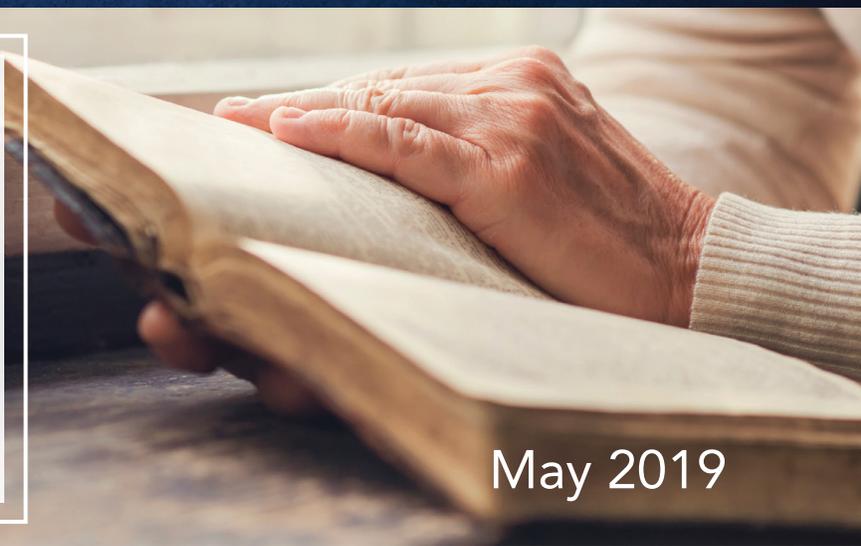




GOD AT WORK IN OUR MIDST

*Stories of the Called Ministries of
Genacross Lutheran Services*



May 2019

TOLEDO CAMPUS

After a stay at a local hospital, “Juanita” was admitted to the Genacross Lutheran Services-Toledo Campus. She came with several wounds on her legs and in need of kidney dialysis twice a week. Prior to her hospital stay, Juanita was a fun-loving, energetic woman who worked at a local deli. While not looking forward to her rehabilitation, Juanita knew that the staff at The Labuhn Center on the Toledo Campus would help her regain strength through physical therapy, as well as coordinate transportation to and from dialysis treatments. During Juanita’s stay, she actually grew to enjoy her therapy sessions. While she often thought she could not handle any more and wanted to give up, she is grateful that the therapists continually encouraged her to keep going. “Therapy deserves five-stars,” Juanita said. “They knew when to push me, even though I didn’t want to do it. I can tell the progression.” She also truly admires floor staff because they always helped in a timely manner and showed their concern. Juanita also noted that the Activities Department consistently encouraged her and all the residents/patients to become active and social. Juanita recently returned home after making great strides in her recovery.

HOUSING & COMMUNITY SERVICES

“Linda” is a community client who has been living in a nursing facility for almost two years. She had some major health issues and was very isolated, which led her to become depressed. While hospitalized, Linda lost her apartment, and when she was discharged, she went to the skilled nursing facility. Linda enrolled in the HOME Choice program in October 2018, and she was assigned a Genacross Service Coordinator to help her transition successfully back into community living. Linda worked hard, regained her strength, and was able to live a healthier lifestyle. For the most part, she is managing her daily activities and is living independently. Linda did experience a few setbacks, however, after applying for the apartment she had chosen. She was told that she had to pay back rent from her previous apartment and an overdue electric bill. The Service Coordinator applied for recovery funds to cover the two debts. After Linda was approved, she was able to pay the bills and prepared to move into her new apartment. With HOME Choice funds, the Service Coordinator also helped Linda purchase furniture, household items, and groceries to get back on her feet. This gave her the independence she deserved. She is thankful for this opportunity and has expressed her gratitude many times. Linda is thrilled to be living in the community again.



GENACROSS AT HOME

Genacross at Home has been providing “Mary” with skilled home health services for multiple health reasons. Staff members have worked diligently to strengthen Mary to her fullest potential. In spite of all of her hard work, though, she is still having issues remaining independent in her Genacross apartment, and she is struggling to accept her new reality. Genacross at Home staff have initiated discussions with the Service Coordinator at her Genacross senior community and family members regarding their concerns with Mary living alone. Due to the proactive approach being taken by the Genacross at Home staff, discussions are continuing to make sure Mary is safe, has the support services she needs, and receives the appropriate level of care as her needs change.

Although pseudonyms are used in the above ministry stories, Genacross follows HIPAA guidelines and has either obtained permission from our residents, patients, or clients, or has sufficiently concealed their identities, thereby enabling us to use their stories of God’s grace.

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WOLF CREEK CAMPUS

“Mary” and her husband “Ron” live in assisted living on the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus. They have been residents for two years and enjoy the independence of assisted living. It allows them to continue living together as husband and wife, while receiving some assistance from staff each day. Recently, Mary began feeling ill and spent a few days in the hospital. When she returned to the Wolf Creek Campus, she went into the Health Center for rehabilitation to regain her strength. Ron was beside himself at first and was not sure how to maneuver through his day without his better half. Recognizing that the campus has many hallways and turns where one might get lost, staff decided to help this couple maintain a level of normalcy during this transition. Each morning, they assist Ron to the Health Center to visit his wife, and then they take Mary to assisted living in the evenings to enjoy meals in the dining room with her husband. Mary and Ron’s daughter, who visits often to play cards with her parents, has complimented staff daily on the ease of her mother’s recovery in the Health Center. Mary is scheduled to rejoin her husband in their cozy apartment sometime in the next few weeks.

FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES

“Faith” has experienced a great deal of loss in her 18 years. She was removed from her biological family due to domestic violence and problems with substance abuse. At age three, she was adopted, but ended up back in the foster care system at age 12 due to her aggression and self-harming behaviors. Faith’s visits with her family ended after she made false allegations against her brother. She failed in a number of placements before coming to Genacross Family & Youth Services. Faith responded well to the structure and counseling services she received at the Maumee Youth Center. When Faith’s parents refused to follow the case plan for reunification, her county obtained permanent custody of her and stopped visits with her parents. Fortunately, Faith was able to use tools she was learning from her therapist and staff to cope through this loss. She continued to do well and was able to transition to the Wynn Group Home.

Currently, she attends the Blackmon Alternate Learning Center for half the school day and participates in a vocational program in the Activities Department at Luther Home of Mercy for the other half. She finds motivation at the church and youth group she attends. She even went to a youth group retreat in March and really enjoyed it. After turning 18, she was able to reconnect with her adoptive parents and has been participating in family therapy with them since that time. She plans to move closer to them after her graduation in May.



NAPOLEON CAMPUS

“Frank” came to Alpine Village assisted living on the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus about six months ago. He has adapted very easily to his new surroundings, and he enjoys reminiscing with other Alpine Village residents. Frank is a World War II veteran and is proud to wear his cap with the World War II emblem, which has become quite a conversation starter on the campus. When the Napoleon Campus celebrated Veterans Day, Frank participated in the ceremony and felt much appreciated for his military service. Living in Alpine Village, he has many opportunities to share his war stories with other veterans, residents, volunteers, and staff. In addition, the Napoleon Campus has a Veterans’ Wall, which honors those who have served the country, and Frank feels honored to be a part of the patriotic display.