

PROGRESS REPORT

St. Mary Helps Veterans with Housing



Providing safe and affordable housing for Patrick, a grateful and charismatic Vietnam Veteran.

From a bone-chilling trailer to Lyons Place II: one veteran's moving story

When Patrick Steineman found out about Lyons Place II, he was living in a mobile home and sleeping on a mattress on the floor. It was the middle of winter in Ohio, a typical bitter January, but more so for Patrick; his trailer didn't have a working furnace.

To say Patrick had a hard life is an understatement. He served in Vietnam for nearly four years, grew up with an abusive and alcoholic stepfather, and lost his mother to cancer—all before his 26th birthday. But when you meet Patrick, you don't see the hardship at first. Instead, you see affection when he talks about his buddies who live with him at Lyons Place II. You see

excitement when he talks about his love of movies. You see joy when he talks about that time he saw Bruce Lee walking down the streets of Hong Kong. And, most prominently, you see gratitude—despite all his hardships—for his life today, and for Lyons Place II.

Patrick served in the Vietnam War for three and a half years. When he talks about his time overseas, you can almost see the memories cycling through his mind. His face displays mixed emotions—some fondness, some pain, but most prominently, pride. "I was honored to do it. I didn't wait for the draft notice to come. I went down and signed up for the Navy. I wanted to see the world."

And that he did. During his time

(continued on Page 2)

St. Mary to expand its footprint at the Dayton VA



The parking area left of Lyons Place II will soon be cleared for construction of the new building. McBride Place will be attached to the east side of the existing building.

St. Mary Development Corporation will soon break ground on its next senior affordable housing property, McBride Place, at the Dayton VA. The new building, named for our co-founder Dick McBride, will provide affordable apartments for low-income seniors and will have a preference for veterans. We will soon have a webcam on the worksite providing an opportunity for viewers to watch it go up! Check it out on our website at www.StMaryDevelopment.org.

Our Mission

St. Mary Development Corporation is a faith-based non-profit organization, called by God to create sustainable affordable housing for those in need. We work toward the day when all residents—especially the economically disadvantaged—have a decent, affordable place to live with access to services and become part of a community. We accomplish this through real estate development and management; supportive housing services; and community revitalization initiatives.

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Director of Philanthropy:

Cathy Campbell
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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 charitable donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Please make checks payable to:

St. Mary Development Corporation
Attn: Cathy Campbell
Director of Philanthropy
2160 E. Fifth Street
Dayton, OH 45403

Make a secure online donation at: www.StMaryDevelopment.org

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

Bone-chilling trailer . . . continued from page 1



overseas, Patrick traveled all throughout Southeast Asia as a Navy radioman. Like many Vietnam War veterans, when Patrick came home at age 21, he was told he'd be trained to transition into a profession that could support him and his family. And like many veterans, that never happened.

"When I went into radio, I was told I'd be cross-trained for a civilian job where I'd make decent money. But we didn't get the parades and welcome homes. We got spat on and called all kinds of names that weren't earned."

Instead, Patrick worked most of his career in minimum wage roles as a truck driver, security guard, and tow truck operator. He retired four years ago at 62; Patrick has neuropathy and gets tremors. His hands shake while doing tasks most of us take for granted, like driving, making it unsafe for him to work. That's when Patrick bought his mobile home and spent that frigid Ohio winter trying to keep warm while sleeping on a mattress on the floor.

Later that winter, while on the VA grounds for a medical appointment, he saw Lyons Place II. Patrick will tell you his decision to apply for

residency was life changing. He quickly fell in love with the building, and just as quickly began developing a bond with his St. Mary Connect Service Coordinator, Jean Diamond. Jean helps Patrick navigate his veterans benefits, find safe and reliable transportation to take care of daily life—buying groceries, paying bills, attending doctor's appointments—and perhaps most importantly, Jean is a listening ear when Patrick needs someone to talk to.

"She's helped me out quite a bit. Pretty much any time I need someone to talk to, where I know it isn't going to go any further than that, she helps me."

Four years later Patrick is thriving at Lyons Place II. He has a vibrant social life with his buddies in the building; they share jokes, war stories, and rides to the grocery store. He lives independently in his warm apartment that he's outfitted with personal memorabilia, like a tapestry featuring wolves, an animal known for their tenacity and strength. And, he might say most importantly, he can watch his favorite action movies on surround sound.



SERVICES AVAILABLE TO VETERANS

Our senior independent-living apartments are designed for residents to live on their own, yet many need significant outside services to remain independent. Access to services can include insurance, home healthcare, non-skilled homecare, food programs, utility assistance, transportation and more. Seniors on fixed incomes cannot afford to pay for services and most do not know how to access free services for which they qualify. Veterans receive additional benefits through the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs and our Service Coordinators help eligible veteran residents get connected. Here are just a couple of services they recommend to area veterans:

- **Transportation services** - veterans with verified medical appointments at the Dayton OH VAMC and who **do not** have access to transportation by other means may be eligible. To learn more, go to: <http://bit.ly/VATransportation>.
- **Pre-Need (meaning before the time of need) burial information** - veterans may be considered for burial in a VA national cemetery (including Dayton's). A pre-need determination is required and must be arranged before the time of your death. To learn more, go to: <http://bit.ly/VABurial>.

ANNIVERSARY DAYS: STRAWBERRY CREAM CHEESE



Sr. Rose receives the Strawberry Cream Cheese Faith and Service Award at the 2019 DCWC luncheon in recognition for her work with St. Mary Development Corporation.

As we continue to celebrate our 30th Anniversary, Sr. Rose Wildenhaus, one of our co-founders, will tell you that she isn't a big fan of strawberry cream cheese! It goes back to the very beginning when St. Mary opened the St. Leonard senior living community in Centerville. Sr. Rose would appeal for help with food, household donations and volunteers whenever she possibly could. As a result one local grocery offered her a truck full of "food" and when it arrived all it contained was strawberry cream cheese—nothing else. Needless to say, Sr. Rose found every way possible to include strawberry cream cheese in the meal planning for the residents!



McBride Place will begin construction this summer at the Dayton VA.

What's inside...

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Dayton, OH 45403

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



Are you taking care of an elderly family member?

It happens to every family at some point. An elderly parent or family member has trouble taking care of him or herself. The family cannot afford to pay for outside help and quickly become caregivers. While this can be a good short-term solution, it can be difficult to sustain year after year.

The Family Caregiver Alliance (FCA) provides some statistics on just how prevalent is this type of situation. Their website says:

- About 34.2 million Americans have provided unpaid care to an adult age 50 or older in the last 12 months.
- About 15.7 million adult family caregivers care for someone who has Alzheimer's disease or other dementia.
- Upwards of 75% of all caregivers are female, and may spend as much as 50% more time providing care than males.
- On average, caregivers spend:
 - 13 days each month on tasks such as shopping, food preparation, housekeeping, laundry, transportation and giving medication
 - 6 days per month on feeding, dressing, grooming, walking, bathing, and assistance toileting

- 13 hours per month researching care services or information on disease, coordinating physician visits or managing financial matters.

The vast majority of caregivers (85%) care for a relative or other loved one:

- 42% care for a parent (31% for a mother, 11% for a father)
- 7% care for a parent-in-law
- 7% care for a grandparent or grandparent-in-law

St. Mary Service Coordinators are experts in connecting seniors to appropriate programs and services. Each year we connect hundreds of seniors to services that allow them to continue living independently. If you have questions regarding programs or services that would help a family member, send me an e-mail at tbete@smdcd.org and we'll do our best to point you in the right direction.

By the way, you can learn more about the Family Caregiver Alliance at www.caregiver.org.

God bless,

Tim Bete
President



Thank You
for Adding
A Stamp

TIM BETE
PRESIDENT
ST MARY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2160 E 5TH ST
DAYTON OH 45403-2445





Your gift supports our St. Mary Connect program,
helping to connect St. Mary senior residents to the critical services
they need – such as, furniture, food, utility assistance,
transportaion, and much more.

Will you help us today?

Thank you for helping seniors, especially our veterans, get connected to services.
You truly are God's hands to those in need!



It's easy to donate online at
www.StMaryDevelopment.org/donate

Your gift is tax deductible as prescribed by law. Please consult your tax advisor for details.
St. Mary Development Corporation respects your privacy and does not sell or share donor information with other organizations.

☐ Please contact me about Planned Giving or other ways I/we can support your organization.

I would like to make this gift in honor of: _____

Please send an acknowledgement to: _____

Address: _____ City/St/Zip: _____

**Yes, I want to donate to the St. Mary Connect program to help low-income seniors get the services they need.
Enclosed is my gift in the amount of:**

☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 Other: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to: **St. Mary Development Corporation** or pay online at **www.StMaryDevelopment.org**.

I wish to donate by credit card ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover, in the amount of \$ _____

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Expires: _____ 3-Digit Security Code: _____ ☐ Please include the \$3.00 credit card transaction fee in the total

☐ Please mail my credit card transaction receipt to address below ☐ Please email my credit card transaction receipt

Name: _____ My email address is: _____

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☐ My employer has a corporate matching gift program. Company Name: _____