

# THE CONNECTION

NEWS FROM WESLEY WOODS



## CREATING COMMUNITIES OF CONNECTION, WELLBEING AND PROMISE FOR 70 YEARS!

**S**eventy years ago, our founder, Rev. Dr. Candler Budd, and leaders from the greater Atlanta community, saw a need for safe and affordable housing for older adults. Their guiding principle was, "In every respect, residents should have as much independence and autonomy as possible." This principle remains the core of our resident-centered care and mission—*To create communities of connection, well-being and promise.*

The Foundation of Wesley Woods achieves this mission by providing financial assistance for rent and meals to residents who have outlived their resources, a robust wellness program which includes a wellness nurse and outcomes-based wellness programming in each community, as well as a compassionate pastoral care program. *All of this is made possible only with philanthropic support.*

In this season of Thanksgiving, please consider making a meaningful gift at [wesleywoods.org/donate](https://wesleywoods.org/donate) that will enable residents of Wesley Woods to continue to thrive. We hope you will continue to stand with us on the foundation of our 70-year tradition of envisioning a world in which older adults are celebrated for the lives they have lived, the wisdom they share and everything they have yet to teach us

Gratefully,



*Diane*

Diane Vaughan  
President  
Foundation of Wesley Woods



*Terry*

Terry Barcroft  
President and CEO  
Wesley Woods Senior Living

## WELLNESS AT WORK!

**W**hen Suellen moved to her new home at Wesley Woods, she immediately began making friends by participating in the Wellness and Life Enrichment offerings such as walking groups and exercise classes. Last Summer, she unexpectedly contracted pneumonia and had to be hospitalized for complications and required oxygen support. When she returned to her Wesley Woods home, Suellen slowly began to participate in community activities again with the help of her Life Enrichment Director. Today, she no longer needs oxygen assistance and continues to push herself to do more—she is a regular on weekly outings. Our Wellness and Life Enrichment programs give Suellen the opportunity to fulfil the active life she desires. Her motto is, “We need to get up, go, and keep moving, and I’m going to do that. By the grace of God, I am still here.”



Make a gift for the wellness program to support residents, like Suellen, by visiting [wesleywoods.org/donate](https://wesleywoods.org/donate).

## THIS YEAR DONOR SUPPORT HAS PROVIDED:

**1,551**

Virtual Fitness Classes

**2,839**

In-Person  
Fitness Classes

**8,382**

Wellness Nurse Visits

**913**

Mental Health Visits

## *A Life Well-Lived*

*By Patsy Sailors-Matthews, Wesley Woods Resident*

I want to tell you a little story  
I think you'll like to hear  
It's all about a place  
That to me is very dear.

You'll see lots of old folks  
And everything with wheels.  
There's rollators and wheelchairs  
But that's no big deal.

We just stroll right along  
With a smile on our face  
Cause we're all friends here  
And our home is this place.

There's so much fun,  
With activities galore.

There's even road trips  
And much more.

There's health classes  
And exercise  
To help you stay fit.  
We have church, gardening,  
And music quite a bit.

There's Saturday "Cup a Doodle,"  
With coffee and chatter  
To share fun stories  
And sad things that matter.

So, you see, while there's  
A whole lot of things to do,

How you choose  
To spend your day  
Is really up to you.

Here you are safe and  
Never alone.  
You have comfort and peace  
Knowing you are home.

I give God praise  
And thanks every single day  
For guiding me here  
To grow older the  
Wesley Woods Way.

Oh my goodness, tell me  
It ain't so, did I forget to say  
We also play Bingo?!

## MISSION POSSIBLE

**A**s a Wesley Woods resident, Carol experiences first-hand the mission of Wesley Woods to create communities of connection, well-being and promise. It has inspired her to make an annual gift to support charitable financial assistance for residents in need. Carol wisely gives through her IRA as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) when she is able. This gives her the opportunity to show her appreciation to Wesley Woods while also lowering her taxable income and making tax-free gifts. We invite you to consult your tax advisor to make a tax-smart gift through your IRA and help make the Wesley Woods mission possible.

For more information on ways to give, contact Maggie Medlock at 404-282-8674 or [maggie.medlock@wesleywoods.org](mailto:maggie.medlock@wesleywoods.org).



## TERRY BARCROFT HONORED

**T**erry Barcroft, President, and CEO of Wesley Woods Senior Living, was recently recognized as a Most Admired CEO by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*. Terry shared: "I am honored to lead an organization that is committed to creating communities of connection, wellbeing and promise for older adults, and grateful for the employees whose dedication, care, and commitment to the residents of our 10 Wesley Woods communities is unrivaled in the senior living industry. I am excited about our future as we continue to increase the number of older adults we serve and thrilled to celebrate 70 years of service to Georgia families."

## ITEMS IN NEED OF FUNDING

**W**hile we continue our work to annually fund the pastoral care, wellness and financial assistance programs, our Wesley Woods communities have additional needs.

Please contact Maggie Medlock at 404-282-8674 if you have interest in funding one or more of the items listed, or if you can connect us with a corporation or foundation who may have an interest.

- Outdoor heaters and fans \$3,600 total
- Digital calendars and signage \$10,200 each (2 needed)
- Stair lift chairs \$12,000 total for 3 chairs
- Dining room tables \$13,500 for 30 tables



## LEAVING A LEGACY

**J**ohn Kauth has recently joined the Torchbearers Society by placing the Foundation of Wesley Woods in his will. John is a resident of Wesley Woods St. John Towers in Augusta where he is president of the resident's association. During his professional career he was a graphic artist, and he uses his talent to maintain the activities bulletin board for St. John Towers residents. He also enjoys maintaining the resident computer in the library. He placed Wesley Woods in his will as a recipient of his IRA because he is grateful for the care and community he enjoys. He consistently tells residents who get anxious about what is going on in the world that they can be at peace at St. John Towers because they have everything they need. We are grateful to John and to all members of the Torchbearers Society who will leave their legacy with Wesley Woods.

To learn how you can become a member of the Torchbearers Society, please contact Maggie Medlock at 404-282-8674.

## THE GIFT OF PRESENCE

**R**ev. Sharon Edgar believes that a vital part of her ministry as a chaplain at Wesley Woods is to offer the gift of presence and to listen. Recently, Sharon was asked to visit a resident who had lost a dear friend and was sad. As the resident spoke, she told stories about her friend and the good times they shared at Wesley Woods. Sharon laughed and cried with the resident, and at the end of the visit, the resident thanked her for coming and for being a great listener that soothed her heart. Wesley Woods chaplains provide the gift of presence and are always ready to listen.

To support the pastoral care program at Wesley Woods, visit [wesleywoods.org/donate](https://wesleywoods.org/donate).

### THIS YEAR DONOR SUPPORT HAS PROVIDED:

**9,935**

Resident  
Connections

**1,289**

Staff Support  
Connections

**1,054**

Family Connections

**2,345**

Studies and Services

# HEROES | 35 SAINTS & LEGENDS | YEARS

**R**enee Lewis Glover and Susan and Glenn Warren were honored as 2024 Heroes, Saints & Legends at a spectacular 35th anniversary celebration of the awards. Honorees are selected for transforming our greater community through a lifelong commitment to leadership, service and philanthropy. In addition to this year's honorees, thirteen prior honorees attended this special evening that raised a record-breaking \$525,000 to support the Wesley Woods mission.

Ms. Glover is the founder and managing partner of The Catalyst Group, LLC, a national consulting firm focused on urban revitalization, real estate development and community building. She expressed that the honor recognizes the passion of her life's work of providing opportunity to, "All of God's children" by building beautiful amenity-rich communities that are economically, racially, and culturally diverse.

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Wesley Woods



Susan and Glenn Warren shared that being recognized as Heroes, Saints & Legends confirms 70 years' worth of devotion on the part of their family to further the mission of Wesley Woods. They stated it is a testament to the dedication and tireless effort of the leadership and staff of the past and the present and that Wesley Woods embodies the efforts of creating communities of connection, well-being and promise. Wesley Woods is grateful to the Warren family for playing a role in its 70 years of success.

Wesley Woods is grateful to each attendee, donor and sponsor who made the anniversary celebration a remarkable success! To see a complete list of donors and prior Heroes, Saints & Legends honorees, please visit [wesleywoods.org/heroes](https://wesleywoods.org/heroes).



**WESLEY WOODS**  
FOUNDATION

1817 Clifton Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329

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## SHARE THE JOY OF LIVING THROUGH THE JOY OF GIVING.

Wesley Woods relies on donor support to deliver on its mission to create communities of connection, well-being and promise to older adults.

This year, give the gift of Charitable Care, Wellness and Chaplaincy to the residents of Wesley Woods. We will send a tribute card to the person you wish to honor, letting them know of your generosity.

**Make a Gift to Wesley Woods Today  
at [WesleyWoods.org/donate](https://WesleyWoods.org/donate)**