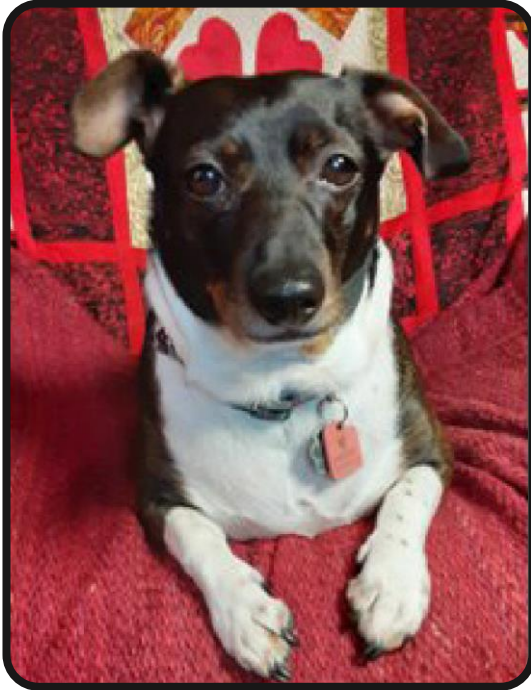


growing

gracefully

Foss Home and Village

Fall 2022



Healthcare, rightly so, has a lot of regulations. The onset of Covid 19 only increased the number of restrictions at Foss. Over the past few years, it has become our challenge as an organization to find ways to see what can we do. Where were the cracks where the light could come through?

One shining example of ingenuity is Dan and Sheila McKinney and their dog Meryl. Their Foss journey began in 2014 when Sheila's mom, Nina Robinson, moved into our transitional care. Remembering how much joy her mother experienced when she brought Meryl to her home, she started bringing the dog to Foss every day. After her mother's death in 2017, Sheila and Dan realized that they wanted others to experience the happiness of pet and 1:1 visits, so they started to volunteer. They brought their special brand of sunshine week after week. As Shelia says "if you can then do." The threesome became a much anticipated and appreciated addition to the Foss family. Then 2020 came and everything stopped.

Already exemplary volunteers Covid restrictions only seemed to strengthen their resolve. They brightened our days in a multitude of ways. When only staff were allowed in our building the McKinneys started sending cards to the Residents with Meryl's picture on them every other month to let the Residents know they were not forgotten. Sheila collected vases small enough to fit on Residents bedside tables and filled them with fresh flowers. Donations of bags of candy and bouquets of flowers were given to our staff to show their appreciation for all their extraordinary efforts.

As the rules relaxed, the dedicated duo jumped back into volunteering. Upon returning one our Residents told them how receiving their cards "felt so good because it meant someone was thinking of you". There was no hesitation when asked to follow the new protocol for Foss volunteers. After Sheila learned she was now required to wear a face shield she bedazzled the top to make it look like a crown. When we progressed to wearing just eye protection Sheila put sparkly stickers on her glasses and Dan brought in packages of unused googles for the volunteers to wear. Today, Dan, Shelia and Meryl continue their weekly trips to Foss because as Shelia says "while we can't change everything that is wrong with the world you can fix the stuff in front of you". We are so fortunate to have them and all our other volunteers who bring their own form of radiance into our Resident's lives.



Want to join our volunteer team? Contact Ruth Caple for more information.

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Kevin's Corner *Kevin McFeely, President & CEO*

Hello, it gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to you. I am Kevin McFeely, President & CEO. I received my Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Wayne State University, Detroit, MI and a Master's degree in Health Services Administration from George Washington University, Washington, DC. I have a passion for serving seniors and have worked in single site and multi-site senior communities in a number of leadership roles. I also have served both LeadingAge and LeadingAge Washington in various officer roles and currently serve as the Chair of the Continuing Care Retirement Community Task Force. I am married and my wife and I enjoy traveling the world and cheering for our four children on volleyball courts, basketball courts, baseball fields and beyond.



It is hard to believe five (5) months have passed since the affiliation between Foss Home & Village and eliseo finalized. I am pleased to be a part of the Foss family and have found the employees here to be dedicated and committed to the well-being of our residents. I am humbled by the longevity many of our employees have with our organization. This is a true testament to their loyalty to our residents.

As we continue to move forward, I am excited about the future of the partnership between our two organizations. I will be talking about the strategic vision we are working on for Foss in future editions of this newsletter. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can answer any questions. Looking forward to meeting you.

Sincerely,
R Kevin McFeely



Hello everyone, my name is Pastor Sara Funkhouser and I am honored to serve here at Foss Home and Village as the new part-time chaplain. At Foss, I make 1-1 Spiritual Care visits with residents and staff, lead worship weekly on Tuesday afternoons, as well as Bible study weekly on Thursday mornings at Foss home and bi-weekly at Foss Village. I absolutely love getting to spend time with the residents here! In addition to all the other activities, beginning in October, I will be leading quarterly memorial services for all who have died in the past few months.

When I am not at Foss, I also serve as the new pastor at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church right next door. I am so glad we can have this connection with you all, and I look forward to seeing all the ways we can strengthen this relationship in the future. When I'm not working at either of these two places, I love reading, biking, attending Seattle sporting events, and spending as much time as I can enjoying all that Seattle has to offer. I am excited to be a part of the Foss team and to continue working with all the wonderful staff and residents!



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Visit our website: **www.fosscare.org**

Growing Gracefully is a publication of Foss Home and Village, a not-for-profit organization which promotes living with dignity for older adults. For information about our services please call (206) 364-1300 or see our website at www.fosscare.org. Questions, comments and suggestions for this newsletter can be directed to Foss Outreach at khardwick@fosscare.org or (206) 834-2581.

