



March 1, 2022

Ms. Susan W. Hoskins, LCSW, Executive Director
Friends Foundation for the Aging
Via email: info@friendsfoundationaging.org

Dear Susan,

In 2021, through the generosity of Friends Foundation for the Aging, LSMNJ was able to enhance the gardening program in our Mount Olive community. LSMNJ would like to replicate this gardening opportunity at our Pennsauken property. Pennsauken is affordable housing for those who are 62 or older.

A bit different from the Mt. Laurel program, in Pennsauken we will include an intergenerational community aspect to the project. In conjunction with congregants of Temple Lutheran Church, including their youth group, we will install raised garden beds as well as ground level plots. The produce from the garden will benefit both the residents of Pennsauken as well as provide fresh produce to the food pantry at Temple Lutheran.

LSMNJ senior living communities provide a wide range of healthcare and community wide activities to encourage socialization, so important to this population. We are certain the addition of a community garden at Pennsauken will offer months of physical activity and the sense of accomplishment of growing one's own produce and flowers and sharing with their community.

With the guidance of Master Gardner, Karen Hickey, we have built a plan to develop this program which is customized for this aging population. The following has been recommended:

Raised beds and stabilizers	\$3,250
Gardening tools	\$300
Soil, seeds / plants	\$1,500
Patio furniture	\$2,000
Administrative	\$250

Based on the interest expressed by our residents and the success of similar programs in other LSMNJ properties, we are confident it will encourage participation by residents and increase a general sense of accomplishment and social interaction so important for this population.

I trust you will find this project has value to pursue it further, and that LSMNJ will be invited to present a formal Grant Request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Lauck".

Alison Lauck
Vice President, Philanthropy