REPORTS ON INNOVATION MINI-GRANTS

**Broadmead:** Below is our summary. Thank you again for the opportunity to apply for the grant.  It made a big difference in our employees lives during some very trying times.

The “Light” was a weekly 30-minute self-care virtual meeting of staff interested in engaging in self-care activities, and sharing self-care tips and resources. Because the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us in a myriad of ways, the purpose of this group was to support Broadmead staff with preventing burn-out and promoting positive self-care.

We conducted 19 sessions on Zoom. Over the course of the 19 sessions, we served about 50 employees who sought tips, guidance, and support on how to care for themselves during this unprecedented time.  Those that attended expressed great gratitude for Broadmead’s care for their well-being and the valuable information offered.  Topics included: Bingo, exercises to Combat Anxiety, eating healthy tips, channeling anger to action, how to find peace and clarity by nourishing your mind. We purchased a journal with the grant money and gave one to all employees.

Cindy Yingling

**Lathrop** has utilized the grant to build an actual Country Store on campus; our virtual experience will soon be a reality for residents and staff. We will be able to provide more fresh items from our community garden, staple products to help keep people out of the grocery stores and potentially exposed to COVID-19. Residents were forced to close a thriving Thrift Shop due to COVID restrictions and will now have a new venue in which to sell their artwork and handcrafts and Lathrop will have a swag section with seasonal items, including face masks.  We cannot thank you enough for your support! Thomas

**Kendal at Home**

Susan and FFA Board Members,

On behalf of Kendal at Home and its members we would like to extend our gratitude for recognition of the innovative opportunities we used for member engagement in the early days of the pandemic.  As the months have unfolded this opportunity has now developed into a comprehensive virtual wellness program. We launch next week with a first in a monthly series on Brain Health presented by Jennifer Brush, a dementia expert. It is followed by Medical Matters with our medical director Lal Arora presenting a monthly series on various topics.  We are also integrating numerous other programs focused on all aspects of the wellness wheel. We are working to integrate social engagement in every aspect of the programming.  The initial Coffee Hours are now a permanent fixture and well loved and attended not just by Kendal at Home members but by many older adults.

We are grateful for your support and continued interest in our work.  To learn more about what we are doing on an ongoing basis, sign up to receive our blogs and notifications at [www.kahome.kendal.org](http://www.kahome.kendal.org/)

Thanks again.

Lynne

Trinitas

Thanks again for the Innovation Grant for iPads for Brother Bonaventure, Trinitas’ long-term care facility. We appreciate the support for our patients!

In reaching out to the folks at Brother B to collect stories from the staff and residents about how the iPads were being used, I learned that the iPads that the grant funded have not yet been received.  Nadine and I assumed that they had been received as Nadine had heard great things about the iPads at Brother B and how the residents loved them! As we have since learned, those were iPads that the unit already had.  I did some digging as to why we do not have them yet and there were several issues. The good news is that the iPads from the grant are in the process of being ordered and should be here sometime in September.

The main issue is that as a hospital, the process from grant receipt to receiving equipment involves several steps that can take time, often several months. The check for the iPads was deposited in mid-June and the next step is for our IT department to get a quote from a vendor. After that is received the department that is ordering the equipment - in this case Brother B- creates a Purchase Order for the items. The PO then has to go through the hospital’s Capital committee for approval which meets once a month.  Once approved the items can then be ordered and time from order to receipt can take several weeks.  The other issue that caused a delay was a change in the Administrator at Brother Bonaventure in mid-July.  The prior Administrator had been out on medical leave in June and subsequently left which caused a delay in the Purchase order being created. This has since been taken care of and we expect to receive the iPads in September. As soon as we have them and they are being used I will reach back with stories to share. I sincerely apologize for this delay and appreciate your understanding and patience! Thanks again for Friends continuing support of our elderly patients!

**ARTZPhiladelphia**

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Thank you, once again, Susan -- and to your Board -- for the opportunity to apply for FFA's first innovation mini-grants. The vision for the grants -- of acknowledging, rewarding, and implementing the creative solutions developed by those on the front lines -- was a source of inspiration and optimism during a time of seemingly unrelenting challenges.

We at ARTZ Philadelphia have been deeply engaged since we received news of the grant in laying the groundwork for bringing our projects -- ARTZ Kits and ARTZ in the Hallway -- to life. Our lead program facilitator for our art-making programs, Sue Brown, whose resilience and creativity the grant acknowledges, has designed ***three art-making projects that will comprise ARTZ Kits in its pilot iteration (and will make possible their delivery via ARTZ in the Hallway)***.

The projects are tiered, providing creative opportunities that are calibrated to serve people living with dementia in residential care communities who are at different stages of illness, some with fairly strong executive function, manual dexterity and sensory responsiveness; others with moderate executive function, dexterity, and responsiveness; and still others experiencing lessened executive function and eye-hand-coordination challenges, but heightened sensory responsiveness and imaginativeness.  ***All three projects will engage people across the spectrum of dementias and capabilities***; it's just that some may be more conducive than others to person-specific needs and desires.

Each kit is comprised of all supplies needed for six people living with dementia to complete a project from start to finish -- the care communities will not need to do anything other than open the kits and work with their residents either one-on-one or in small groups, whatever their current protocols will allow. Each kit will include -- in addition to all necessary materials --  a step-by-step video of Sue facilitating a sample project in which several of our community members (care partners and people with dementia) who are still living in their own homes will model the experience of a facilitated project, as well as modeling the joyfulness, camaraderie, and engagement that are fundamental to these projects. The kits will also include written step-by-step instructions, examples of completed projects, and additional supporting materials for staff and participants.

The grant has enabled us to partner once again with three of the continuing care communities for whom we had been providing in-person programs prior to COVID. We will provide three kits to each of the three communities -- so encompassing three different projects with enough supplies for six people to work on each of those projects at each community. Thus, a total of 54 participants living with dementia will be engaged by this pilot round of ARTZ Kits. The communities include Saint Joseph Manor, Holy Redeemer, in Meadowbrook; Park Creek Place, an Enlivant community in North Wales; and Wesley Enhanced Living at Stapeley, a substantially medicare- and  medicaid-supported community in Mount Airy.

The funding from FFA is paying for the time of our videographer who is creating the videos for us by filming via Zoom; and is compensating Sue Brown for her design and implementation work on this project. The cost of the kits is being borne by our operating budget.

I know that I've gone on much longer than a simple paragraph already, but I can't finish without mentioning a beautiful, unexpected benefit that has resulted from this project. At Pennswood Village in Newtown, another continuing care community with whom we had partnered periodically before COVID, one of our ARTZ Kits projects is going to be used for a "whole community" project, in which people in Independent Living/Assisted Living will help put the kits together for people in skilled nursing  and memory care, and then Sue will facilitate an art-making session via live streaming a few weeks later.

Thank you again for all of your support, inspirational and financial --

**JFCS** appreciates the support and thoughtfulness of the innovation grant. To date, we have supplied 8 clients in the Hoarding Support Program with chromebooks. Each participant was in contact with a staff person in advance to set up their chromebook and apps such as Zoom and Uniper were downloaded. They were also provided a wireless mouse for those who had difficulty with the touchpads. In their delivery they received flyers for the IT support group to help them connect and use zoom and other features of their chromebook and a easy to read instruction guide put together by our care management team and IT support staff.

Once the chromebooks were received a care manager made contact by phone with each client to go over the instruction guide and walk them through the steps to signing in and starting zoom. After each client was connected, they could then attend the IT support group if they needed further practice or use their computer as they desired. While we are toward the end of current groups, we have several new cohorts starting in September. We will have two cohorts of Buried In Treasures which are filling up, a Art Therapy cohort, and another cohort for the Mindfulness group. All of these groups include members who are using their new chromebooks. In addition to the groups, both Dara and Jasmin (care managers who identified this need) have been able to begin "seeing" their clients for individual sessions in the Hoarding Support program. While we have noticed an interesting trend during this time, groups have become more broadly and consistently attended, the individual needs continue to remain. Individual support has been more challenging, the addition of the chromebooks as significantly increased our ability to make strides in a difficult time.

We greatly appreciate the additional support of this grant and how it has expanded our reach for current and new clients.

**Medford Leas**

Dear Friends,

We so appreciate the support of Friends Foundation for our Birthday celebrations for our residents.

These gifts of personally decorated cakes have made the day special despite the social distancing that is in place during COVID-19.

Some of the feedback from residents has included:

· I don't know just to whom I should address this, but hope you  
will express to all dining services my greatest thanks for all you do.  
 In addition, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks and  
gratitude for the surprise I had upon receiving my Friday meal.  There  
I found the birthday cake with Happy Birthday, in different  
colored icing!!!!! What a joy!!!  Just what I needed!  I felt like  
singing a loud song of thanks for the thoughtfulness of the act.  
     With gratitude,

· Thank you so much for the cute cake!  Your call was a surprise and the cake really made my day special.  The decorated bag—all signed by the staff was a special treat!  Medford Leas staff are the best!   Thank you, thank you!

· The birthday cake was a real surprise and Thank You for it.  Great lift for the spirits after a fairly dull day…… You and your staff are doing a great job doing the marathon every day during while very good food is delivered to our doors. Hopefully the crisis will be over soon and grateful to all of you.

·         Who would have thought my 90th birthday would be spent alone in my apartment—but the thoughtfulness of your staff in bringing a cake to my door went beyond my expectations—and the song sung slightly off key but with lots of love was so appreciated.

So, I hope the words of our residents explain how much of an impact your grant has made.  I had the pleasure one evening of delivering a cake to a gentleman who had just lost his wife the week before.  The emotion in his eyes told the story of his appreciation in light of his recent sadness.

These gifts have made an impact.

Thank you-should you require further information, please just let me know.

Kind regards,  
Jane

**Kendal Crosslands**

We truly appreciate Friends Foundation for the Aging’s recognition of KendalCrosslands Communities’ culinary services creativity in responding to the COVID-19 crisis. The $1,000 innovation grant we awarded for staff appreciation was put to good use. We purchased delicious treats for all 500+ staff on two occasions. Staff were treated to freshly baked cookies from Insomnia Cookies, which totaled $840. They were also treated to freshly baked cupcakes from Dia Coce’s cupcake truck, which the remaining $160 in grant funds were allocated toward. Staff enjoyed both opportunities for an afternoon snack and appreciated the message of thanks behind the goodies.

**Chandler Hall** Thank you for the opportunity to receive an Innovation Fund Grant from Friends Foundation for the Aging.  As requested, here are our plans for the funds.

As I mentioned in our proposal, we were committed to asking Indira and Rhonda, the two employees featured in the proposal, for their input in how the funds should be used.  Their programs that we highlighted (the salon services and the virtual visit cards) had all the supplies they needed at this time, and they both agreed that a mobile computer station with iN2L programming would be most beneficial to residents.  iN2L stands for “It’s Never Too Late” and the programming and physical equipment is specially designed for seniors.  We currently have two iN2L mobile stations in the nursing home and in personal care.  The new station would be dedicated to our memory care unit, the Hicks Residence.  Recently, the Hicks staff borrowed the station from Personal Care, just to see how it was received.  The Hicks residents loved it and so did our staff, and it was with great reluctance that they returned it to the Personal Care houses.  The iN2L has various activities, games, and music therapy programs, and perhaps most important of all, it’s incredibly easy for staff to use.  This means that the iN2L stations are used frequently by Care Partners (CNA’s) who are often hesitant to run other group or individual programs.  The iN2L programming is well designed and easily accessible to anyone, which makes a significant difference.

The cost of the iN2L hardware and an annual subscription is nearly $6,000, so we needed to find additional funding to make this happen.  I should have an answer on that application in a few weeks, and I will be sure to let you know when we finally have the iN2L in place, so I can share some stories with you.  If we cannot secure the additional funding by the end of October, we will return to Rhonda and Indira and discuss alternate options for the Innovation Fund Grant.

Thank you again for this support.  It means so much during these times when we are spending so heavily on infection control and PPE to keep residents safe.

**Friends House Retirement Community**

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