

Gratitude REPORT



BECAUSE OF YOU!



Mount St. Rita Health Centre

A Member of Covenant Health

It has been a year since COVID-19 turned our lives upside down. A year ago, our residents suddenly could no longer visit with loved ones, dine with friends, gather in the chapel for prayer or participate in group activities — almost everything that enriched their daily lives.

For the families of our residents, including many of you, COVID-19 took away the ability to physically offer comfort and care to loved ones. Our staff came to work each day, dedicated to our residents' care, and donned layers of personal protective equipment to do so. The masks that hid their faces robbed the residents of seeing their caregivers' smiles and made it harder for the residents to hear their words.

But in the midst of the most challenging circumstances, we experienced how a “village” of caring donors, including you, came together for a shared purpose: to protect and care for our residents and staff.

It Takes a Village

The needs brought on by the pandemic created an urgent opportunity to work together — and our village proved up to the challenge. Your response to our calls for help and your unsolicited acts of generosity created a sense of solidarity: We were all in this together. Thanks to you, we were able to stay focused on being a lifeline for our residents and their loved ones. You offered comfort and connection during a time of fear, frustration and loneliness.





Those who
made the first gifts
to help establish our
Employee Emergency
Assistance Fund
lit a beacon of hope
for our employees.

To join our trailblazers with a gift to help even more employees, please visit mountstrita.org/donate.

Employee Emergency Assistance Fund Established

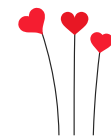
Those who made the first gifts to help establish our Employee Emergency Assistance Fund lit a beacon of hope for our employees. Thank you! As a trailblazer, you set an example that will inspire others to give to this important fund that provides assistance for employees who face unexpected financial hardship.

The thoughtful and heartwarming notes sent with these gifts conveyed how thankful you are to those who care for your loved ones.

“My mom, Janet, is a resident. Karna, Denise, Maryellen, Tina, Peter and the rest of the staff have been so kind and wonderful to her. She became a resident a year ago and only had January and February to get used to activities before COVID-19 hit. Barn Babies was her favorite! The staff made the holidays so wonderful with Thanksgiving placemats, Christmas cards and even a visit from Santa. It has meant the world to my sister and me, who miss seeing her. The staff has worked tirelessly and selflessly to keep my mom and the other residents safe. They truly are heroes.”

—Denise Duhamel

We continue to gratefully accept donations to this fund to ensure we will always be able to assist our employees during times of need. In the months ahead, we look forward to sharing stories about the impact of your gifts.



**To date, we have received
44 trailblazer gifts, totaling
\$9,420, through our
recent appeal.**



Generosity runs in the Duhamel family. Denise's grandnephews made Valentine's flowers for all the residents!

Donation provides generous holiday bonus to every Mount St. Rita employee



Sr. Rosellen Gallogly

Sister Rosellen Gallogly, a Sister of Mercy for almost 70 years, was a resident at Mount St. Rita Health Centre from 2014 until her passing in April 2018. She often said, ***“We can’t do it alone, but together we can make a difference.”*** She exemplified these words in her life and ministry.

Over the past year, the staff at Mount St. Rita Health Centre has worked tirelessly to care for and encourage our residents during the most challenging time we have ever experienced. Each day, they lifted the spirits of residents when their families could not be by their sides. They supported each other and demonstrated genuine teamwork when it was needed most.

Thanks to a generous gift from Sister Rosellen's nephew, Mark Gallogly, and his wife, Lise Strickler, members of our staff received a substantial holiday bonus in recognition of their professionalism, courage, compassion, and exemplary service, particularly during the peak months of the pandemic. After the bonuses were distributed in a special ceremony, many staff expressed their gratitude to Mark and Lise through a special video we shared with them.

“Your generosity will make a wonderful difference in my life, just as Sr. Rosellen did when I had the honor to know her as an activities assistant,” said Peter Landau.

For some employees, the bonus offered peace of mind over the holidays. “Thank you very much, Mark and Lise. This means a lot to me. It will help me put very nice Christmas gifts underneath the Christmas tree for my family,” said Paul Fisher, a member of the dining services staff.

For others, the bonus inspired their own generosity. “I am originally from Nigeria and I am going to send this money back to an orphanage in my country. This gift is going to be a blessing to some children during this holiday,” said Grace Sunday, RN.

But the greatest impact this philanthropy had on our staff was the care and concern Mark and Lise demonstrated for each member of our team. It showed everyone that their dedication and care over the past year was recognized and deeply appreciated.

Those who remember Sr. Rosellen with great fondness have no doubt she would be filled with happiness to see the great joy that Mark and Lise's kindness brought to every member of our Mount St. Rita family!

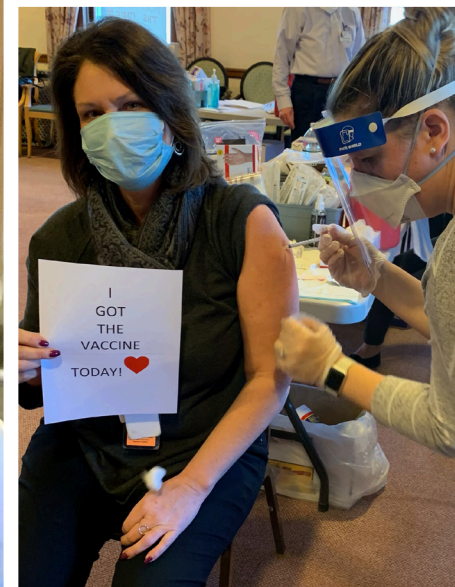


Members of our housekeeping team were among the employees who received a holiday bonus made possible through the generosity of Mark Gallogly and Lise Strickler.



Little did our staff know they were about to receive a generous gift of appreciation for their sacrifice and commitment during the peak months of COVID.

“Your generosity touched my heart. May we all be inspired to share and cause a ripple effect.”
— Cheryl Ethier, Receptionist Supervisor & Business Office Assistant



Maryellen Gillis, director of admissions, receives her vaccination.

♥
Thank you for all that you did! We hope that this report will convey the difference you have made during this difficult time and inspire your continued generosity as we move beyond COVID-19.

With a grateful heart,

Susan Oldrid
Executive Director Philanthropy