



We are a faith-based, charitable nonprofit serving Sheboygan area seniors since 1962.

It has been ONE year...

...since we had to close our doors to our family and friends for the safety of our residents and staff.

365 days since our residents have been able to hug their loved ones.

525,600 minutes since the pandemic began to have a devastating effect on our community, along with the entire world.

We wish to thank you for being so understanding during the transitions we all faced. Please join us in remembering the past year and how we were able to persevere and grow throughout 2020.

The Overall Safety of SSC

Sheboygan Senior Community is dedicated to providing a safe environment for every individual under our roof.

We began by acquiring the proper PPE equipment, educating our staff and residents, and having weekly Covid-19 tests for everyone in our building. We were lucky to receive much-needed supplies for our team from the Government, State, and Local Levels. Some of which included:

5,671 different types of masks, 4,510 types of gowns, 300 containers of disinfecting wipes, 157 boxes of gloves, 138 safety goggles, 120 face shields, 100 PPE kits, and 19 infrared thermometers.

The implementation of temperature checks, a new visitor check-in system, proper hand-washing techniques, and sanitation stations were integrated throughout our facility. By educating our team, we were able to teach ways to stay safe both inside the workplace and outside in the community.

When the Moderna Vaccine became available we were one of the first nursing care facilities to sign up. We have been able to vaccinate 75% of our staff and 100% of our residents. We are grateful for having the opportunity to allow Walgreens to offer the vaccine to everyone at SSC.

Our Director of Nursing, Jill Hand, has been instrumental in providing our team with the proper knowledge of staying safe through a difficult year.

"We laughed, we cried, we worried and we were anxious, but we survived! Our team became so much stronger as we all had to work together harder than ever to keep our residents, our families and ourselves safe. The daily unknown was a daunting burden on all of us, but the love and kindness shown by our SSC family was unimaginable." – Jill Hand



Life Enrichment Programs

Our team at SSC has done a wonderful job of incorporating new life enrichment programs for our residents during this trying time.

To keep residents safe and engaged in activities, our team was tasked with following CDC guidelines while providing new programs. This meant, instead of having a preacher come say a sermon to everyone at once, we had to bring the sermon to each resident. This was an incredibly time-consuming task and is just one example of the ways we were able to keep important activities in the lives of our residents.

Along with regular programs, our creative team was able to come up with fun activities throughout each month. While social distancing and separation of space were essential during 2020, we have recently been able to host events for more to attend at a time. A resident at SSC shares her insight on how an Elvis performer had to adapt and host his show outside.

"Elvis was so good! Anything with music I love. It was very nice having it outside" - Theresa M. (resident)

Our Director of Life Enrichment, Melissa Thiel, leads a wonderful team of caring individuals. Through her creativity and innovative solutions, she helped bring new programs to our residents.

"It has been a balancing act and team effort to meet as many needs as possible for the residents during this last year. With the group contact being limited or not at all, we all came together to spend time with as many residents as possible in a variety of ways to fulfill spiritual, creative, mental and entertainment needs...Staying connected to family and friends was important, so incorporating video calls, Facebook, and the community helped to fill that gap. Also, we were not able to have volunteers come in for help with things, such as nail polishing or calling bingo, so we had to come up with ways to still provide these or similar activities with staff alone." - Melissa Thiel



The Culture at SSC

Each member of our team has done an incredible job to keep morale up at SSC. From dining services to caregivers, we all have adapted to meet the needs of our residents and team.

"The staff and residents were amazing when we had to have split shifts for meals. We had to start early and everything went smoothly. When we had to do trays to rooms everyone was so helpful. With everyone working together we made it through and I couldn't ask for a better team than ours!" - Cori Menzer, Dietary Team Lead

From staff appreciation days to staff dances, we have created a fun environment regardless of the circumstances. We wish to thank each person who puts their heart into their work.

"We would normally see countless visitors, volunteers, and various groups in our halls during the year. These people help create the environment and culture we've grown to love. Knowing this, we got creative and came together as a group to put on some really fun programs for residents and our team alike. The willingness of our staff to participate in some pretty wacky ideas proves their unrelenting dedication and commitment to making work fun! I'd venture to guess we'll continue some of these events even after the pandemic is behind us."

- Dana Elmzen, Director of Marketing and Development



Our Ability To Grow

In a year where the future of organizations remained uncertain, we were blessed with unique opportunities to grow.

It began with the renovation of our Therapy Gym through the help of the Kohler

Company. The newly renovated space features a collection of “Aging In Place” KOHLER products, with a primary focus on the Walk-in-Bath and accessible LuxStone Shower. Our Director of Operations, Stephanie Goetz, led the incorporation of these products into the redesigned Wellness Spas. While undertaking this huge project she reimagined the entire space of our Therapy Gym, making it more representative of how an area of motivation and personal growth should be.

"In 2019, when we started our collaboration with Kohler in conjunction with reimagining the Therapy Gym, our biggest concern was the effect taking the space offline would have on our residents and how to minimize the disruption. Those concerns shifted to how we execute a full renovation of the space while adhering to Covid restrictions. We experienced many delays, from the permit process, the availability and delivery of materials, to sub-contractors in quarantine. In the end, we were successful in creating a temporary therapy space in our Short Term Rehab unit that satisfied the needs of our residents and therapists, and completely isolated the construction zone. The result is a cohesive space designed for a variety of uses. We cannot wait to open the Gym to visitors, and share it with the community."

– Stephanie Goetz

While adapting to the Therapy Gym renovation, the team from Greenfield Rehab had to incorporate new forms of therapy for our residents. One of the beneficial ways to treat short-term rehab patients is to introduce them to one another, do a therapy session together, have them dine together, and watch them grow and heal together. March of 2020 changed the way therapists could rehabilitate their patients. Mask, glove, gown, and goggle entered each session with the use of walking space being restricted due to social distancing requirements.

"What we have missed most is warmly smiling at you to let you know it will be ok, gently laying our caring hands on you to help heal your body, and importantly have missed inviting your family to join our sessions so they too could see progress and lift your spirits" - Bridget Boy, Rehab

Director

SSC also grew by bringing Milestones Adult Family Home into our organization. This move was spearheaded by our CEO, Paul Treffert, as his compassion for helping those in need led to this business agreement.



Our Thanks To You

On behalf of everyone here at Sheboygan Senior Community, we wish to thank you for helping us make 2020 as wonderful as possible. We look forward to creating new memories, expanding our organization, and bringing joy into the lives of everyone within our family.



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