

## CEO

Stacy Grube

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## A *Celebration* OF RENEWAL AT HARRY AVENUE

On Tuesday, July 29th, Dayspring Homes hosted a meaningful Open House and blessing at our newly rebuilt residence on Harry Avenue. With over 50 guests in attendance—including friends, families, partners, and community members—it was more than a public event; it was a celebration of resilience, community, and restoration.

This home holds a special place in the Dayspring story. Not long ago, it stood in ashes after a devastating fire—an experience that shook us deeply. But today, thanks to the unwavering support of our staff, volunteers, donors, and local partners, the house stands fully restored: stronger, brighter, and full of hope. *Continue on page 3...*





## DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. Our residents stayed busy with beach trips, volunteering at local non-profits, outings to Reading Fightin Phils games, pool time, and helping in our community garden.

We are incredibly excited to share that a new home is in the process of being generously donated to Dayspring. This pending gift is a powerful reminder of the support and belief our community has in our mission. We will work hard to get the home fully up and running, and we look forward to the positive impact it will have on the lives of those we serve.

At the same time, we've made the thoughtful decision to close our Schuylkill home due to its inability to accommodate the physical needs of our aging participants. While transitions like this are never easy, we're pleased to report that all residents have been successfully relocated to other Dayspring homes, where they continue to

receive the high-quality, compassionate care they deserve.

We're also happy to share that Harry Avenue is fully back up and running. Thanks to the dedication of our staff, the home is once again a safe and supportive place for the individuals we serve. We are deeply grateful for your generous support over the past 16 months as we worked to rebuild and restore this home. Your kindness truly made it possible.

Our Day Program is actively seeking new volunteer opportunities in the community. If you know of organizations, businesses, or individuals open to meaningful collaboration, please don't hesitate to reach out. We would love to connect.

Lastly, we are currently hiring Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) and looking for Life Sharing providers. These roles are vital to our work, and we welcome anyone with a heart for service to join our growing team.

Thank you for being a valued part of the Dayspring community. Your continued support helps us grow and thrive.

Warmly,

*Stacy Grube*

*Always Hopeful. Forever Grateful. Dayspring Strong!*



*Continued from front page...*

During the event, guests toured the new space, connected with the Dayspring team, and learned about the work we do each day to provide safe, supportive housing for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The highlight of the afternoon was a heartfelt message shared by our CEO, Stacy Grube:

“This is more than just an open house or a welcome—it’s a celebration of resilience, community, and restoration. Not long ago, this house stood in ashes—a painful reminder of loss. But today, it stands as a powerful symbol of hope and healing. With the support of our incredible partners, staff, volunteers, and this community, we’ve not only rebuilt a house—we’ve reignited the sense of home, stability, and belonging for the residents who live here.”

“At Dayspring, we believe a home is more than four walls. It’s where stories are shared, laughter echoes, and healing begins. That’s why today’s house blessing holds such deep meaning. It reminds us that a new chapter is beginning—not just structurally, but spiritually and emotionally.”

The blessing of the home was a powerful reminder of why Dayspring exists: to provide more than just housing—we provide community, dignity, and hope. We are so grateful to everyone who made this day possible and who continues to stand with us as we build spaces where our residents can truly thrive.

To learn more about Dayspring Homes, Inc., visit [www.dayspringhomes.org](http://www.dayspringhomes.org) or contact Vicki Swain, Director of Development, at 610-376-5648 ext. 228 or [vswain@dayspringhomes.org](mailto:vswain@dayspringhomes.org).



# Lifesharing is so much more than caregiving, Lifesharing is family



Pictured (left to right): Harry, Mandy, Amarah and Kyle

Mandy is our newest Lifesharing provider and supports Kyle and Harry in her home in Wyomissing. We would like to share their story and what Lifesharing means to them.

Mandy opened her home to Harry four years ago, and more recently, in late 2024, she welcomed Kyle as well. Mandy had known Harry for 10 years and would pick him up from the group home every other weekend so he could stay with her and experience more growth and independence. Entering a Lifesharing arrangement together just made sense for both of them. Similarly, Mandy was family friends with Kyle's family, so when Kyle needed a new provider placement, it felt right for Mandy to welcome both guys into her home.

Their story demonstrates the heart and purpose of Lifesharing.

## What does Lifesharing mean to you?

Mandy: Lifesharing means becoming family. I love seeing the guys have that family connection — growing and learning. I enjoy watching their independence grow and seeing them gain more confidence in themselves. I enjoy knowing that I'm helping give them their best and least restrictive life by opening my home and supporting them with quality and integrity.

## What is your favorite part of living with Mandy?

Harry: She's very nice and a good person with a big heart. I'm glad to have Mandy's help to speak up for me. She takes care of us and cares about us. I like that she takes us on vacations — like camping, kayaking, and trips to sporting events. I enjoy the company of living with Mandy and her

family. I like the freedom and independence I have living with Mandy. I like getting to play neighborhood sports with my friends and neighbors — like flag football, soccer, and tennis. I like living with Kyle because we watch scary movies together. It gets boring sometimes when Mandy is at work, so it's nice to have Kyle to talk to and hang out with so I'm not bored.

Kyle: I like the consistency of living with Mandy — always having the same person take care of me. I like being part of a family, and that it truly feels like a family here. I love when Mandy's kids and grandkids come to visit and I can talk to them and play with them. I like that everyone is nice and kind. I enjoy having free time and independence, and having more space. I like going on vacations



Pictured (left to right): Kyle, Harry and Mandy

and learning to do more things. I like living with Harry because he's a cool friend. We go on walks together and play sports together. I like that Harry is someone I can talk to when Mandy is busy.

## BECOME A LIFESHARING PROVIDER

- Have you been wanting to enrich your life and become a companion?
- Join us and grow your family while giving an individual with IDD access to a family home atmosphere and family style care.
- Want to learn more about fostering community connections and supporting an individual to live an everyday life?



Scan the QR code for more info,  
or contact Cassie:  
610-977-1958  
crambo@dayspringhomes.org



# Support Dayspring Homes Compassion and Care – *Forever*

At Dayspring Homes, care for adults with special needs is not simply a service — it's a sacred calling. Every individual is embraced with dignity, compassion, and the unwavering belief that their life holds infinite value. That kind of care does not just happen. It is the result of a faithful commitment, a Christ-centered mission, and the generosity of people like you.

Now there is a meaningful way to ensure that this legacy of care continues — not just for the next few years, but **forever**.

Dayspring Homes has established an endowment fund through the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania. Like a well dug deep into the ground, an endowment is not something that is rebuilt each year. It is created once and designed to sustain life for generations. As the endowment grows, distributions from the fund provide reliable, long-term support for Dayspring Homes operations and compassionate programs — year after year, decade after decade.

A gift to the Dayspring Homes Endowment Fund is a powerful way to leave a legacy that lasts forever. By including the Catholic Foundation/Dayspring Homes Fund in your estate plan — through a gift in your will or beneficiary designation on your retirement account or life insurance — you help guarantee that Dayspring Homes residents will always have a place to live where they are known, cherished, and loved.

These planned gifts are professionally managed and

invested in accordance with Catholic values, ensuring your intentions are honored and your impact endures.

I invite you to prayerfully consider how you might be part of this legacy. A planned gift to Dayspring Homes is more than a financial decision. It's an act of faith. It's a way to extend care and expand hope not just for today, but for tomorrow, and for all the days to come.

If this speaks to your heart, I would be honored to talk with you. Our conversation will be confidential, thoughtful, and focused on what matters most to you.

Together, we can ensure that the mission of Dayspring Homes lives on — faithfully, compassionately, and forever.



*Tony Luna serves as Director of Philanthropy for the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Pennsylvania, which partners with donors to build lasting legacies that sustain Catholic schools, parishes, and ministries forever. Tony is passionate about helping donors support the causes they love — faithfully and intentionally. He can be reached at [tonyluna@catholicfoundationep.org](mailto:tonyluna@catholicfoundationep.org) or 215-527-9371. Visit [catholicfoundationep.org](http://catholicfoundationep.org) for more information.*

## MINI-STORIES



Thank you to the Reading Fightin Phils for the awesome tour and a fun day at the game! Our participants had a great time and made unforgettable memories.



Our community garden is thriving! Residents and staff have been working together to grow vegetables, herbs, and friendships.



# BELIEVES IN DAYSPRING HOMES

# *Forever!*



**A gift in your will, an IRA transfer, or an investment / insurance beneficiary secures the future of our community.**



**CONTACT: Vicki Swain, Director of Development - 610.376.5648 ext. 228  
[vswain@dayspringhomes.org](mailto:vswain@dayspringhomes.org)**

# THE SEVENTH ANNUAL A STAKE IN THE FUTURE

Thank you to everyone that came out to support Dayspring Homes and have a stake in our future.

On Thursday, May 1, 2025, Dayspring Homes hosted its Seventh Annual A Stake in the Future at Willoughby's on Park—and what a beautiful evening it was! With a full house of supporters, the event featured a delicious sit-down dinner, a premium open bar, and an exciting mix of silent and live auctions. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, the evening grossed over \$87,000 in support of our mission.

A Stake in the Future is more than just a fundraiser—it's a celebration of our work, our residents, and the people who make what we do possible. Guests enjoyed meaningful conversations, joyful moments, and a shared commitment to supporting adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

This year's Fund-A-Need portion of the event focused on raising funds to purchase a new handicap-accessible vehicle for our new upcoming residence. We're thrilled to share that, thanks to your support, this vital need will soon be met—making daily life and transportation easier and safer for our residents.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our generous event sponsors, whose partnership makes this evening possible:

Joe Jurgielewicz and Sons LTD, Boscov's Travel, Jerry and Carolyn Holleran, New Castle Lawn and Landscape, Inc., Burkey Construction, The Close Family, Penn State Health St. Joseph, Power Kunkle Benefits Consulting, Tompkins Bank, Truist, Vicki

and Bill Combs, West Reading Drug Store, Alvernia University, Breidegam Family Foundation, Brennan and Folino, Capital Blue Cross, Customers Bank, JCWK Dance Lab, Masano Bradley LLP, Penske Transportation Solutions, Reading Fightin Phils/ Baseballtown Charities, Shahady and Wurtenberger PA, Visions Federal Credit Union, Stroll Wyomissing Magazine, Lindsey Q Designs, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Sweet Street, Leah's Lens Photography, and Wagner Auction Service, LLC.

We also thank our incredible Host Committee—Bill Combs, Vicki Combs, Eric Esterbrook, Stacy Grube, Rita Jurgielewicz, Mark Kunkle, Vicki Swain, and Tricia Williams—whose energy, commitment, and leadership helped make the event a tremendous success.

Together, we are investing in the future of the individuals we serve—and we're so grateful to everyone who continues to stand with us.



# WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

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**Manouche Latouche**

Residential Program Manager

Manouche Latouche has been working in the human services field for many years, bringing a wealth of experience and dedication to every role she takes on. Over the course of her career, she has held various positions, beginning as an occupational therapist and later working as a scheduler and Direct Support Professional (DSP). She eventually advanced to roles such as supervisor, assistant director, and ultimately served as an affiliate director.

Her educational journey began with a major in Office Technology in Applied Science. She later

returned to school to pursue nursing, but decided to change paths before starting clinicals, transitioning into social work instead. Manouche eventually completed her graduate studies in Organizational Management with a minor in Human Resources.

Her diverse experience has helped her develop strong leadership skills and a well-rounded, people-centered approach to her work. She is passionate about what she does and takes great pride in making a difference in the lives of others.

Outside of her professional life, Manouche enjoys traveling and has a passion for collecting traditional clothing and jewelry from the countries she visits. One of the most meaningful aspects of her personal life is listening to gospel music—the messages often bring her peace of mind and a deep sense of reassurance that she is never alone.



**Gina Glantz**

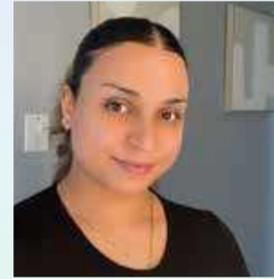
HR Recruiter/Generalist

Gina Glantz is the HR Recruiter/Generalist at Dayspring Homes. Her primary responsibility is locating and onboarding compassionate candidates who are dedicated to providing the highest quality care to residents.

Gina graduated from Kutztown University in May 2025 with a B.A. in English: Professional Writing,

where she honed her communication skills. Outside of school, she volunteered with local organizations, raising funds for children and women affected by cancer.

She lives in Kutztown, PA, where she enjoys walking through farmland alongside sheep, cows, horses, and frogs.



**Shakira Ortiz-Reyes**

Residential Supervisor

Shakira Ortiz has over eight years of experience in the home care field and currently serves as a Residential Supervisor at Dayspring Homes. She has worked with various care organizations, gaining extensive experience in leadership, staff development, and the delivery of high-quality care. Shakira is passionate about helping others and making a meaningful difference in their lives. She values opportunities to grow, develop new

skills, and share her knowledge with the team. Much of her compassion and understanding for this work comes from her personal journey as a mother, which has deeply influenced her dedication to the field. Outside of work, she enjoys traveling, appreciating scenic views, and spending time with her three children: Jayden, Messiah, and Sage.



**Alexis Segura**

Residential Supervisor

Alexis Segura is a graduate of Wilson High School, Class of 2009. While in high school, she attended Berks Career and Technology Center for cosmetology and obtained her cosmetology license in 2009.

She is currently a Residential Supervisor with Dayspring Homes and has worked in healthcare for over 11 years. Throughout her career, she has worked in hospitals, assisted living facilities, nursing homes, home care, and later transitioned to working with adults with intellectual and

developmental disabilities. Alexis previously worked at Supportive Concepts for Families for five years, where she discovered her passion for helping others.

In her free time, she enjoys doing lash extensions, making homemade lip gloss, thrift shopping, and spending time with her family and three children: Aniyah, Jesante, and Roman Messiah.

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION



**Kevin DeAcosta** served on the Dayspring board for 16 years. Driven by a deep personal connection to the organization’s mission, he couldn’t say

no when Thomas Reilly—who was the board chairperson at the time—invited him to volunteer. Kevin’s sister, Jennifer, who is intellectually disabled, has been a central figure in his life and a constant source of inspiration. His firsthand experience supporting a loved one with special needs instilled in him a profound commitment to advocacy, inclusion, and compassionate care. As a board member, Kevin brought not only his professional expertise, but also a heartfelt dedication to ensuring that individuals with intellectual disabilities receive the dignity, support, and opportunities they deserve.

His connection to Dayspring Homes also runs deep through his family’s longstanding relationship with the organization’s founder, Sister Francis Bisland. Kevin’s parents knew Sister Francis personally and deeply admired her unwavering dedication to creating a nurturing, faith-based environment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Sister Francis had a lasting and positive impact on Jennifer and on Kevin’s family. This bond helped shape Kevin’s understanding of service and

community, making his involvement with Dayspring Homes—and other charitable organizations—a natural continuation of a shared legacy.

Kevin holds many fond memories from his time with Dayspring and takes great pride in the financial stability achieved during his tenure. He credits CEO Stacy Grube for her outstanding leadership and ongoing dedication to the organization’s mission.

As president and CEO of The Highlands at Wyomissing, Kevin brought strategic leadership, vision, and a passion for mission-driven work to the Dayspring Homes board. His decision to serve was not merely a professional commitment—it was a calling rooted in family, faith, and a desire to make a meaningful difference. Through his service, Kevin sought to honor his sister’s journey, his parents’ values, and an enduring legacy by helping Dayspring Homes thrive.



**Karen H. Cook** is an attorney and partner at Masano Bradley, where she has practiced law for over three decades, focusing on real estate,

environmental law, contracts, business, estate planning, and estate administration. Known for her dedication to client advocacy and community involvement, Karen brings a thoughtful and compassionate approach to everything she does.

Karen served on the Dayspring Homes Board for sixteen years, offering her time and expertise to support the organization’s mission. She was introduced to Dayspring by fellow board member Thomas Reilly, who had a relative residing there. After touring the facilities and learning more about the work being done, Karen was deeply moved. “I was so impressed with their services and the

enthusiasm of their founder, Sister Francis Bisland,” she recalls.

During her tenure, Karen provided valuable leadership and legal insight, helping to guide the organization through important strategic decisions. Her contributions were instrumental in strengthening the board’s governance and ensuring the long-term sustainability of Dayspring’s programs.

Although she has stepped down from the board, Karen remains a passionate supporter of Dayspring and continues to advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities in her broader community.

In her free time, Karen enjoys reading, staying active through walking and swimming, traveling, and cheering on Penn State football.

## Adopt-A-Residence

is for every participant at Dayspring Homes, Inc. We ask each participant to list a few items they would like for Christmas. We ask each parish, business, or individual to donate 1 to 2 items from their assigned participant’s wish list. If you would like to learn more or participate in this program, please call 610.376.5648 ext 228 or email [vswain@dayspringhomes.org](mailto:vswain@dayspringhomes.org).



# DONOR SPOTLIGHT

## The Hofmann Foundation

### Can you share how the Hofmann Foundation has supported the community?

The Hofmann Foundation was established in 1969 by my grandfather, Martin W. Hofmann, and his wife, Catherine V. Hofmann. When he passed suddenly in 1974, my father assumed the role of head of the Foundation and has grown it significantly over the years, supported by bequests from both my grandfather's and grandmother's estates.

Over time, we have supported a range of local and national charities, including continued contributions to organizations such as the United Way.

### Dayspring Homes was so appreciative of your recent donations. Why did you choose to support Dayspring?

The Hofmann Foundation was started with a focus on supporting local organizations and faith-based groups. My parents, Bernie and Marie Hofmann, had a long-standing relationship with the Sisters of the Precious Blood in Shillington, where they came to know Sister Francis.

One of my nephews—who has since passed—was an exceptional person who would have one day



**Pictured (left to right):** First Row: Karen VanDorn, Bernie Hofmann, James Hofmann. Second Row: Steven Hofmann, Constance Hofmann-O'Murchu, Joseph Hofmann.

benefited from the love and care that Dayspring provides to its clients. He was very dear to my father, so this donation truly checked all the boxes: local, Catholic, and serving those who are often underserved or overlooked in our community.

### How would you suggest others in the community support nonprofits?

Establish a culture of giving — find the organizations that resonate with you, and take the time to understand their needs. If you care about the community, make sure your giving goes back to the community!

And remember, not all needs are financial. Berks County residents are eager to help one another—but in today's fast-paced world, lending a helping hand often means putting down a digital device and picking up a hammer!

### Any words of wisdom or advice you'd like to share with others?

Many of the nonprofits in our community were historically supported by a small coterie of dedicated donors—you'll see their names on buildings throughout the area.



**Dr. Patricia O'Callaghan Reger** serves as the inaugural Dean of the College of Health Sciences at Alvernia University, a role she assumed in 2022. With a distinguished career in healthcare and academia, Dr. Reger is a Physical Therapist by profession, boasting over 25 years of clinical experience specializing in orthopedic physical therapy. Her doctoral research focused on exercise physiology, particularly on the cardioprotective effects of exercise following ischemia-reperfusion.

## WELCOME TO THE BOARD!

Dr. Reger transitioned to academic administration in 2015, after years of teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels since 1994. Under her leadership, the College of Health Sciences, the largest college at Alvernia University, continues to thrive as its faculty, students, and alumni make a profound impact on the health and well-being of local, regional, and global communities.

A dedicated professional and leader, Dr. Reger resides with her spouse, Paul, and together they enjoy supporting their three grown children—RJ, Emily, and Thomas—and caring for their two beloved dogs, Sadie and Boo.



We're excited to share an important opportunity to improve our Hillside residence—and we need your help!

The windows at Hillside are in urgent need of replacement. Upgrading them will not only enhance comfort and safety for everyone who uses the space, but also improve energy efficiency and reduce long-term maintenance costs.

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**Please consider a donation to fund this essential project. Every gift—big or small—makes a difference.**

For donations please detach this portion and mail to: Dayspring Homes, Inc., P.O. Box 158, Reading, PA 19607

Please make checks payable to Dayspring Homes and enclose this form with your donation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount or Gift Being Donated: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in learning more about Planned Giving.

**Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our mission!**

The official registration and financial information of Dayspring Homes, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

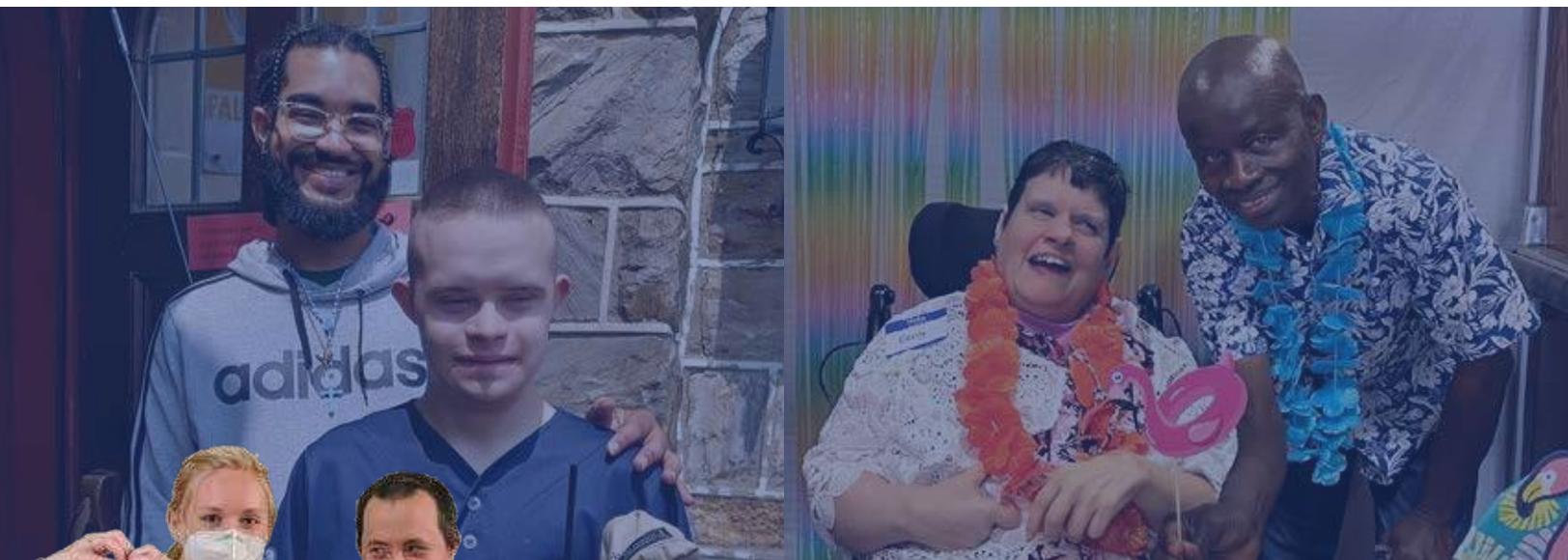
SCAN QR TO DONATE



# DAYSPRING HOMES, INC.

P.O. Box 158  
Reading, PA 19607

## Change Service Requested



***LOVE WHAT YOU DO***

**NOW HIRING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS**

Dayspring Homes provides compassionate care for the individuals we serve. We are actively seeking Direct Support Professionals to join our team!!