



GOOD TIDINGS

•FALL 2024•

Newsletter of the Reformed Presbyterian
Woman's Association

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

During our 125th Anniversary in June 2022, the Reformed Presbyterian Home (RP Home) set a goal to raise \$500,000 to renovate the “heart of our home” – specifically our Chapel and community space. Thanks to the support of individual donors, foundations, and government grants, we raised \$470,306 toward this goal!

The renovation was completed this fall, and we celebrated the Chapel’s re-opening on Saturday, November 2nd. Residents, families, supporters, and staff joined us for this Chapel Dedication and Donor Recognition event. This renovation has provided residents with a new space for meditation and prayer, improved accessibility with automatic doors, temperature control, new furniture, and advanced technology for activities.

With the Chapel completed, we have now begun the renovation of the nursing community hallway on the 3rd floor, including new flooring, updated walls, homelike lighting, and handrails.

We are thrilled to improve our residents’ home, and these projects are possible only through the generous donations and grants provided to RP Home. In the future, we hope to renovate the hallway and community space on the 2nd floor (personal care) and enhance the resident foyer, a seating area on the 3rd floor adjacent to the Chapel. If you would like to support these projects, please consider donating to the RP Home Building Fund.

RP Home remains committed to ensuring residents have access to essential ancillary services that support their health and well-being within our facility. Through 360Care, our long-term care residents receive on-site vision, audiology, podiatry, and dental services. In the 18 months since we began this program, residents have had regular exams, with some receiving new dentures, eyeglasses, and hearing aids. 360Care collaborates closely with our Medical Director and his team to address any concerns that arise, facilitating follow-up treatments or specialist referrals

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as needed. Additionally, residents in long-term and personal care have access to mental health services through The Supportive Care, which provides a Psychiatric Certified Nurse Practitioner and a Psychologist to our facility. The Psychologist offers counseling and talk therapy, while the Psychiatric CRNP assists with medication reviews and collaborates with our medical team to manage antidepressant, anti-anxiety, and anti-psychotic medications appropriately.

Providing senior living services for 127 years, The Reformed Presbyterian Home remains committed to providing a supportive living environment to those who call us “home.” As we celebrate 2024 and look ahead to 2025, we invite residents, friends, and family to join us for the Walker Celebration of Lights on December 5th. Come and enjoy the live holiday music, delicious appetizers, and fun photo opportunities!



Blessings,

Cara D Todhunter
MA SLP, NHA MPM
Executive Director

EVENTS

THURSDAY DECEMBER 5TH
5:30-7:30 PM

YOU'RE INVITED: WALKER CELEBRATION OF LIGHTS

Ring in the holiday season with us and enjoy:

- Entertainment by Beverly Taylor
- Light refreshments
- Crafts
- Music
- Pictures with Santa

No RSVP Necessary – See You On The 5th!





Our Mission

Our mission is to provide quality care and a supportive living environment to older adults in a manner consistent with the affection, honor, and care that the Bible teaches us to give our parents.

Our Vision

Our vision is to provide an environment which maximizes the physical, spiritual, social, and emotional well-being of each member of our community.

Our Philosophy of Care

God has given value to each person's life that does not diminish with age or changes in mental or physical condition. Our goal is to provide an environment that will help each person we serve achieve his, her, or their maximum level of well-being

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

ANNA PORTER

A Lifelong Volunteer with a Heart for RP Home

When Anna reflects on what inspired her to volunteer at RP Home, she initially reflects on her childhood in Plymouth County, Massachusetts. Raised in a family deeply rooted in service, she recalls her parents' modeling the meaning of giving to others by volunteering regularly.

“It was just assumed that we would give back to the community,” she shares. “We were raised in trust and accountability.”

Needless to say, Anna was an active volunteer throughout her whole life (always in age-appropriate roles, of course). So what finally brought her to our campus? In 2003, a flyer on her Pittsburgh church's bulletin board caught Anna's attention; it invited people to come and volunteer at RP Home. Something about it called out to her, and we've been blessed to have her in the RP Home family ever since.

Over the years, Anna has brought warmth, creativity, and companionship



to our residents. She's hosted sewing and crafting workshops, read aloud stories to residents, hosted engaging travel discussions, served teas from around the world, and so much more. She even gifted a Wii game console and a camera to our Activities Department – gifts that have brought joy and entertainment to the entire campus.

These days, Anna hosts a program called “Spill the Beans” where she and the residents gather to discuss a variety of topics, from current events and travel to trivia and more. It's a very popular and well attended program!

Thank you, Anna, for your endless gifts of time, talent, and heart. You make RP Home a brighter, more joyful place for everyone.



HONORING AND CELEBRATING REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN HOME'S STAFF AND MILESTONES



On September 18th, Reformed Presbyterian Home team members gathered to enjoy a catered lunch served in appreciation of our hard-working staff. Board Member Rev. Ralph Joseph provided the prayer and joined us at the event.

During lunch, we also celebrated some of the team's milestone work anniversaries! Gifts and Recognition Awards alike were handed out to the team, and the directors shared stories about the team as well.

The dedication and commitment of employees sets the foundation of any and all successful organizations. Thank you to each of these employees for their years and service and contributions to the success of the Reformed Presbyterian Home!

30 Years
David Devine

• **20 Years** •
June Faber

• **10 Years** •
Brigette Malone

• **5 Years** •
Jarae Amoah
Revenia Anderson
Ronald Bryant
Juliana Haley
Dearia Perkins
Precious Reid
Kelly Rose
Venita Sly
Malcoma White

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION FUND

The Reformed Presbyterian Home is honored to have employees who have dedicated their lives to our residents and our mission. Each staff member works hard to deliver on our mission of providing a supportive and fulfilling living environment.

The Reformed Presbyterian Home has an employee appreciation fund which provides residents, families, and others with the opportunity to honor our employees. Every dollar raised is directly used to show appreciation to our staff.

Give a gift to this fund this season by donating online or mailing a check to the *Employee Appreciation Fund!*

CAREERS AT RP HOME



At the Reformed Presbyterian Home, you know you are improving the lives of our residents every day. Each and every staff member works hard to deliver on our mission of providing a supportive and fulfilling living environment. Together, our staff and teams can grow and enrich the lives of the residents.

Our employees are one of the reasons the Reformed Presbyterian Home is so highly recognized for extraordinary care and satisfaction. If you are looking to make a difference, consider joining our team!

We are actively hiring for the following positions:

Housekeeping

Caregivers

Nurse, LPN/RN

Certified Nursing Assistants

You can learn more at our website (rphome.org/careers) as well as submit an application directly:

Kathie Haffly, Human Resources Coordinator

2344 Perrysville Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214

✉ khaffly@rphome.org 📞 412-321-4661

CELEBRATING THE HEART OF OUR HOME

RP HOME DEDICATES NEWLY RENOVATED CHAPEL AND COMMUNITY ROOM

On Saturday, November 2, we gathered to dedicate the newly renovated RP Home Chapel and Resident Community Room, affectionately known as “the Heart of our Home.” This event marked a significant milestone in our 125th Anniversary Capital Campaign, which we launched in 2022.

Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our donors, foundations, and governmental grants, we raised \$278,000 in gifts and pledges in the campaign’s first year, bringing us more than halfway to our \$500,000 goal. With this support, and after reaching nearly the goal of \$500,000 in 2024, we successfully completed a beautiful transformation of

the Chapel, which is our vibrant center for worship, social activities, and quiet reflection.

The renovation included expanded space for a dedicated spiritual room (featuring a historic stained glass light installation), new technology such as large televisions, enhanced accessibility with handicap door access, and brand-new furniture. These improvements stand as a testament to our commitment to the well-being and satisfaction of our residents, and we are deeply grateful for everyone who contributed to make this vision a reality.

At the dedication ceremony, speakers Peter Smith and Bill Weir commemorated the occasion and honored the contributions that made it possible. This journey was a labor of love, led by Dr. Fred Martin (previous Medical Director at RP Home) and Faith Martin (previous Executive Director of RP Home) as Chairs of the Capital Campaign. Their leadership, along with the generosity of our community, truly transformed the Heart of our Home. We are incredibly thankful for this support and for everyone who helped take our project from a vision to a reality.



FRED MARTIN AND FAITH MARTIN



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS

RP Home gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations, corporations whose ongoing support ensures the Chapel remains an important and accessible space in the years to come. Thank you for your gifts.

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UP TO \$1,000

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MORE THAN \$50,000

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 (QIP), Commonwealth of
 Pennsylvania
 Massey Charitable Trust
 Synod of Reformed
 Presbyterian Church of
 North America

LOOKING BACK AT 2024'S EVENTS

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

RP Home hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch on Wednesday, April 17th, at the Mary Coleman George Dining Room to honor the dedication and contributions of its volunteers. This event celebrated the invaluable support these individuals have provided over the past year. It was a gathering of community members, supporters, and the volunteers themselves, who have generously donated their time to enhance the lives of residents at RP Home.

The event served as a reminder of the important role volunteers play in enriching the lives of RP Home residents, and gave us a chance to thank those who give us the gift of their time. We truly appreciate our volunteers, who share their gifts with our residents and staff and make a difference every day at RP Home!



THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Cecilia Daly
Stephen Schaad
Judith Schaad
Mary Lou Basset
Victoria Araceli
Tina Degonish
Bridget O'Brien
Vickie Linkhaver
Jane Peters

Anna Porter
Jane Sestric
Bill Weir
Marla Timms
Autumn Butler
Bonnie Mc Lain
Penny Cullen
Dana Vervier

NATIONAL SKILLED NURSING CARE WEEK

Each year in the month of May, America observes National Skilled Nursing Care Week (NSNCW) and celebrates the essential role that skilled nursing care centers play in providing safe and effective 24-hour nursing care to millions of individuals.

This year's NSNCW theme was "Radiant Memories: A Time of Golden Age Radio"! The theme took us back to the radio's golden age, an era filled with nostalgia and timeless memories. The week-long celebration not only recognized the dedicated care provided by skilled nursing teams, but also honored the memories and experiences of our residents.

RP Home took the festivities one step further by bringing in DJ Marlon Martin from WAMO 107.3, who brought his unique energy and passion to the event. He hosted a "Radio Memories" program on-site to launch the week. Residents enjoyed reminiscing about their favorite

radio stories and the songs that marked significant moments in their lives.

A devoted husband, father, and ordained minister, Martin celebrated 25 years in radio in 2017. His work in Pittsburgh and beyond has brought music, inspiration, and the message of Christ to countless listeners each week. We cannot thank him enough for making this year's NSNCW observance even more special!



UPPER ROOMS VISITED BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY OFFICE

Councilman Robert Daniel Lavelle (representing the City of Pittsburgh's District 6) conducted a recent Senior Site Meeting at RP Home, meeting with the residents to discuss their community interests and needs.

RP HOME WELCOMES SUPPORT FROM THE URBAN SENIORS JOBS PROGRAM

RP Home is excited to be part of the Urban Seniors Jobs Program (USJP). This Senior Citizen initiative of the National Urban League is offered locally through the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh. The USJP program provides meaningful job placements and skill-building opportunities for senior citizens, who train on-site at various nonprofit organizations across Pittsburgh, including RP Home.

Through this program, seniors from the local community join the RP Home team, supporting both our residents and staff in invaluable ways. These participants are actively involved in daily life at RP Home, including:

- offering companionship and visiting residents
- aiding with reception duties
- accompanying residents to off-campus events and appointments

They also provide critical support during social services activities, lead group activities, and work one-on-one with residents.

These dedicated seniors enrich our community by sharing their skills and experiences, while also gaining hands-on training and fulfilling the mission of the National Urban League. We are grateful for the support of the Urban Seniors Jobs Program and the positive impact these seniors bring to RP Home every day.



CHERISH AND CARE FOR OUR ELDERS THIS SEASON

Since 1897, RP Home has been a steadfast community resource, always here for those who need our services – no matter their ability to pay. Thanks to your generosity, we can continue this legacy year after year.

Last year, with your help, we provided \$1.7 million in charity care—about \$11,000 for each resident. This wouldn't be possible without you. Insurance reimbursements simply don't cover the full cost of the care our residents deserve, but your support fills that gap.

Your seasonal gift today can brighten our residents' lives this holiday season and beyond. Your generosity helps us ensure comfortable living spaces, enriches our activities, and brings joy to the hearts of those we serve.

Every act of giving makes a difference – and not all gifts need to come in the form of a check! Many of our supporters find that options like donating stock, making grants from Donor Advised Funds, or choosing a Qualified Charitable Distribution can be “tax-smart” ways to give, amplifying their impact and offering extra tax benefits.

Together, we're building a community that honors and cherishes our elders. Please consider making a gift this holiday season. Your support creates smiles, sparks memories, and sustains the wellbeing of our seniors.

Thank you for being part of our family!

Cara Todhunter
Executive Director
Reformed Presbyterian Home







INDEPENDENT LIVING AT RP HOME

Independent Living, sometimes referred to as Retirement Living, provides a wonderful, caring community where people can live in comfort and convenience.

At RP Home, our residents enjoy modern facilities that include a community room, beauty and barber services, a rooftop deck for gardening and relaxation, a laundry room, a cafe, and access to transportation and shopping. Residents also enjoy direct indoor access to our main building, helping them to participate in multiple recreational, social, educational and spiritual activities with other residents from across the campus.

All of our facilities are designed to give residents all the comforts of home, as well as access to support and services as needed.

If you're interested in seeing our warm and friendly campus for yourself, contact us today!

📍 2344 Perrysville Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15214

📞 800 RP HELLO

📞 412-321-4139

📠 412-321-4661

✉ info@rphome.org

THE UPPER ROOMS AT RP HOME

The Upper Rooms are a special Independent Living offering, designed to provide affordable housing for senior individuals and families.

The Upper Rooms provide convenience, community and support, as well as all the comforts of home, privacy, and independence.

The Upper Rooms are available to individuals 62-years of age or older or who are mobility impaired, and who qualify for housing assistance from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

If you're interested in learning more about the Upper Rooms, please contact us or visit our website.

DONATION TO RPWA

With my enclosed gift, I am joining other Reformed Presbyterian Woman's

Association (RPWA) supporters with a tax deductible donation of:

(Please make checks payable to RPWA; donations by credit card can be made

at www.rphome.org/give).

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$ _____

Accept this gift in honor / memory (circle) of: _____

How is this person related to you? _____

Please notify: Name: _____

Address: _____

I'm interested in talking with someone about an estate gift to help ensure that future seniors are well cared for.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Please include my/our gift in the list of supporters as: Listed Above Anonymous

Please contact *Cara D. Todhunter, Executive Director* at ctodhunter@rphome.org for questions.

In this season of thanks and giving, we're thankful to you for everything you do for the RP Home community.

We hope you'll consider sharing the spirit of the season by supporting our year end fundraiser—look for something in your mailbox soon!

Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association serves all people regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status, handicap or disability.

We are an equal opportunity employer.



2344 Perrysville Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15214

The Reformed Presbyterian Woman's Association is a 501(C) 3 nonprofit charitable organization, founded in 1897, which today serves people of all faiths. We provide health care, housing and supportive services including independent living, personal care, nursing and rehabilitative services. We are registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State, Bureau of Charitable Organizations.