Recover. Heal. Thrive. Rehabilitation at Lions Gate

When Lester Weintraul finished his short-term rehabilitation therapy at Lions Gate, he felt confident in his ability to continue with his daily routine – something he wasn’t sure about prior to rehab. “My therapists helped increase my balance, strength and confidence,” said Weintraul. “My quality of life is so much better now than when I started.”

With a state-of-the art rehab center and on-site aquatic therapy, short-term rehabilitation at Lions Gate provides physical, occupational and speech therapy for people recovering from a surgery or illness. According to Ami Joglekar, the Director of Rehabilitation at Fox Rehabilitation®, the short-term rehab program has been instrumental in helping hundreds of area patients achieve maximum functional capacity so they could successfully return to their homes.

“Our team consists of highly skilled therapists who create personalized plans of care for patients,” says Joglekar. “Our approach is team-focused, and, depending on a patient’s specific needs, the care team includes physicians, physiatrists, nurses, social workers and registered dieticians. In addition, families play an important part of the planning.”

The successful outcomes at Lions Gate prove the approach is working. Joglekar says that when it comes to length of stays, hospital readmission, increases in mobility, and patient satisfaction, Lions Gate is well ahead of both national and state benchmarks. “At Lions Gate, assessing and evaluating outcomes are priorities,” she says. “We are always seeking ways to improve our outcomes, and as a result, we have a very low hospital recidivism rate, which is key in determining the success of any rehabilitation program.”

Short-term rehabilitation at Lions Gate is a partnership between Lions Gate and Fox Rehabilitation. Glenn Sloves, the Director of Rehabilitation for Independent and Assisted Living, says the relationship began between the organizations at Dublin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses. “Fox provided rehab for residents, so expanding services and care to Lions Gate was a natural progression,” he says. “It completes a continuum of care for the residents. Should they require more care than we can provide at their homes, they can go to Lions Gate and receive care from a team who already knows them.”

The Nurse Manager of the Rehabilitation Center, Tatina Carr, R.N. emphasizes a comprehensive approach is best. “At Lions Gate, we believe it’s important to address the physical, emotional and spiritual needs with opportunities for fun and relaxation to achieve the best possible outcomes,” she says. “We have found that caring for the ‘whole person’ promotes better healing and overall wellness.”

“Thanks to the wonderful team at Lions Gate, I walk better and can do my daily chores. Life is much better – and easier – for me thanks to the rehab I received.” – Former Lions Gate Rehab Patient, Louis Cline, Jr.
Couple Requests Charitable Donations Instead of Wedding Gifts, Raising $10,000 (and Counting) for Lions Gate

Kelly and Larry Gottlieb knew exactly what they wanted in a wedding celebration. Married June 19th, they enjoyed the wedding of their dreams in Philadelphia at the Hotel Monaco surrounded by their children, close friends and family. They also knew what they didn’t want: gifts. The Gottliebs are among a growing trend of philanthropic couples integrating donations to a charity of their choice into their wedding celebrations.

The couple requested friends and loved ones mark their nuptials with a donation to Jewish Senior Housing and Healthcare Service (JSHHS), an organization whose mission they are very passionate about – quality of life and care for seniors. “We already had everything we needed” explained Larry, Vice President of the JSHHS Board of Trustees. “We felt that having our friends and family make a donation to JSHHS in lieu of gifts reflected more about who we are as a couple.” To date, the couple has raised over $10,000.

Kelly added that since this is a second marriage for both of them, they wanted to do something more meaningful. “There are people in need. We have everything we could ever want, so we felt why not encourage other people to give?”

“We are hopeful more people will follow the example of Kelly and Larry Gottlieb,” said Felice Kelem, Director of Development at Lions Gate. “Charitable donations made in place of gifts integrated into weddings and other milestone celebrations can provide organizations like JSHHS much-needed support throughout the year and can generate a series of generosity and awareness.”

There are several opportunities available to support seniors at JSHHS. From dedicatory opportunities at Lions Gate to outright gifts of cash, the generosity of contributors helps JSHHS to provide essential support to our residents and brings our mission to life.

For more information or to make a donation, call (856) 679-2189 or visit www.lionsgateccrc.org.
You can still make a donation on behalf of Kelly and Larry online at: www.lionsgateccrc.org/larryandkelly

Meet Our Employee of the Year

Congratulations to Della Easterling, an Environmental Services Housekeeper, who was recently named Lions Gate Employee of the Year. According to Lions Gate Director of Environmental Services and Purchasing Bob Smith, Della was chosen because she represents Lions Gate at its very best. “Her dedication and commitment to our residents exemplifies our mission.”

Easterling has a 35-year record of service that began with the Jewish Geriatric Home. “Throughout her professional journey with our organization, Della is someone you can always depend on for hard work and uncommon loyalty,” says Lions Gate CEO Morris (Mo) Funk. “She has an energetic spirit that makes this community shine – literally.”

Keeping communities like Lions Gate clean and safe are massive enterprises that require the collective effort of everyone – and Smith says Della’s effort is truly above and beyond. “Della is never sick! Bad weather never keeps her at home. She reports for duty each and every day and she does so with a smile,” he says. “It’s very evident she loves her job, but most of all, she feels a responsibility and passion for our residents. That’s what makes her so special.”

Smith adds that residents love her and that many residents insist that only she can clean their homes. “Some have even suggested she should train all the housekeepers,” he adds.

“Della is an essential part of our Lions Gate mosaic,” says Funk. “Without her, individual facets of our community would certainly shine less brightly.”
A Message from CEO

Morris “Mo” Funk

Formal dining comparable to the area’s finest restaurants. A relaxing bar/lounge complete with a large-screen TV. A spacious, new fitness center with the latest ergonomically correct equipment. An art studio designed to inspire creativity. A bistro offering the perfect atmosphere to socialize with both new and long-time friends…

These amenities are not part of some new luxury beach resort or a high-end condo building in Philadelphia. They are among the new and improved features our residents (and future residents) can expect to enjoy when the renovation project at Lions Gate is complete.

For nearly a decade, Lions Gate has represented an ideal model of retirement living for seniors. However, the face of senior living is changing very quickly. As baby boomers age, they are revolutionizing virtually every product and service in our marketplace.

Boomers demand a retirement living experience much different than their parents. They are more active. They want a vibrant living experience that encompasses their interests and passions when transitioning into this phase of life. While the boomers may eventually require the same medical care and services as past generations, right now they expect more – and better – options in retirement living.

What these trends reflect is a generation of seniors who are more determined than their parents to pursue an active lifestyle as they age. If we are to continue to set the standard as we age, we must identify and cater to those demands. Our renovation project keeps us at the forefront and will help to ensure we maintain our competitive edge and provide the active retirement experience that residents want now – and in the future.

A glimpse at the future…

Fitness Center – Boomers take wellness and fitness more seriously than previous generations. Communities can no longer allocate a small area for wellness and call it an “Exercise Room.” Our new Fitness Center is doubling in size and will feature weight equipment ergonomically designed to make it easy for seniors to use. New, contemporary cardio machines will help our residents continue to say fit, trim, active and safe. We’ll also have an area for stretching and personal training and an adjacent studio for exercise, yoga and dance classes.

Bistro – Located off the main entrance, this new kosher, casual dining room will be part traditional deli, part coffee shop where residents can enjoy breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Alfresco dining is also available.

Commons Hall – It’s the new venue for community events, shows, plays, musical performances and programs. It can be divided into two spaces for smaller meetings or classes. It can be expanded with the use of our adjoining outdoor patio. A new Spiritual Center is located within Commons Hall, offering a peaceful retreat for residents and families to enjoy High Holiday or Shabbat services.
Meet the New Board President

Andi Levin

Andi Levin was recently named the new President of the Jewish Senior Housing and Healthcare Service (JSHHS) Board of Trustees at the organization’s Annual Meeting in June.

Andi has been involved with The Jewish Federation and JSHHS for over 20 years, serving in a number of volunteer leadership positions, including President of Samost Jewish Family and Children’s Service and President of the JGH Auxiliary of Lions Gate. As the current Federation Planning Committee Chair, she is a member of its Executive Committee and is on the board of the Jewish Community Foundation. Levin is also active on the board of Temple Beth Sholom as its Social Action Chair.

As JSHHS Board President, Levin looks forward to continuing the board’s commitment to area seniors. “It’s important we meet our mission of providing meaningful lifestyles and services to area seniors. Whether it’s at Lions Gate or at the Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses, we are all committed to ensuring our communities are the models of what retirement living should be for all seniors.”

Levin adds that she is excited about working with new board members Mark Adler, Mark Kramer, Toby Dubner and Glenn Sloves, who were also installed at the Annual Meeting.

In handing over the reins to Levin, outgoing JSHHS Board President Neal Cupersmith said her extensive service within the Federation has given her a unique global perception. “Andi’s active involvement helps ensure we are comprehensive and collaborative in our efforts as we plan for future care and services that will enhance the lives of those we serve.”

Formal Dining – Gone are the days of a traditional banquet-style room with limited menu options. Our new and improved formal dining room will provide an elegant backdrop to an engaging food experience that features an array of menu selections, farm-to-table options and a display kitchen that gives residents the opportunity to participate in live cooking demonstrations.

Art Studio – With an abundance of natural light, our upgraded art studio is the place to unleash your creativity! With classes ranging from oil painting to jewelry making, this new space dedicated exclusively for the arts will give residents the opportunity to express themselves, explore new mediums, develop new artistic passions (or rekindle old ones), while strengthening their motor skills.

Bar/Lounge – Residents can meet at the bar to enjoy an aperitif before dinner or to stop by for a midday espresso. On Sundays, it will be a great spot to watch the big games.
Meet the New JSHHS Board of Trustees

MARK ADLER
Mark Adler, owner of Adler’s Pharmacy, LTC in Cherry Hill, NJ, is excited about joining the Board of Trustees at Jewish Senior Housing and Healthcare Service (JSHHS). Adler’s grandmother was a resident at Dubin House, and he is dedicated to ensuring seniors have access to a quality of life and care. Adler’s experience and background as a pharmacy owner provides him with a valuable perspective on senior’s health care, and as a new board member will provide beneficial insight.

Active with Temple Beth Sholom, Adler is also a member of several pharmacy associations, including APHA, NJPHA, NARD and ASCP. He lives with his wife, Pamela, and their daughter in Cherry Hill.

TOBY DUBNER
Toby Dubner has been active with the JHG Auxiliary for more than 10 years and is regularly seen mingling with Lions Gate residents. Known as the “Shady Lady” from Cherry Hill, NJ, a window treatment company she owned for decades, Dubner says her involvement with the Auxiliary is rewarding and worthwhile. She looks forward to making a difference working with the Board of Trustees. She lives in Cherry Hill.

MARK KRAMER
Mark Kramer is the President of Kramer Beverage in Hammonton, NJ. A dedicated community leader, Kramer serves on the Board of the South Jersey Chapter of Jewish National Fund and the Foundation Board of Virtua Hospital. He is also a founding board member of the HERO Campaign for Designated Drivers. He lives in Voorhees with his wife, Heather, and their two daughters.

GLENN SLOVES
A physical therapist and Director of the Exercise Physiology Program at Fox Rehabilitation™ in Cherry Hill, Glenn Solves brings nearly 20 years of experience to the Lions Gate board. He specializes in working with seniors.

Solves’ patients include residents from Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses as well as Lions Gate. His goal is to improve their quality of life through physical therapy and exercise. He is LSVT BIG® Certified in the treatment of Parkinson’s disease. A member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), Solves has presented his research at various industry symposiums and has published a number of health-related articles. He lives in Voorhees with his wife, Juli, and their three children.

Continued from front


Lions Gate Executive Director of Operations Susan Love, MS, LNHA, says, “a comfortable, positive environment can help boost a patient’s energy and spirit. When patients are comfortable, they can better focus on gaining strength – and healing faster.” Rehabilitation at Lions Gate is delivered in a completely separate wing with its own entrance and dining room. With an atmosphere that’s more like a hotel than hospital, patients have access to a wide range of pampering services and amenities, including private rooms with private showers.

Rehabilitation at Lions Gate is offered on an inpatient and outpatient basis; referrals and patients of all faiths are welcome throughout the region. Being a resident of Lions Gate or the Dubin, Gesher and Saltzman Houses is not a requirement.
Lions Gate Welcomes New Team Members

Felice Kelem is the new Director of Development. Kelem comes to Lions Gate with an extensive background in developing successful fundraising initiatives and delivering quality, personalized events to volunteers and the public. Most recently she was Senior Development Director at the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation where she directed all donor and corporate development, volunteer engagement, and fundraising activities for the chapter’s dinner dance campaigns that included the organizations gala which raised close to $1 million in 2014. She was awarded the Foundation’s Circle of Excellence for three years and served on the organization’s national task force to develop a new five-year strategic plan. She has also had successful leadership positions at the Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

“I am so happy to be a part of the Lions Gate community, working with its incredible team to strengthen and support resources for the organization … I look forward to taking the wonderful things Lions Gate does and sustaining and growing those efforts over the long-term. We want to be sure we continue to meet the changing needs of seniors in our community.”

Scott Bemish is the new Director of Sales and Marketing at Lions Gate. Prior to joining our team, he has held similar positions at both the community and corporate levels for the last 15 years. Bemish has a wealth of senior-level industry marketing experience throughout the country. His primary responsibilities and accomplishments over the years include developing and leading teams to meet and exceed occupancy, establishing and upholding marketing standards and creating a customer and service oriented culture.

“I am very excited to be a part of the Lions Gate team and am eager to work with South Jersey seniors, educating them on what inspired senior living means at Lions Gate.”

For more information please contact Felice Kelem at fkelem@lionsgateccrc.org or call at 856-679-2189.