

Final reports from Quaker Senior Living Consortium December 2022.

At the end of the IRIS project, there was a balance of \$3373.67 left in the grant. FFA authorized splitting this between the three communities that were interested toward fulfilling the recommendations from the study for reducing isolation and loneliness.

- Friends Village in Woodstown purchased sound enhancing equipment for their auditorium.
- Medford Leas bought tablets to expand virtual connections with skilled nursing resident families.
- Friends LifeCare used the funds for “random acts of kindness” for members who were identified by care coordinators as being in need of a care message.

Here are their final reports:

Friends Village at Woodstown purchased equipment through EverSound to assist residents who were isolated due to their inability to hear. The one-year cost exceeded the grant, but we are so thankful for your generosity in allowing us to get this program started!

Kelli Mills Executive Director at Friends Village

We purchased two iPads in July 2022 for \$889.98. They are being used on our skilled nursing floor to allow residents without their own technology to communicate with their families (predominantly via Facetime). Especially during the COVID pandemic, they have been a great addition and well utilized. Jeremy- Medford Leas

Friends Life Care received \$1124 in grant funding through Friends Foundation for the Aging for a “Random Acts of Kindness” (RAK) project aimed at reducing isolation and loneliness among older adults. The grants funds were used to launch the project and resulted in the delivery of RAK to 26 Friends Life Care members at risk due to isolation/loneliness. The project was well received and with the recommendation of the DEI Task Force, will become an ongoing organizational initiative, aimed at reducing isolation for both the FLC membership and the larger community.

The FLC Care Coordination team identified members at risk of isolation and loneliness due to lack of informal support system, residence in a facility, COVID isolation or circumstances such as a move or the loss of a loved one. The project focused on matching the recipient with an RAK that was relevant to their recreational interests and their psychosocial and functional needs.

One RAK included a memorial donation in memory of a lost spouse. Another member lives in a memory care unit where the beloved cat recently died. FLC gave this member a robotic companion cat. The other RAKs included flowers, plants and cards, a terrarium, window bird feeder, crossword puzzles books, ballet DVDs, art supplies, holiday gift baskets, journals, and special pens for functional issues, such as an essential tremor.

The impact of the project to date has included a positive response from recipients and their caregivers and has benefited FLC staff through participation in the project. As an organization, FLC continues to express its commitment to diversity equity and inclusion and hopes to continue its commitment to DEI

through an ongoing commitment to engage both internally and externally to promote inclusion and reduce loneliness and isolation.

A complete list of the gifts purchased is included on page 2 (column with Member Name redacted).

Carol A. Barbour
President/CEO