

WESTMINSTER RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Foundation Focus

Enhancing Today, Securing Tomorrow

Giving with Heart When Her Neighbors Need Help

At age 99, Doris Collins has seen a thing or two in life. Through it all, her sunny disposition has helped her “thank the Lord for my blessings and not look back.” That and smiling. “It makes your face look a lot better,” she says.

Doris spreads sunshine by serving as a volunteer and Ambassador Committee member for the Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation.

But what makes her really light up is a program that’s close to her heart, Westminster’s benevolent assistance campaign, *Caring for Generations*. Providing assistance to those who outlive their financial resources, benevolent assistance epitomizes Westminster’s mission of neighbor helping neighbor in need.

“I grew up during the Great Depression and watched so many running out of money,” Doris says. “This is something I can do to help people feel more secure.”

Doris also supports the employee education program for Westminster employees to further their training.

She has generously given her “treasure” for 10 consecutive years by making annual contributions, remembering Westminster in her estate plan and establishing charitable gift annuities that provide her with income in return.

“Doris herself is such a gift,” says Tish Littlehales Burke, Director of Development. “She’s a leader in words, actions and spirit, showing others how to ensure that what they value endures.”



Through the generosity of people like Doris, we are committed to supporting our residents and communities. The Foundation works hard to provide enhancements to our communities and offer benevolent assistance to those who outlive their financial resources. Please contact your Foundation Development Director to learn how to maximize the Foundation’s impact in your community.

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From the VP of Development

Dear Donors and Friends,

The Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation (WRCF) exists to enhance our communities and to ensure that our residents have every opportunity to thrive in them. Since its inception in 1974, the Foundation has been a partner in Westminster Communities of Florida's mission to serve older adults, and this partnership positively impacts our 10 Continuing Care and 11 Rental Retirement campuses.

Gifts to the Foundation are used to provide:

- **Benevolent Assistance** to independent and assisted living contract residents
- **Scholarships** for Westminster staff
- **Financial assistance** to Westminster employees who have suffered a devastating loss
- **Honorable Service Grants** to prospective residents who have served the church
- **Chaplains** in our RRCs as well as **funding for resident recreational outings**
- **Enhancements** to the CCRC campuses that are over and above those financed by capital and operational budgets.

One of the Foundation's main objectives is to inspire philanthropy and to earn your meaningful investment in the programs we support—building a mutually beneficial

relationship with the power to transform lives. As donors, your contributions to WRCF allow you to effectuate change, and with your support we can continue to fulfill our mission every day. Please know that your generosity is both appreciated and celebrated.

The promise to do good begins with the spirit of caring and empathy. If we have the capacity and tendency to place ourselves in another's shoes, then we can truly understand that a community only thrives when there is kindness, benevolence and inclusion. This understanding guides how the Foundation invests in programming and enhancements in our communities and delivers on your desire to enrich the lives of the residents we serve.

As we begin our 46th year of serving in our communities, we celebrate the accomplishments and progress that have only been possible because of you, our valued supporters. As we strive to fulfill these commitments, please be assured that every gift you make to WRCF matters, and that your support is vital to our success today, tomorrow and into the future.

Thank you for all that you do to make Westminster Communities of Florida an incredible place to live and work!

With gratitude,
Noreen Levitt

Support Your Passions Well Into the Future

Everyone has something they are passionate about. You may be passionate about a place that holds an important spot in your heart or a cause that's near and dear to you.

But, did you know that you can ensure your support of the places you're passionate about continues even after your lifetime while also receiving tax benefits for yourself?

You can—with a planned gift.

Popular Planned Gifts

- Include a gift to the Foundation in your will or living trust.
 - ★ **Your benefits:** Retain control of your assets and have the flexibility to change your mind at any time.
- Name us beneficiary of your retirement account.
 - ★ **Your benefits:** These assets pass to us tax-free, allowing us to use the entire amount to support our communities. If passed to your loved ones, they would have to pay income tax when distributions are made from the account.
- Transfer appreciated stock to us.
 - ★ **Your benefits:** You qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction based on the current fair market value of the securities and are exempt from paying capital gains tax on any increase in their value.
- Create a life income gift.
 - ★ **Your benefits:** Depending on the type of gift you choose, you can receive stable income for life or for a period of up to 20 years. You may also qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction in the year you make the gift.



Call in the Experts

*Discover the team players you need to create an estate plan that meets the needs of the people and places that are close to your heart. Return the enclosed reply card to receive your copy of **Build Your Best Will Planning Team.***

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Westminster Towers Reaches Fundraising Goal for the Veterans' Wall of Honor

The Westminster Towers of Orlando Foundation Ambassadors and Veterans' Committee were pleased to announce they reached their fundraising goal of \$20,000 for the *Veterans' Wall of Honor* project. Resident donations, along with \$5,000 in matching funds from the Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation, were critical in ensuring that the Towers campus had sufficient funds to complete the project as well as resources for maintenance and upkeep.

The Foundation is especially grateful to Veterans' Committee Member Lou Ellen Bell, who, along with an anonymous donor, donated the remaining funds to attain the fundraising goal just before the installation of the wall itself. The outpouring of support from the community was equally moving.

This project is so important to the Towers campus as it will feature, celebrate and memorialize those



Noreen Levitt, Vice President of Development; Westminster Towers of Orlando (WTO) resident, donor and Veterans' Committee Member Lou Ellen Bell; and WTO Executive Director David Randazzo.

who have served, are serving or will serve in our Armed Forces. The digital component extends the capacity of the Wall, which will effectively allow for dynamic visuals, videos and unlimited information to be projected on a 55-inch screen.

Westminster Towers of Orlando will be the first campus to have this type of digital display and the entire community is thrilled to be able to honor our veterans. David Randazzo, Executive Director of Westminster Towers, states, "We are humbled by, and grateful for, the amazing generosity of our donors for their support in achieving this momentous goal for this equally momentous undertaking."



The Foundation will continue to raise donations for the Veterans' Wall of Honor project in order to grow the fund that will continue to develop and support the project into the future. Please contact Christina Patterson, Westminster Towers of Orlando Development Director, by phone at (407) 841-1310 or email cpatterson@wservices.org to learn more about, and contribute to, this vital addition to the Westminster Towers of Orlando campus.



Westminster Oaks residents Michael and Linda Dodson

Their Gift Gives Twice: Back to Them and to the Memory Care Center

Westminster Oaks residents Michael and Linda Dodson recently provided support that symbolizes the full and gratifying circle of a gift: the act of giving, honoring and receiving.

The Dodsons chose a gift that pays back, known as a charitable gift annuity, to benefit the Memory Care Center because the “world of finance can be volatile,” Michael says. “A CGA provides us with predictability and stability.”

Another attractive feature for the couple: It ensures financial stability by continuing to pay income to the surviving spouse when the other passes away.

The Dodsons designated their gift for the Memory Care Center to honor dear friends and colleagues who had memory disabilities and to support continued enhancements for the Center. Even today, Michael speaks fondly of a mentor who developed a memory disability later in life.

“He was a kind man with a brilliant mind,” Michael says. “It was hard to see that happen to him.”

A friend of Linda’s also developed complicated memory disabilities.

“She would become angry and violent. At that time, there was no place that could help her,” Linda says. “Memory care is an acute need in the Tallahassee area—really all over—and this is our way of making sure people get the help they need.”



Please support the THRIVE campaign for enhancements for our Memory Care Center. Your tax-deductible gifts will provide specialized and up-to-date programming, materials and technology that can promote residents’ engagement, foster communication, encourage reminiscing and enable upgrades to the building, rooms and Memory Garden. Contact Gail Alexander, Westminster Oaks Development Director, by phone at (850) 878-1136, Ext. 258, or by email at galexander@wservices.org to learn more.



Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation Celebrates Service to the Church with the Honorable Service Grant

Westminster Communities of Florida honors faithful service to the Church through a very special program funded by the Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation.

The *Honorable Service Grant (HSG)* recognizes and honors long-term service provided by professional church workers and their surviving spouses by awarding a grant to offset a portion of the cost of a community entrance fee.

Ministers, missionaries, religious educators and church workers, including spouses or surviving spouses, may apply for the grant when planning to become a part of a Westminster Active Living Community. The program is

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—Alan Cutter



available to those who have 10 or more years of full-time employment (or the equivalent of dedicated part-time service) to the Church, subject to approval.

It is, quite simply, our way of expressing our appreciation to those who have ministered to communities of faith throughout their careers and for the countless lives that they have touched in their calling. *Honorable Service Grant* values range from 10 percent to 20 percent of the entrance fee in all of our Active Living Communities, up to \$15,000.

Honorable Service Grant recipients Alan and Ann Cutter moved to Westminster Suncoast in 2016 from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Alan is a retired Presbyterian pastor and explained that the program had an influence in their decision to move to a Westminster community. “The *Honorable Service Grant* we received when we moved to Suncoast was a financial help, but what really touched us was this tangible invitation to live in a community that recognized the service of church workers. Our pilgrimage had called us to be ‘temporary residents’ in wonderful places, but the *Honorable Service Grant* invited us to fulfill the pilgrims’ dream of settling into a ‘home’ where love’s fullness is found in daily encounters with others and life’s ongoing, ever-changing journey is celebrated.”

The Rev. Dr. Robert and Mrs. Helen Kantner both served the church lovingly in ministry around the United States: Helen as a Christian educator and Bob as a Presbyterian minister. They met at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois, and served in callings throughout Illinois, Ohio, Florida and South Carolina.

Helen Kantner, Westminster Palms resident and HSG recipient.

After many decades of service to others, Bob and Helen found that it was time to seek out their options for retirement. Bob had been diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease and his health had begun to decline. So, Bob and Helen sought the assurance of a Continuing Care Retirement Community, where they would have a plan for their future. They found Westminster Palms in St. Petersburg, offering a wide variety of active living options and a full continuum of care. The *Honorable Service Grant* was a great support to help Helen and Bob move into their new home at Westminster Palms in an apartment overlooking beautiful Tampa Bay.

Ultimately, Bob passed away in 2012. But, the support of everyone at Westminster Palms provided a great comfort to Helen in a challenging time. Today, she continues to enjoy the lifestyle at Westminster Palms that the couple first fell in love with in 2009.

Last year, the *Honorable Service Grant* Program was extended to include retired employees of Westminster Communities of Florida with at least 10 years full-time paid service who would like to move into one of our Active Living Communities.



If you, or anyone you know, is interested in joining one of our communities, please feel free to contact Suzanne Ujcic, Honorable Service Grant Coordinator, by phone at (407) 839-5050, Ext. 226, or by email at sujcic@wservices.org.



The works of Palms resident Phil Harsham (1924-2019), a retired New York Times journalist and photographer, are showcased.



Get Your 2020 Resident Art Calendar Today

In May, Westminster Towers of Orlando hosted the 25th annual Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation Resident Art Show. In addition, a gala and reception was held for residents and distinguished guests.

To get your copy of the 2020 calendar showcasing residents' winning art, contact Hyacinth Mayberry in the Foundation Office by phone at (407) 839-5050, Ext. 227, or email at hmayberry@wsservices.org.

Westminster Palms Gallery



The Gallery Exhibit extends through a curved hallway in the Palm Aire building.

Gallery Exhibit Space

The Westminster Palms Gallery Exhibit project was funded by the Westminster Retirement Communities Foundation. It aims to attract and support resident artists as well as provide space for other exhibits relating to the Palms community and its residents.

"It has been a very exciting step forward in celebration of the arts here at Westminster Palms," says Gallery Arts committee member George Ellis. "The Foundation's funding of the Gallery Exhibit space within the community was a fantastic gift not only to all of our artists but to residents and staff who enjoy it every day."

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If you wish to be removed from our fundraising mailing list, please contact Hyacinth Mayberry by email at hmayberry@wsservices.org or toll free at (800) 948-1881.