

Growing Relationships through Teen Internships

“I like helping people solve their problems,” 15-year-old Leland has discovered during his current internship at Fairmount. His work has focused on helping residents resolve their technology issues but involved much more. “In the course of helping residents with their technical needs, I’ve come to really enjoy visiting their apartments and cottages and hearing about their experiences,” he explains.

Through his hours at Fairmount, Leland has grown in his technical knowledge, but his communication skills have developed, too. Face-to-face interaction with our residents has given him practical experience in how to explain technology solutions in a way that others can understand.

Leland’s successful internship demonstrates how growth often begins in small, faithful steps—seeds planted with intention, nurtured over time, and strengthened through meaningful relationships. “Here at Fairmount Homes, we have experienced multiple aspects of growth through our partnership with Linville Hill Christian School in Gap,” says Kay Driver, Vice President of Finance and coordinator of Fairmount’s partnership with Linville Hill.

Founded in 1944 by a group of conservative Mennonite families, Linville Hill held its first classes in a one-room schoolhouse with a clear purpose—to provide education rooted in Christ while equipping students academically. Though the school has grown significantly, now serving families from more than 70 diverse Christian church congregations, its mission remains unchanged. This shared commitment to faith and community makes Linville Hill and Fairmount natural partners.

Over the past two years, Fairmount has welcomed eight student interns from Linville Hill, ranging from sophomores to seniors. Internships are a required part of each semester at the school so that students can explore career paths while also developing practical skills. For Fairmount, this program has become much more than a learning opportunity—it is a way to build intergenerational relationships.

Madison, another current intern, came to Fairmount with a previous personal connection. “I used to have family living here and I always loved the community,” she says. Her experience has only deepened that appreciation. One of the most meaningful lessons she has learned is “to not take anything for granted, but to be grateful for what you have.” Her internship has also helped shape her view of the future. While she recognizes the pace may



Former intern turned full-time employee Jordan Lapp assists resident Edith Lorah with her desktop computer.

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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.

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Building Relationships That Enrich Lives

The President's Perspective

At Fairmount, relationships are at the heart of everything we do. More than a place to live, Fairmount is a community where residents, team members, neighbors, and friends come together to support one another across generations. By intentionally building bridges with the broader community, Fairmount creates a welcoming environment where residents continue to feel valued, connected, and engaged.

Strong relationships with local volunteers are vital to our mission. Individuals generously give their time through friendly visits, helping with activities, sharing their talents, or simply offering a listening ear. These moments of connection bring joy and companionship, reminding residents that they are seen and cared for by those beyond Fairmount's campus.

Our church partnerships are equally meaningful. Local congregations provide spiritual encouragement through worship services, prayer, pastoral visits, financial support, and special events. These relationships nurture faith, offer comfort, and help residents remain connected to their church homes and broader faith family.

Many local businesses also play

an important role in supporting Fairmount's mission. Through sponsorships, services, and community involvement, businesses help enhance programs and experiences for residents while strengthening the local economy. Working together creates a network of mutual care and shared purpose.

Fairmount is deeply grateful for the continued support of the community. None of this meaningful work happens alone. As Scripture reminds us, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds." (Hebrews 10:24, NIV). This spirit of shared compassion drives Fairmount forward.

We are profoundly grateful to every volunteer, church, school, business, and neighbor who walks alongside Fairmount Homes. Community doesn't just surround us—it lifts us. Together, we are building a place where relationships truly enrich lives.

Jerry D. Lile
President/CEO



Thank you, Quilters!

During this year's three-day quilting event in February, over 150 dedicated volunteers came together to complete four beautiful quilts and made significant progress on seven others for our Benefit Auction on September 12, 2026. A special thank you to the talented quilters whose time, skill, and creativity made this work possible. We are also grateful to the event coordinators and to those who generously provided meals for the volunteers.

Growing Relationships through Teen Internships

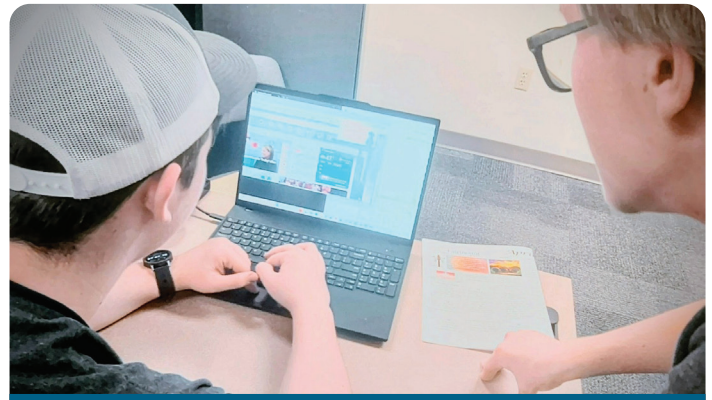
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not be the perfect fit for her long term, she still values the experience and encourages others to “come with an open mind. You never know what you will learn.”

For one former intern, that openness led to something more permanent. Jordan, now a full-time team member, recalls coming to Fairmount with few expectations. “I didn’t really know what to expect,” he says, “but the people were so nice. I just loved being here.” What began as an uncertain fit for his internship placement quickly became the highlight of his week.

“It didn’t feel like just a job,” Jordan explains. “Every Friday, I looked forward to coming to Fairmount.” When he was later offered a position, he was “flabbergasted”—grateful for the opportunity to continue doing work he loved.

Today, Jordan sees his role as more than just tech support. “I love being able to bless other people and have God work through me,” he shares. Whether setting up devices or helping residents navigate challenges, he views each interaction as a chance to serve. “Taking the time to know someone, making them feel heard and seen, that’s one of the most important things.”



Leland and Jordan troubleshoot a team member’s laptop, working together to find a solution and keep things running smoothly.

His experience highlights the deeper purpose behind these partnerships. While interns gain valuable skills, something even more meaningful is taking place. Relationships are being formed. Stories are being shared. Faith is being lived out in everyday interactions.

As Fairmount continues this partnership program with Linville Hill, we are reminded that growth is not just about numbers or programs—it is about people. It is about creating spaces where generations can learn from one another, where gifts can be discovered, and where Christ’s love is reflected in both word and action.

2026 Summer Outdoor Concert Series

Come out and enjoy an evening of music and community—open to the public! Please bring lawn chairs.

J-Tyme Bluegrass

Tuesday, May 19 | 6:30pm
Wheat Ridge Campus

Days of Old

Tuesday, June 16 | 7:00pm
Farm Crest Campus

Singing Servants Quartet

Tuesday, July 14 | 6:30pm
Wheat Ridge Campus

Tru-Vintage

Tuesday, August 18 | 6:30pm
Farm Crest Campus

Disclaimer: Event details are subject to change. Rain dates for each concert will be the following Thursday. Please check our website for any updates or cancellations: FairmountHomes.org.

Volunteers Needed

All flower beds across campus at Fairmount Homes are maintained by dedicated volunteers who help keep our grounds beautiful year-round. We are currently seeking additional volunteers to assist with planting, weeding and upkeep. Interested individuals can contact Kirstin Patterson at 717.354.1887 or KirstinP@FairmountHomes.org.





Fairmount

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Items of Interest

Central PA Blood Drive

On Thursday, June 11, the Central PA Blood Bank will hold a blood drive in the Farm Crest Community Room from 11:30am–6:30pm. Donors may call the blood bank for an appointment at 800.771.0059 or visit www.cpbb.org.

8th Fairmount Book Sale

Fairmount's 8th Book Sale is planned for Friday, May 15, from 12:00pm–8:00pm, and Saturday, May 16, from 7:00am–10:00am, in the Farm Crest Community Room. Book donations are now being accepted. Stop by and enjoy half-price books on Saturday—everyone is welcome. Proceeds benefit the Sharing Fund.

Planning Your Next Chapter

Plan ahead with confidence at our upcoming seminar, Planning Your Next Chapter, on Wednesday, July 8, at 1:00pm in the Wheat Ridge Chapel. This informative session will cover everything from organizing important documents to building a support system to transition to retirement living. Kindly RSVP by June 30 to reserve your spot by calling 717.354.1887.



Spring Open House

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 | 2:00pm-5:00pm

Mark your calendar and join us on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, from 2:00pm–5:00pm in our Crest View Gathering Room, 1100 Farm Crest Drive, to discover Fairmount Living. Tour our apartments, cottages, and Personal Care, and see the progress of Orchard Terrace—our current cottage expansion. Enjoy maintenance-free living, peace of mind with Personal Care, Skilled Nursing, and Rehab all on one campus, and experience our faith-based mission known for its views, values, and value.

Tours begin in the Crest View Gathering Room, where you can meet our team, browse floor plans, and enjoy refreshments. Stick around for our Outdoor Summer Concert Series at 6:30pm on the Wheat Ridge side of campus featuring J-Tyme Bluegrass; register or learn more at FairmountHomes.org or 717.354.1811.

