

Core Values Form the Heart of Fairmount

When Janet Hibbs first toured Fairmount, she knew she didn't need to look any further. "On that first visit, I felt like I was already home," she recalls. But Janet was not yet ready for the move.

Over an 11-year span, Janet attended multiple Fairmount events and open houses until the time was right and the apartment she really wanted became available. However, her choice of Fairmount was due to far more than the right floor plan. "Fairmount is very evidently faith-based. I wanted to be around believers who enjoy Christ-pleasing activities and Christian fellowship with other residents," she says.

The sense of faith-based community that so quickly convinced Janet she wanted to move to Fairmount is not accidental. It is the result of intentional, consistent adherence to a set of biblical values. In the early 2000s, seven Core Values, each based on scripture, were formally adopted to guide all of Fairmount's actions and decisions—compassion, community, dignity, integrity, quality, teamwork, and trust. However, these values were not new. They had defined Fairmount's principles and practices from the very first day it opened its doors in 1968.

Values Guide Hiring

Keeping Fairmount true to those values starts with employing people who agree to support these commitments. Talent and Culture Manager Helen Doolittle, who guides the hiring process, explains: "Core Values are a benchmark in all phases of staffing, starting with our initial conversation with a potential employee. Our interview questions are largely based on our Core Values and are designed to identify potential staff who share our principles."

Quality Performance and Integrity

A higher-than-average staff/resident ratio is one indication of Fairmount's commitment to quality, and to maintain our high ideals, Core Values form the framework of our annual team-member evaluations.



Ruth Richards (left), the first of four family members to work at Fairmount, referred her brother John Doolittle (not pictured), his wife Lauren (center), and sister Helen Doolittle, now all on staff at Fairmount.

Fairmount's determination to meet ever-changing standards and regulations for Health Care and Personal Care attests to the quality and integrity of the organization. So does the latest Department of Health survey that resulted in a report citing zero deficiencies. Our consistent 5-star rating by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid services is additional evidence of integrity across our organization.

Community Relationships

Fairmount enjoys strong community relationships. For example, we contribute to the local fire company and welcome everyone to be part of Fairmount events, such as Central PA blood drives, outdoor concerts, and seminars. Our residents volunteer thousands of hours with an impact that reaches to the other side of the globe via worldwide humanitarian organizations such as the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), Christian Aid Ministries, Blessings of Hope and Unto.

Alex Kachkovskiy, a part of MCC's International Volunteer Exchange Program, is a great example of our

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Fairmount Lives Out Anabaptist Principles

The President's Perspective

Fairmount is a shining example of a community that not only lives out our Core Values but also personifies the Anabaptist principles on which we were founded. We intentionally foster a vibrant environment where residents, team members and volunteers embody the values of simplicity, community, service and peacefulness.

Fairmount embraces the virtue of simplicity, encouraging residents to focus on what truly matters in life. Our serene atmosphere promotes a sense of calmness and contentment. Residents come to Fairmount to embrace a lifestyle centered on meaningful relationships and experiences, and a desire to live out their faith with other residents and staff.

A sense of community lies at the heart of the Fairmount living experience. Numerous social events, spiritual gatherings, and educational programs promote fellowship, connection and mutual support. The relationships forged through daily interactions create a sense of belonging and a shared purpose.

The main pillar of Fairmount is our dedication to service—the fabric of our existence! We recognize the importance of giving back and making a positive impact both within and beyond the walls of Fairmount. Residents and team members are encouraged to engage in volunteer activities, such

as supporting local charities and/or lending a hand to those in need. Our staff members serve our residents on a daily basis. Service is why we exist!

We place a strong emphasis on peaceful living, actively cultivating an environment of understanding, respect for others and conflict resolution. We encourage open dialogue, constructive communication, and the practice of forgiveness and reconciliation. By promoting a peaceful community, we offer a

sanctuary for residents to find solace and build harmony with each other.

Our mission is to be an inspiration, demonstrating how an Anabaptist community can positively impact the lives of residents, team members and the broader community.

As you interact with our residents and team members, I hope you find that we truly exemplify the essence of our Anabaptist heritage. ➤

"By promoting a peaceful community, we offer a sanctuary for residents to find solace and build harmony with each other."



Jerry D. Lile
Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO

Along with 16 other local Continuing Care Retirement Communities, Fairmount is opening its doors for the 11th Annual Explore Retirement Living Open House on Saturday, October 21, from 10am to 4pm. Don't miss this opportunity to come and see what cottage and apartment living at Fairmount has to offer. If you have any questions, please contact the Marketing Department at 717.354.1800, or go to FairmountHomes.org. ➤



Fairmount *Perspective* is published quarterly for the residents, staff, volunteers and friends of Fairmount, a Christian retirement community governed by a Board from the Weaverland Conference of the Old Order Mennonite Church.

Core Values

Community • Compassion
Dignity • Integrity
Quality • Teamwork
Trust

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Please visit our website for additional information and to download an Application for Residency. www.FairmountHomes.org



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Welcome to Our New Vice President of Finance



Please join us in welcoming Kay Driver, who recently joined the Fairmount team as Vice President of Finance. Kay is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite University, where she dual-majored in Accounting and Computer Information Systems. She lives in Willow Street with her husband, Daryl, and one of their five children. Outside of work, she is very involved in Word of Grace Church, where her husband pastors. She is happy to join the Fairmount team, saying, “I am excited to be a part of the Fairmount team and an organization ‘founded on Christ’s love and Mennonite values.’ I want to bless the residents we serve, remembering how they have impacted, and continue to impact, their families and communities.”



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commitment to community. In August 2021, Alex arrived from Ukraine to volunteer for a year as an assistant to Fairmount Chaplain Eugene Weaver. A seminary graduate and youth pastor in Ukraine, Alex joined this global program to broaden his experience. He joined Chaplain Eugene for Monday prayer walks, daily resident Bible studies and visits with residents across campus. Alex loves his role: “I felt very welcomed immediately. The residents like to talk; I like to listen. I learn from them and their lives. I take in their wisdom from experiences I have not yet encountered. Some residents consider me like a son.”

Before he completed his year of service, the war in Ukraine had disrupted Alex’s plans to return to his country. But in a true community effort, Fairmount worked with Alex to apply for a work visa which would allow him to extend his stay in the United States. As he waited for the paperwork to be processed, Alex volunteered in various departments at Fairmount. When his work visa was finally approved, he was hired by Fairmount in a department where he had enjoyed volunteering.

Compassion, Trust and Dignity

“Compassion is a very important value as I minister all across campus,” Chaplain Eugene says. “And I love to observe how residents trust the staff who know and care for them.”

“Dignity is realized through relationships,” the chaplain continues. “Because we recognize the value of each person, valuable relationships form between



Alex Kachkovskiy (left) and Chaplain Eugene Weaver (right) share a laugh with resident Allen Martin.

residents and those who care for them that are a delight to see and experience.”

Expectations Met and Exceeded

As for Janet, now comfortably settled into her new Crest View apartment, her initial expectations have been more than met. She explains, “I am so happy to be here. I knew no one when I moved in, but I’ve made many new friends. I see Fairmount striving to not just maintain but excel in its efforts to live up to its Core Values. I was impressed enough to apply for a position here—and was hired!”

Fairmount’s commitment to its seven Core Values--community, compassion, dignity, integrity, quality, teamwork, and trust--run like a thread from its very beginning to the present. The daily demonstration of these values is recognized by so many who, like Janet, wish to live in a Christ-centered, faith-based environment.





Fairmount

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Items of Interest

Outdoor Concert

J-Tyme Bluegrass Singers will be holding an outdoor concert Tuesday, August 29, at 6:30pm on the Farm Crest campus. The concert is free and open to the public. Please bring lawn chairs.

Central PA Blood Drive

The Central PA Blood Bank will hold a blood drive on Thursday, October 4, from 11:30am-6:30pm in the Farm Crest Community Room. Walk-ins are welcome until 6pm. To make an appointment, please call the Blood Bank at 800.771.0059.

Benefit Auction Needs

• Dining for Dollars

Consider hosting a Dining for Dollars event. To host a meal, please call 717.471.6691 or 717.269.4028 by August 17.

• Theme Baskets

Donations of theme baskets, supplies, and/or money toward additional theme baskets are always welcome.

• Auction/Flea Market Items

New items for auction or good used items for the flea market are always welcome.

To donate items, please bring them to the Wheat Ridge front desk or call the Stewardship Director at 717.354.1800.

Mailing List Update: If you wish to have your name removed from the mailing list, please call 717.354.1800, write the Managing Editor at the address above, or email carols@FairmountHomes.org. *Perspective* issues are available at www.FairmountHomes.org.

Join us for the 34th Benefit Auction & Barbecue September 9, 2023

at New Covenant Mennonite Fellowship
529 E. Farmersville Rd., New Holland

In-person and Live Webcast Auctions
In-person bidding starts at 9am

Drive-through Chicken Dinners:
10am until sold out

Go to FairmountHomes.org to learn more

Save the date and spread the word!

