so have the elements of the program. Since the last time we reported, it has not been unusual to have 40 participants or more at the luncheons. A fresh and delicious meal, prepared by Elan Skilled Nursing & Rehab's Dietary Department, is warmed and served from the JRC's remodeled kitchen. Thanks to our sponsors, the tables are preset with fine tableware, candies, plants and sometimes balloons. Before the luncheon is over the plants are raffled off and the winners take them home. While the lunch is officially for the 60+ age group, it's not unusual for not-yet-60's to also join in the fun. Following the luncheon, the JRC's committed mahjongg players organize their games on two tables and engage in hours of play.

In August the JRC hosted many hundreds of visitors from the Tri-State at the JRC's Summer Minyan. These visitors have become accustomed to seeking out the JRC for their weekday prayer needs. The twice-daily crowds were substantial. At the peak of the season the groups exceeded 200 per minyan. The JRC was packed and the parking lot was filled to capacity. Fortunately, the supervisors of Stroud Township, that have their offices across the street, have graciously offered their parking for the overflow.

Wednesday afternoons is the new meeting time of the Junior Scholar's Club. The children come to the JRC straight from school to enjoy a light dinner and a stimulating, fun-filled program where they learn to read and write Hebrew, learn about the Holidays, stories and laws of the Torah, Jewish history and more.

In another development, the CLOSER program has re-convened. The bi-weekly meetings in Hemlock Farms and Honesdale are back and the participating residents of Pike & Wayne Counties have been very grateful. Recent programs have included presentations by Dr. Daniel Chejfec, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation, Judge Alan Cooper of Pike County, David Shallcross of the PA Office of the Attorney General, and a musical presentation by Harvey Feldman, a Juilliard graduate and an accomplished philharmonic orchestra musician.

On Chaunukah the JRC hosted around 100 participants for a Chanukah program and dinner and more recently on Tu Bishvat an exquisite fruit and produce buffet was prepared for members of the weekly programs who stopped by to learn about the Holiday and sample the many exotic items. Plans are underway for the Purim celebration and dinner and the annual Pocono Passover Retreat. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, or if you want to learn more about the JRC or any of the programs, please email Maggie@poconojrc.org or visit www.poconojrc.org.



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Trumpaitzky, Bonnie Phillips- Crochet
Lap Robes In Honor of Our Residents

Kathy Reap- *Rock Steady Boxing In
Honor of Our Residents*

Carol O'Neil- *Season Walker/
Wheelchair Bags In Honor of Our
Residents*

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