

A Message of Gratitude from Brethren Village

So much has changed in senior living over the years. Increases in life expectancies mean we're living longer and many are living healthier into their later years. The illusion of the "rest home" is shattered! Our residents want adventure. They are hungry to grow in knowledge and faith. We now have teams devoted to offering our residents opportunities for fitness, lifelong learning through ongoing classes, creativity through our creative arts rooms, woodshop, dance classes, volunteering. Heck, their schedules are often busier than mine, and that's saying something!

In 2026 we're often blessed to have our loved ones with us longer in life. There is a challenge that is inherent in that gift. Many of our residents will require more expensive levels of medical care, and some have the potential to outlive the money they saved for their retirement years. To be clear, once you're part of the Brethren Village family you will never be asked to leave due to your financial situation.

This is where our donors, sponsors, and support from our Brethren brothers and sisters come in. With gifts from the community, we've created the Good Samaritan Fund. This fund goes to filling the approximately 2–3-million-dollar deficit created each year with this challenge. This allows our residents, struggling to make ends meet, the comfort of knowing that we've got them. They can age in place with dignity and ultimately pass surrounded by our care and love.

In the first quarter of 2026

- Over 80 residents received financial assistance
- 19% of residents per day receive assistance
- Average cost of \$200 per day
- Over \$2.3 million total paid out in uncompensated care per year

In Matthew 25:35-40, Jesus highlights our moral obligation to care for our most vulnerable. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in . . . Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." That's why Brethren Village proudly works with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide 120 units of high-quality housing for those living on low incomes.

We're also working to support our team members through our Deacon Fund providing bill payment for staff that are struggling financially. We've also begun a tuition reimbursement program allowing team members to improve professionally.

Our Brethren faith partners support these programs and more, helping us to continue living our mission as we have for over 129 years. Lives are improved because of you. Every day our residents share their gratitude with us. We would like to extend and share that gratitude with our friends in the Atlantic Northeast District Church of the Brethren. Thank you for the support, advocacy, and prayers you provide. We are humbled by the impact you make in our communities.

Please keep Brethren Village in mind for members seeking to make an impact through volunteerism and work opportunities. We're always looking for incredible employees and partners to bless our residents' lives.

Thank you again for all you do!

Kevin Ditzler

Vice President of Development