

Celebration of Giving

Philanthropy Annual Report 2024



Charlestown
BY ERICKSON SENIOR LIVING®



A Word of Thanks to the Charlestown Community

Dear Charlestown Residents,

Thank you for your generosity in 2024 and beyond. Charlestown's Mission is to provide a home for life in a vibrant senior community where residents and staff flourish. Our residents and other donors certainly did that in 2024.

Although I wasn't here in 2024, the numbers speak for themselves. You contributed record numbers to support our staff, our scholars, and your fellow residents. It is exciting to be a part of a community that lifts one another up and comes together when it is needed most.

Over 725 of you volunteered your time this year to support efforts throughout the community.

Your commitment and support allowed us to increase our scholarships to up to \$20,000 in 2025. This scholarship is life changing for our students and allows them to attend school without the lingering burden of student debt.

You supported your neighbors, giving them peace of mind by building a community where all are cared for and everyone has a home for life.

While we offer a Home for Life to our residents, our staff are encouraged by Charlestown's Career for Life approach. Your donations to the Staff Appreciation Fund are part of what makes Charlestown one of the best places to work in the area.

Each gift, no matter the size, represents a shared commitment to our mission of helping people live better lives.

Thank you for your support in 2024. I look forward to continuing the momentum into 2025!

Rachel Susio
Philanthropy Manager



The Charlestown Benevolent Care Foundation and Fund

Charlestown’s mission is to provide a **Home for Life** in a vibrant senior community where residents and staff flourish. In that spirit, the Benevolent Care Foundation and Fund exist to provide confidential financial support to residents who have exhausted their financial resources, despite careful planning, and there is a genuine inability to pay. This promise gives these residents and their families peace of mind knowing they have a home for life and will receive the same high-quality care and services with the support of the Fund.

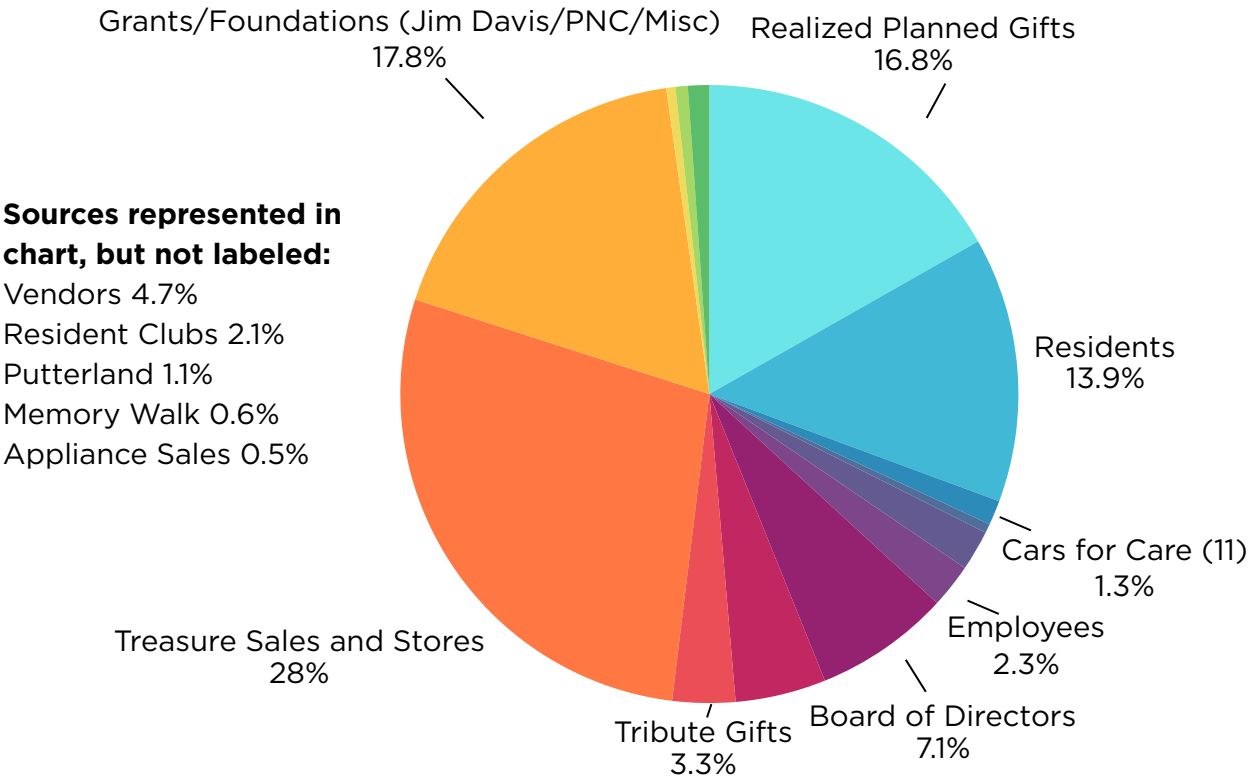
Click [here](#) to donate to the BCF.

2024 Benevolent Care by the Numbers*

\$995,098 total raised
37% of households donated
83 households contribute monthly
16 residents who required support of the fund
\$1.67 million from the fund spent on care
\$5.26 million in the Foundation



*As of 12/31/2024



The Charlestown Benevolent Care Foundation and Fund

The Charlestown Legacy Society



The Legacy Society helps ensure the future strength of the Benevolent Care Fund (BCF) by encouraging residents to leave a planned gift to the community. Gifts may come in several forms, but most commonly occur with a resident naming the BCF as a beneficiary of all or a portion of their Entrance Fee.

The Legacy Society recognizes those residents who have chosen to give a gift or make a pledge of \$5,000 or more to the BCF. As Legacy donors, the generosity of these residents helps support the longevity of the fund for many years to come.

Although there were not any new planned gifts added in 2024, at the end of the year the cumulative planned gifts and annuities aggregated \$4 million, which will provide future realized planned gifts for the Fund.



Membership in the Legacy Society fosters a strong sense of caring and compassion among our residents. If you would like to discuss adding the Legacy Society to your estate planning, please contact Rachel Susio at 410-737-8832.

The Charlestown Benevolent Care Foundation and Fund

Testimonials from two families of Charlestown BCF recipients:



It's a stressful and scary time when your loved one is requiring more serious medical care and running out of money. The Charlestown team was very supportive, honest, and addressed all my concerns. We worked together to come up with a plan, revised it when needed, and it worked as promised.

I am extremely grateful for each generous donor to this important fund. It provided peace of mind for our family knowing that my mom continued to be well cared for and remain in her home at Charlestown. Thank you.



Though my parents had considerable savings when they moved to Charlestown, the cost of a couple of years of 24-hour care depleted those savings rapidly. Independent living gave way to assisted living and memory care, and the resources were spent. We undertook a spend down of the entrance deposit, and then the Benevolent Care Fund and Medicaid supported both my parents living in continuing care, with no diminishment of services or care. For this, my family and I are most grateful; it afforded us tremendous peace of mind.

My father celebrated his 100th birthday at Charlestown where our family was able to come together with him and my mother to commemorate the occasion. We did so in good humor and spirits, very secure in the knowledge that, when we left, our loved ones at Charlestown would be treated with kindness and consideration.

Once again, I thank you and everyone associated with Charlestown and the Benevolent Care Fund for what you have done for my parents and my family. It was, in a word, priceless.



Other Ways to Contribute to Benevolent Care

MEMORY WALK

Engraved bricks in our Memory Walk pathway, located at the entrance to the community, can be purchased for \$225. Benches with an engraved plaque are \$1,500 and can be placed around campus. Both are a thoughtful way to pay tribute to your friends and loved ones who have been Charlestown residents. Memory Walk ceremonies are held in the Fall and Spring.

In 2024, we received funds donated to the Benevolent Care Fund for 13 memorial bricks and five benches to honor those we have lost.

For more information contact Casey Bassler at 410-737-8892.



CARS FOR CARE

Our Cars for Care program offers an easy way for our residents and their family members to donate a vehicle that they no longer want or need. The donation of your vehicle allows you to save money on insurance, registration, parking, and maintenance of a vehicle that may not even be used. Your vehicle donation makes a difference for our Benevolent Care Fund and gives you a tax deduction.

In 2024, we had 11 car donations resulting in a total of \$5,285 in funds going to Benevolent Care.

For more information contact Bette Holub at 410-314-7958.

Done with it? Do **good** with it.





The Charlestown Scholars' Fund

The Scholars' Fund offers financial support to our hardworking student employees who meet the GPA qualifications and have worked at least 1,000 hours at Charlestown. Students are not only supported by our Scholars' Committee, but also by our newly formed Scholars' Coaches team who commit to working with a student throughout their educational journey. In 2024, our generous residents raised **over \$250,000!**

Click [here](#) to donate to the Scholars' Fund.

2024 Scholars' Committee

Mimi O'Donnell (Chair), Ed DeLong, Merci Izquierdo-Whitaker, Art Johnson, Mel Milio, Paul Rao, and Audrey Trapp

"During a recent hospital stay, I discovered that my nurse was a former Charlestown Scholar and working at Charlestown inspired her to get into nursing." -A Charlestown Resident

2024 Scholars Fund by the Numbers*

\$250,241.58 total raised

57% household participation

56 households donate monthly

\$213,009.57 in scholarship money distributed

*As of 12/31/2024

Click [here](#) to access the 2024 Ceremony where we celebrated our newest Scholars.



Additional Named/Partner Scholarships Awarded

1 scholar awarded \$2,000 -The Fenton and Tedd Robb Memorial Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$4,000 - Your Future is Now Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$4,000 - The Donald Brodeur 'Joy of Learning' Scholarship

2 scholars awarded \$2,000 each - AITP STEM Scholarship

3 scholars awarded \$4,000 each - Health Sciences Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$2,000 - Treasure Sale Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$2,000 - Committee Recognition Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$6,000 - Towson University Scholarship

1 scholar awarded \$10,000 - UMBC Scholarship

The Charlestown Scholars' Fund



Where to find Charlestown Scholars...

Anne Arundel Community College
Alvernia University
American University
Bowie State University
CCBC-Catonsville
Coastal Carolina University
CCBC-Dundalk
Coppin State University
Frostburg State University
Georgia State University
Goucher College
Howard University
Louisiana State University
Loyola of Chicago
Loyola of Maryland
McDaniel College
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
North Carolina A&T State University

North Carolina Central University
Salisbury State University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Southern New Hampshire University
St. Joseph's University
St. Mary's College
Stevenson University
Temple University
Texas Southern University
Towson State University
UMBC
University of Baltimore
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
University of Maryland Global College
University of Maryland, School of Nursing
Washington College
York College of PA

The Charlestown Staff Appreciation Fund

The Staff Appreciation Fund exists to recognize our hardworking hourly staff for their contribution to our daily operations. These team members keep Charlestown running and exemplify our mission to help people live better lives.

In 2024, 72% of our residents contributed a generous (and record breaking) \$416,300 to the Staff Appreciation Fund!

2024 Staff Appreciation Committee

Stephanie Leddy (Chair), Rosemary Taylor, Larry Taylor, Pat Kasuda, Donna Ferrara, Beth Schilpp, Elaine Mumford, John Remias, & Louise Cuneo.



Who receives a Staff Appreciation check?

Wait Staff

Cooks

Utility Workers

Catering Staff

Bartenders

Restaurant Hosts

Dining Servers

Communications Specialists

Housekeepers

Maintenance

Security

Transportation

Engineering

Grounds Team

Facilities Coordinators

GS Coordinators

LPNs

Certified Nurse Aides

Programming Staff

Rehab Staff

Support Staff in:

-Finance

-Philanthropy

-Community Resources

-Sales

-Human Resources

-Fitness

-TV

-Dining

Resident-Led Group Fundraising in 2024

TREASURE SALES

Our Treasure Sale volunteers always set the bar high and join together in a committed effort. Our weekly, Treasure Sale Tuesday, sales in the three stores and four amazing quarterly sales contributed to another incredible year raising a combined total of **\$230,980** for Benevolent Care this year!

RESIDENT CLUBS AND GROUPS

Thank you to our clubs and groups who gave generously in 2024. From ongoing sales during the year to seasonal craft fairs, we thank these groups for their support of our Philanthropic program. And thank you to the community members who support the groups' fundraising efforts. These clubs and groups raised **\$28,594** for the Benevolent Care, Scholars, and Staff Appreciation Funds.

Charlestown Quillers
Charlestown Quilt and Fiber Artists
Charlestown Little Theatre Company
Charlestown Stained Glass
Charlestown Woodshop
Charlestown Fireside Art Committee
Bead and Jewelry Group of Charlestown
Knights of Columbus (OLOA Council 13069)

Floral Reflections
Nature Trail Committee
Recycling Club
Residents' Council
Second Hand Rose
TOPS
Needles 'n Hooks
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 219

WINTER PUTTERLAND

Charlestown residents, employees, and families welcomed residents from sister communities, Riderwood and Oak Crest, to play 18 holes of miniature golf in the Conference Center to raise **\$9,189** for Benevolent Care. A special thanks to Pat Kasuda and the volunteers who helped with the week-long festivities.

Chapel Concert Series

The Chapel Concert Series was established in 1989 by Virginia D. Moore, an early and dedicated resident of Charlestown. Her personal standard was a musician or musical group who, if they were qualified to perform at the Meyerhoff, they were welcome at the Chapel Concert Series.

A carefully planned series includes solo artists and ensembles who perform classical and popular selections. Concerts are typically held on Sunday afternoons at 3pm in the Our Lady of the Angels Chapel.

The annual fundraising campaign contributions in 2024 raised **\$29,971** and are used to sponsor the artists who entertain us each season.

The Chapel Concerts Committee thanks the Society of St. Sulpice Province of the United States, Charlestown Treasure Sale volunteers, music-loving neighbors and guests and the Baltimore County Commission of Arts and Sciences for their roles to make beautiful music happen at Charlestown!





2025 Charlestown Philanthropy Team



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Upcoming Events in 2025

- Summer Treasure Sale - July 25th and 26th
- Legacy Society Ceremony and Brunch - August 19th
- Memory Walk Ceremony - September/October
- Fall Treasure Sale - October 24th and 25th
- Holiday Craft Fair - November 14th

*Report distributed electronically. Hardcopy available upon request.