

PROGRESS REPORT

SUMMER 2022

www.StMaryDevelopment.org

Five ways technology improves lives of older people with low incomes



St. Mary Development and Trillnovo share results of equipping 120+ older residents with free Wi-Fi, Amazon Echos, and training

St. Mary Development and Trillnovo have released a technology case study that shares findings from our work installing free Wi-Fi and Amazon Echos in several of our communities.

"By sharing our experience and what we've learned, we hope other organizations that serve older adults can more easily and successfully equip their communities with technologies like Echos and other smart devices," said St. Mary president Tim Bete. "These technologies are becoming so affordable; an Echo device is as little as \$30 and has the potential to provide simple yet astounding life enhancements for older people, especially those with lower incomes."

The program identified five factors that improved resident quality of life.

Local and State Representatives, Leaders, and Partners Celebrate McBride Place at Open House



Residents and community and government leaders from across the state joined us to celebrate the opening of McBride Place. With 64 units, the property was built to the left of Lyons Place II.

The St. Mary's team was thrilled to formally celebrate the opening of McBride Place on Monday, May 23. While construction was finished last year, COVID prevented us from gathering until now.

The event began with a reception and was incredibly well attended by members of the community, residents, and numerous advocates, partners, and friends of St. Mary.



Residents from Lyons Place II and McBride Place attended the event and enjoyed lunch from local food trucks.

Several attendees spoke at the event, including:

Congressman Mike Turner, 10th District, State of Ohio, Sam Bain, Congressional Staff, Office of Senator Rob Portman, Mike King, Regional Representative, Office of Senator Sherrod Brown, Willis Blackshear Jr., State Representative District 39, Mark Murdock, Director, Dayton VA Medical Center, Shawn Smith, Executive Director, Ohio Housing Finance Agency, Catherine Cawthorn, CEO, Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing ...



Help Support 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

V.P. Strategic Partnerships:

Cathy Campbell P: 937-277-8149, ext. 208 Email: 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 charitable 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

Questions?

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

Local and State Representatives, Leaders, and Partners Celebrate McBride Place at Open House

Continued from Cover

Alex Nourse, Affordable Housing Treasury Manager, RiverHills Bank, Jerry Woodruff, Project Manager, Greater Dayton Construction Group, Angela Rohs, Senior Relationship Manager, NeighborWorks America, Bishop Jerome McCorry, Resident, McBride Place.

Following the eception, the public was invited to see the buildings in an open house event.



President Tim Bete presented a piece of artwork from Dick McBride's son, Rob McBride. This piece was donated by Dick's daughter who also attended the reception.



At the Reception, St. Mary president Tim Bete unveiled two beautiful watercolor portraits of our founders, Sr. Rose Wildenhaus and Dick McBride, the building's namesake. Both are permanently on display in the building.



Do You Know Someone Who Would Be a Fit for Our Team?

Visit www.stmarydevelopment.org/careers to view open positions and learn more

Our team is looking to connect with people who want to contribute their time and talents to fulfilling our mission. We invite you to visit our website and share it with others who you think might be a good fit for our team, culture, and mission.

Our website shares more information on our competitive benefits packages and culture. Here are a few quotes from existing team members who have shared what it's like to work at St. Mary.



"When I first came to St. Mary Development, I just wanted to help seniors. I have stayed with the company for the last 8 years because their mission isn't just to

serve older adults, it is to serve but also to advocate for change on a scale that allows all older adults the opportunity to age in place with the dignity they deserve. It has been my privilege to do the work I love, for a company that truly cares."

Natalynne Baker, Senior Vice President, Resident Services



"St. Mary is more than a place to work. We all get to collaborate with a group of dedicated people who support the mission of helping those in need with affordable

housing and services to support their quality of life. It is a privilege to work here and being part of an organization that makes a difference every single day."

Wes Young, Executive Vice President

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Continued from Cover

- **1.** Medication and medical appointment reminders were a popular feature for residents. Medication management is often complicated and confusing for residents, especially when new medications are added or removed.
- 2. Using Alexa to connect with loved ones was important, especially for those with limited cell phone plans and no landline phone. When residents run out of phone minutes, they can feel stranded. Alexa minimized social isolation.
- 3. Entertainment including streaming music and audiobooks were a significant motivator in residents trying new technology. Many residents were in awe that they could ask Alexa to play music and immediately hear it.
- 4. The new technology fostered relationships and community as residents talked with each other about how they were using technology. In some cases, residents linked their Echo devices, allowing them to check in on each other more easily.
- **5.** Confidence increased as residents learned something new. One reason for using a voice-activated device was that there was less for residents to learn and allowed those with limited dexterity or low vision an opportunity to access the internet with ease.

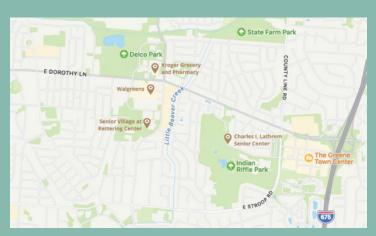
You can read the case study, Teaching Older Adults in Affordable Apartment Communities to Use Amazon Echo Devices, and St. Mary's other research at www.stmarydevelopment.org/research.



Work Begins on Senior Village at Kettering Town Center

Demolition has begun to tear down the old AT&T building at the intersection of Woodman Drive and Danube Court in Kettering to make way for St. Mary's latest development project, Senior Village at Kettering Town Center.

The Senior Village is a cooperative effort between St. Mary Development Corporation and the Oberer Companies to provide 52 units of affordable housing for seniors ages 55+. St. Mary will serve as the developer and supportive services provider, and Oberer will serve as co-developer, general contractor, and property manager.



Senior Village at Kettering Center is located directly next to a Dayton RTA bus stop, within a half-mile of a pharmacy and grocery store, and within one mile of a senior center that offers activities, education, connection, and fun for active adults ages 55+.

The community will contain one- and two-bedroom units and will be an Energy Star and Enterprise Green Communities Certified Building. On-site services and amenities will include service coordination, an exercise room, a community room, and transportation programs, among others.

The Senior Village is located within a half-mile of a Kroger grocery store, a health clinic, banking, restaurants, and Delco Park, and is within a mile of a senior center. Most services are also accessible via public transportation provided by the Dayton Regional Transit Authority, which operates a public bus stop directly outside the site. The walkability, easy-access bus stop, and developer-provided transportation mean seniors can thrive at Senior Village without owning a car.

What's Inside...

- McBride Place Open House
- Five ways technology improves lives of older people with low incomes
- Do You Know Someone Who Would Be a Fit for Our Team?

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A Letter from Our President

Bishop Jerome McCorry gives me hope. He gives the residents at McBride Place and Lyons Place II hope, too. Bishop McCorry, who lives at McBride Place on the VA Campus in Dayton, spoke at the McBride Place Grand Opening, and he rocked the crowd with his motivational words.

Bishop McCorry said some people move to an apartment for older people thinking it will be the place where they'll die. But the Bishop shared that the residents of McBride Place and Lyons Place II moved there to live life to the fullest!

Each Sunday Bishop McCorry leads prayer and worship for those residents who want to attend. While his gatherings started small, more than 40 residents regularly attend now. Those residents have become a tight community, who look out for each other, help each other, and pray for each other.

Dick McBride, our co-founder for whom McBride Place was named, would love Bishop McCorry's energy and enthusiasm. What a joy it was to celebrate with all our residents on the VA Campus!

May God bless you and your family,

Jim Bete

Tim Bete President