

## A Special Edition of the St. Mary Progress Report



### How our Service Coordinators are supporting our residents through COVID-19

The daily unfolding of the COVID-19 pandemic has everyone taking responsible measures to protect it from spreading. At St. Mary Development, we began procedures to protect our residents very early on, and placed an emphasis on giving our independent-living community residents ample access to service coordination. The support and guidance our Service Coordinators provide has become even more critical during this time, both for helping our residents get connected to services like meal programs, healthcare, and transportation, and also for helping them to feel less alone during these uncertain times.

Our Service Coordinators have been communicating with residents via phone daily, sharing with them important state and federal guideline updates so that they can remain healthy and safe. During these conversations, they've extended additional support to help our residents access food, medications, and other necessities as they navigate this challenging time and adhere to stay-at-home orders. Our Service Coordinators are certainly doing good work in facilitating these daily life tasks, but more importantly, they're lending their emotional support; our residents have shared their fears about food shortages, financial insecurities, exposure on public transportation, and what the future holds, and our Service Coordinators have served as a listening ear and a reassuring resource.

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## PROGRESS REPORT

### Our Mission

St. Mary Development Corporation is a faith-based non-profit organization called by God to improve the quality of life for seniors. We create sustainable, affordable housing for those in need, and connect seniors to healthcare and other services. We work toward the day when all seniors – especially the economically disadvantaged – have a decent, affordable place to live and access to services. We are interested in creative ideas and opportunities for older people in our communities. Do you want to build a partnership with us? If so, please reach out to:

### President:

Tim Bete  
P: 937-277-8149, ext. 210  
Email: [tbete@smdcd.org](mailto:tbete@smdcd.org)

### V.P. Strategic Partnerships:

Cathy Campbell  
P: 937-277-8149, ext. 208  
Email: [ccampbell@smdcd.org](mailto:ccampbell@smdcd.org)

### Make a gift

We depend on donors like you to help our low-income seniors continue to live independently. Your donation supports our St. Mary Connect program of service coordination. St. Mary Development Corporation is a **501 (c) (3) non-profit** organization; your charitably donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### Please make checks payable to:

St. Mary Development Corporation  
Attn: Cathy Campbell  
V.P. Strategic Partnerships  
2160 E. Fifth Street  
Dayton, OH 45403

Make a secure online donation at:  
[www.StMaryDevelopment.org](http://www.StMaryDevelopment.org)

Questions? Call Cathy Campbell at  
937-277-8149, ext. 208.



### COVID-19 continued ...

To keep our residents safe we've formed partnerships with several non-profit organizations in our communities to provide our residents with food boxes. Organizations like St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and the Dayton Foodbank, and volunteers from Declare and other area churches have already delivered more than 600 boxes of food, each stocked with enough provisions to last two to three weeks. Another partnership, the Oakwood Rotary Foundation with a match from the District Rotary Foundation, resulted in a generous grant that has allowed us to purchase enough food boxes to feed our residents for two months.



*Shoes4theShoeless assisted in the delivery of food boxes by lending their trucks and volunteers.*

While navigating this pandemic has been an unprecedented challenge, we're reminded more than ever of the power of partnerships; our community has come together to ensure our low-income residents have access to their most basic necessities, and in doing so have gifted them security for the present and hope for the future.



*Volunteers assist with food box deliveries.*

## Technologies shape the lives of seniors



## 2019 Business of Aging Focused on the SDOH

The social determinants of health (SDOH) – the conditions in the places where people live, learn, work and play – impact a wide range of health risks and outcomes. For example, those living in impoverished areas with limited access to decent housing, healthy foods, and safe neighborhoods – like parts of west Dayton – will have a lower mortality rate than someone who does not.



When a senior struggles with the social determinants of health, we see greater risks for them having poor health and higher mortality rates, making it extremely difficult for older adults to maintain their independence and age at home. Providing service coordination to residents significantly alters the impact of social determinants. St. Mary has been providing service coordination to our residents since 2014, and as a result, our residents have self-reported a higher quality of life by simply knowing there is someone to turn to when they need help.

We selected the social determinants of health as the theme for last year's Business of Aging event, and we'll continue to use this concept to drive our organization and how we serve our residents. For more information on the social determinants of health, visit [www.stmarydevelopment.org/our-approach](http://www.stmarydevelopment.org/our-approach).



*Huntington Bank donated iPads for residents to use to connect to services and loved ones.*

At the 2019 Business of Aging event in October, St. Mary Development Corporation introduced results from a study we conducted on the older adults in our housing communities and their use of and interest level in various technologies. Our research showed most of our residents have a desire for and need to access technology to gain access to services, reduce isolation, and communicate with family and friends. This has become even more evident during COVID-19 as technology can give residents the ability to use services they formerly accessed in person, like health appointments.



In the next couple of months, in partnership with the AARP Foundation's Connect2Affect Connected Communities, we are excited to introduce WiFi in two buildings along with outfitting residents with voice-activated Amazon Echo Dots. We anticipate this will be transformative to those involved in this special pilot program. Our goal is to make this possible for all of our seniors as funding opportunities become available. If you are interested in being a partner with us, contact Cathy Campbell, Vice President Strategic Partnerships, at (937) 277-8149, ext. 208.

## What's Inside...

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## St. Mary Announces 2020 Business of Aging Keynote Speaker

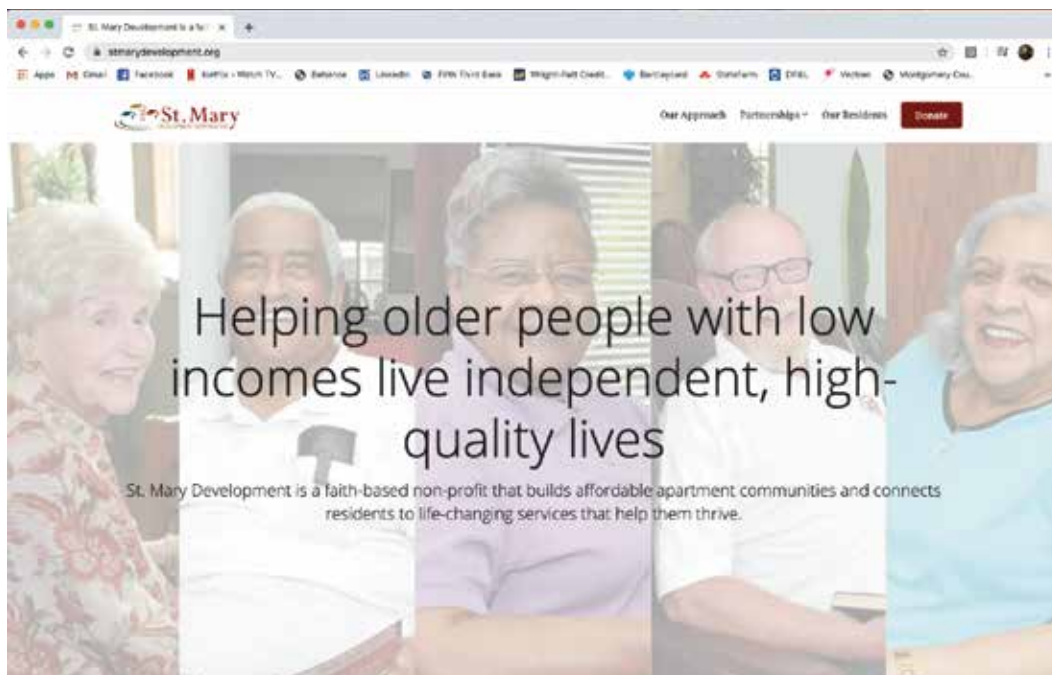


Plans are already underway for the 2020 Business of Aging event. Each year, a panel of experts focus on one of three areas: housing, healthcare, or technology. This year's event, scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup>, will focus on technology for older adults.

We have chosen to add a keynote speaker to the program this year along with our panel of experts. The keynoter will be Dominic Endicott, a partner at Nauta Capital, who has funded and founded numerous technology ventures that serve individuals 50 and older, specifically with a focus on increasing their purpose and improving their health.

St. Mary is currently seeking sponsors for the event. For more information about our event and the sponsorship opportunities available, contact Cathy Campbell, Vice President Strategic Partnerships, at (937) 277-8149, ext. 208.

The St. Mary Development Corporation website has a new look!  
Visit [www.stmarydevelopment.org](http://www.stmarydevelopment.org) to see our new site.



### Our Mission

We work toward the day when all residents of southwest Ohio – especially the economically disadvantages – have a decent, **affordable place to live** and become part of a community.

