



January 24, 2023

Ms. Susan W. Hoskins, LCSW, Executive Director  
Friends Foundation for the Aging  
Post Office Box 1081  
Langhorne, PA 19047

Via email: [shoskins@friendsfoundationaging.org](mailto:shoskins@friendsfoundationaging.org)

Dear Susan,

Providing people with a place to call home is central to Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey's (LSMNJ) mission of serving those "**who hurt, who are in need, or who have limited choices**".

In 2022, through the generosity of Friends Foundation for the Aging, LSMNJ addressed the issues of social isolation, intergenerational interactions, and community involvement for those living at Lutheran Senior Residence at Pennsauken.

LSMNJ was able to add raised garden beds and create a comfortable outdoor seating area for those living at Senior Residence at Pennsauken, their families, and the greater community. This effort has met the initial goals of promoting socialization and adding physical activity by having our residents come together to create, plant, and maintain the gardens.

During this process, a relationship with Temple Lutheran Church was initiated and we plan to continue and strengthen that tie to the community. This relationship also allows for intergenerational interactions and community interactions by sharing the produce with the food pantry at Temple Lutheran and inviting those community members to help with maintaining the gardens.

One obstacle we encountered was the timing. Due to the late start of the garden, we were not able to install ground level beds, however, that is our goal for spring of 2023 which will further enhance the garden and the community activities.

The following is the breakdown of expenses:

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Raised beds and stabilizers	\$3,250	\$3,187
Gardening tools	\$300	\$475
Soil, seeds / plants	\$1,500	\$752
Patio furniture	\$2,000	\$1,765
Administrative	\$250	\$250

The remaining funds will go toward purchasing starter plants and seeds for the upcoming season. LSMNJ has committed to continuing the gardening effort and will support future planting efforts financially. We look forward to many years of community success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison Lauck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alison Lauck  
VP, Philanthropy