



GOD AT WORK IN OUR MIDST

Stories of the Called Ministries of
Genacross Lutheran Services



February 2024

FAMILY & YOUTH SERVICES

"Julia" 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 3, she was adopted, but ended up back in the foster care system at age 12 due to aggression and self-harming behaviors. She experienced a number of failed placements before coming to Genacross Family & Youth Services. Julia was placed at the Genacross Maumee Youth Center, where she responded well to the structure and counseling services she received. When Julia's biological parents refused to follow the case plan for reunification, her county obtained permanent custody of her and stopped visits with her parents. Fortunately, Julia was able to use tools she was learning from her therapist and caregivers to cope with this loss. She continued to do well and was able to transition to the Wynn Group Home. She finds motivation at the local church and youth group she attends. She even went to a youth group retreat 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.

HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

"David's" apartment at the Genacross Luther Pines senior community in Lima was overly cluttered and filled with way too much furniture. He had been trying to combine his and his mother's household items into one apartment. However, David's apartment had become unsafe to live in. The site's service coordinator worked with him to implement a Performance Improvement Plan that would span four weeks. He had a week to clean out the kitchen, another week for the living/dining room, a week for the bedroom and one for



the bathroom. In addition, the service coordinator notified his Area Agency on Aging 3 (AAA3) PASSPORT case manager of the issues with his apartment, and she contacted an agency who assisted David with getting rid of items and making his apartment livable. His AAA3 case manager also coordinated someone to deep clean his apartment and clean the carpets. She is also coordinating a home health aide to visit David three times a week to assist with personal care, housekeeping, and laundry so David's apartment can be maintained in a proper manner moving forward. Working together, the Genacross service coordinator and AAA3 case manager helped David create a clean and safe home.

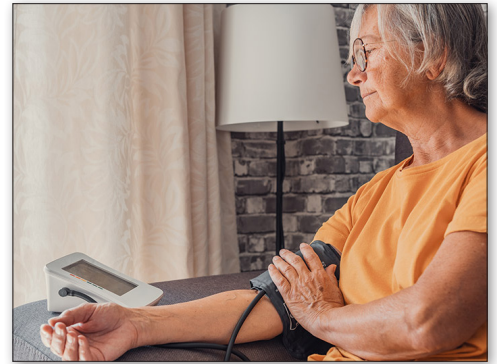
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WOLF CREEK CAMPUS

“Frank” is a young 66-year-old who, unfortunately, cannot walk because of neuropathy in his legs caused by diabetes. He will always be in a wheelchair and need the care provided by a nursing home. As sad as this may seem, Frank enjoys his life at the Genacross Lutheran Services-Wolf Creek Campus. He has lived in three other nursing homes and disliked them all, but he loves the Wolf Creek Campus and is very comfortable there. Frank says that his care is very good, and the nursing staff is helpful and knowledgeable. He loves the food, the therapy, and many of the activities offered, including the games, cooking opportunities, and church services. He is very pleased with his private room, the extra-large bed, the wide hallways, and his custom-made wheelchair. Frank is happy to be living on the Wolf Creek Campus and looks forward to spending the rest of his days there. “This is what I envisioned in a nursing home – a safe, comfortable, and active place to live. Thank you, Wolf Creek!”

GENACROSS AT HOME

Due to some recent health problems, “Rebecca” had to be admitted to the hospital. While there, she received many treatments, and her family was with her every step of the way. When it was time to be discharged from the hospital, Rebecca and her family did not feel she was ready, since she was still connected to monitors and receiving IV antibiotics. Hospital staff spoke to them about home health services and explained how a home health agency could teach and train them to administer the IV antibiotics. After meeting with a Genacross at Home staff member, Rebecca decided to become a patient. Genacross nursing staff members met Rebecca and her family at her house the day she left the hospital. They made sure that she had the supplies and medications she needed for a successful transition home. Genacross at Home also began therapy services to strengthen Rebecca, so she could maneuver throughout her house. After several weeks, Rebecca was able to administer her own IV antibiotics, and her family was also trained in the necessary skill. Rebecca is currently living independently in her home and caring for herself.



NAPOLEON CAMPUS

Aging in place can sometimes be hard to do. For some, it just is not obtainable, and that is when the Genacross Lutheran Services-Napoleon Campus is honored with the task of caring for these residents. The campus has many residents whose needs change as they age, and staff members strive to meet them where they are. A few years ago, an assisted living resident named “Sam” began to forget details. At first, he would forget what he was doing or saying, but he would laugh it off. Then, Sam began to forget loved ones and, eventually, the uses for such everyday items as a blanket or utensil. Along his journey, Sam transitioned to the campus’ Health Center for daily nursing care, where compassionate staff brainstormed ways to make him content. Therapy re-arranged his room to make it look more like home, and they encouraged family to bring in familiar items and photo albums. These actions can help bring comfort to some patients with Alzheimer’s disease. Sam eventually got to a point where his disease progressed, and he passed away. Staff members worked with the family every step of the way to bring care and comfort.

FOUNDATION

Most people understand that gifts come in many shapes and sizes. Sometimes, the best gifts are the unexpected ones, or the ones not recognized immediately for their lasting value. Genacross donors have a knack for giving incredible gifts to our residents that have enduring impact. This past year, donors gave our residents at the Wolf Creek and Napoleon campuses the gift of a Mud Hens baseball game and all the festivities that surround that outing. In addition, our low-income housing residents at Luther Crest and Luther Woods senior communities received the gift of a pocket park to enjoy. Furthermore, kids in our Family & Youth Services program received a new basketball court and equipment from donors, as well as two excursions to Urban Air Adventure Park and new bedding sets for every youth in care. Sometimes, purchasing the perfect gift is a difficult decision, but Genacross supporters always start with the heart first. They seem to know that whatever they give, God will multiply and use it to the benefit of our residents.