



On August 27th, Felician Village will celebrate its 138th anniversary of providing care in the Manitowoc

Community. While a great deal of transformation has taken place since 1887, we continue to be a Felician Sisters Sponsored, non-profit organization, serving the ever-changing and diverse needs and desires of older adults.

One of our newest endeavors is our patio and pub project. Last year at this time, we were celebrating the successes of our first annual Mrs. Roper's Romp fundraiser. We knew the momentum was in our favor, but there was still more work to do. In the past twelve months, we have received grants, donations, sponsorships, and hosted another very successful Mrs. Roper's Romp. The impending completion of the patio and pub is a testament to the dedication of a small but mighty group, working together to provide a much-needed and desirable gathering space for our current and future residents.

In this newsletter, you'll be able to read more about this innovative space and the other unique programs and services at Felician Village. The core values of our organization – Compassion, Solidarity with Those in Need, Justice & Peace, Respect for Human Dignity, and Transformation, help guide our actions and plans. Your generosity allows us to carry out big ideas, heartfelt moments, and meaningful differences in the lives of those we serve.

We are grateful for every gift we receive that helps to support our work.

- Luke Schubert, President/CEO

## *A Legacy of Compassion and Service*

At the end of June, the three Felician Sisters residing at Felician Village in Manitowoc left our campus. This marked a significant moment in our ministry's history, as we will be without Felician Sisters for the first time since our beginning in 1887. Felician Village will continue to carry out the work of the Sisters with the support of our more than 225 lay staff members and continued guidance from Felician Services, Inc. Our three remaining Sisters, Sr. Bernadette, Sr. Bernetta, and Sr. Rosalie, were sent off to their retirement with blessings and love at a Farewell Celebration on July 10. We remain grounded in gratitude for their presence, ministry, and legacy of compassion and care.

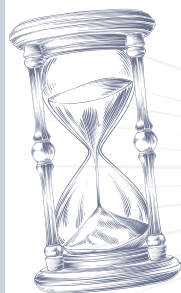


Since 1887, the Felician Sisters have served in Manitowoc at Felician Village, originally called St. Mary's Home. They have provided a beautiful witness of dedication to the gospel message of caring for the most vulnerable. Their service to the community, including orphans, diocesan priests, Franciscan Friars, and the aging members of Manitowoc County, has provided warmth, love, and generous hospitality. They have brought the charism of Blessed Mary Angela Truskowska from Poland to North America in a complete and tangible manner. They have given life, nourishment, shelter, and care to generations of residents. They have welcomed lay people to share in their mission of continuing the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person they serve.

Our ministry will faithfully welcome other Felician Sisters to serve our ministry in a day-to-day capacity if that opportunity presents itself in the future. Please keep our Sisters in your prayers.



*The Felician Sisters request that any gifts come in the form of donations to Felician Village in recognition of their commitment to this ministry.*



*Time is not measured by the years that you live, but by the deeds that you do and the joy that you give. And each day as it comes brings a chance to each of us to love to the fullest, leaving nothing undone that would brighten the life or lighten the load of some weary traveler lost on life's road. So what does it matter how long we may live if as long as we live we unselfishly give.*

- Helen Steiner Rice





# Caftans & Community:

## Mrs. Roper's Romp a Fabulous Fundraising Hit

In April, 2025 we held our second annual fundraiser for the purpose of building the patio and pub at Felician Village, following a successful inaugural event in April 2024. Both events offered guests lots of throwbacks from the 70's, from dancing to great tunes, entering to win raffle baskets to playing games and enjoying a tasty buffet served by Felician Village Culinary Services.

After just 18 months, our patio is near completion and the pub remodel will begin soon.

**Coming Soon!**  
**2026 Fundraiser**

to benefit a FV Bus



**NEW THEME!**  
Contact Renee to get involved,  
920.684.7171,  
ext. 381

**2 Fundraisers**  
in 2024 & 2025

With YOUR  
help we raised

**\$115,000**

for the patio & pub

Over 50  
Raffles

Over  
200  
guests

**THANK  
YOU**

### ★ 2025 Top Level Event Sponsors ★

**Vinton Construction Company and Michael and Mary Maples Family  
in Memory of James and Marilyn Maples**

**Carla & Geof Liban**

**SEEHAFER NEWS**

**Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin**

**Martin Brothers**

**Renee Thompson**

**Steimle Birschbach, LLC**

**Schaus Mechanical**

**M3 Insurance**

**Weier Wealth Management**





## Dreams Become a Reality

Thanks to the incredible support, what was once a dream is now becoming a vibrant reality: our new patio and pub are reaching their final stages.

The patio offers a peaceful retreat—perfect for morning coffee, sunny afternoons, and evening conversations under the stars. The pub adds a lively and welcoming spot for socializing, celebrations, and memory-making over a friendly drink or game night.

# 120

Activities/events held  
at The Gardens in 2024



Crafts  
Book Club  
Happy Hour  
Blackjack  
Movies  
Exercise Class  
& More!

The generosity from our donors has created more than just a physical space. It's made room to expand the current activities and events we offer, open doors to new ideas and give our residents more opportunities to gather, relax, and enjoy life together.



## Encore-Worthy Support

Our second summer concert on July 9th debuted on the new patio at The Gardens by Mystic Moods Polka Band.

All concerts are fan favorites and draw crowds campus wide and from the community. At Felician Village summer begins when outdoor concerts begin. Clipper City Chordsmen and Elvis also entertained the crowds this summer.

Thank you to NICOLET National Bank for sponsoring the summer concert series. Their support helped bring joy, connection, and toe-tapping fun to the Felician Village community.

**If interested in sponsoring an experience for FV residents contact Renee, 920.684.7171, ext. 381 or [rthompson@felicianvillage.org](mailto:rthompson@felicianvillage.org).**

## Grants Make an Impact at Felician Village

We have been immeasurably blessed to produce and receive grants in 2024-2025 that have benefited Felician Village. Our funders recognize the value of building an environment and offering services that support the needs of our older adults and for that, we are so grateful.

### In Support of:

#### ► Patio & Pub

Billie and Fran Hoffman Foundation

Felician Services, Inc. (FSI)

Mary Jane and Arthur Stangel Charitable Fund

The Roy and Darlene Geigel Charitable  
Trust Foundation

West Foundation

#### ► Felician Village Cornerstone Endowment Fund for the Poor

Theodore and Sibylla Pauly Fund of Lakeshore  
Community Foundation

#### ► Felician Village at Home M3 Insurance

#### ► Resident Activities

The State of Wisconsin

Furry Friends (Joyful Companions)

#### ► Dementia

Raleigh and Agnes Sorge Fund of Lakeshore  
Community Foundation





Thank  
you

for your  
generosity  
in supporting  
the mission  
and ministry  
of Felician  
Village

**\$336,619**

Fiscal year gifts  
(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

**182**

Current active donors

**Cornerstone  
Fund for  
Endowment  
the Poor**

As of June 30, 2025,  
the balance was

**\$1,104,921**

## Fueling Our Mission Through Employee Generosity

Our employees give more than their time and talents—they give from the heart. Through their generous donations, they live out our mission and faith, helping us care for those we serve with love and dignity.



*"Our team donates to support the many activities that we offer across the campus. The activities enrich the lives of our seniors by giving them the ability to participate in the things they enjoy close to home. It's been said, 'Home is where the heart is.' At Felician Village, we bring the heart to the home! That is why we collectively choose to donate."*

Jeremy Denor, Director of Assisted Living ■ Brianna Wandrie, RN  
Tanya Zich, Health Unit Coordinator ■ Melissa Grapentine, RN

*"I choose to give to support our residents and their families. Anything I can do to make their lives more enjoyable and meaningful is absolutely worth it to me!"*

Suzi Bratz, Registered Dietitian



## The Future of Giving Starts Now

Carla and Geof Liban are generous donors to our community. One of their favorite "events" every year is to purchase a poinsettia for all residents at Felician Village.

Carla reminds us that, "Sometimes it's the small thing that matters most." The last couple of years they have brought their granddaughter, Emma, along to deliver plants with them.



*"It's important we help Emma learn that giving, even in small ways really matters to others."*

- Carla Liban

## ♥ Stuffed with Love: Cuddly Companions Make a Heartwarming Impact

One of our most touching (literally!) grant awards received this year was for robotic companion animals. Last year Felician Village applied to the State of Wisconsin for funding of Furry Friends (through the Joyful Companion Pets program) for the benefit of our nursing home residents. The purpose of the animals is to engage with residents, and is especially helpful to those with dementia and decreased motor skills. We were awarded 27 mechanical pet residents; 18 dogs and 9 cats. The mechanics of the pets mimic real pets—they yawn, wiggle their tails, meow and bark, and move their heads.

The pet adoption event was organized by the Felician Village Life Enrichment team. Each resident was allowed to adopt the pet of their choice. For some residents who grew up with dogs, it was an easy choice. For others who love both cats and dogs, they had a decision to make. A special bond has developed between human and pet companions. Residents who exhibit changes in communications, have been overheard talking with their new friends! The pets continue to lift the spirits of their human companions.

*One resident, who is often quiet, was overheard talking to her dog as she was gently petting her, "It's been a while since you ate. I'm going to ask for some food for you!" One resident and one precious experience.*





## Benevolent Brothers

In 2022, Jerry and Jim Lax moved to the Gardens. "The twins," as they are affectionately called, grew up in Manitowoc and were schooled in the field of nursing where they pursued lifelong careers in cardiac and oncology.

Relocating to Manitowoc and moving to the Gardens seemed like an ideal place to retire. After living here a year, they learned about the volunteer opportunities available, like serving meals and hospitality in the Village Café. Soon after, they turned their smiles into miles by becoming transportation volunteers for Felician Village at Home. Most recently, Jim and Jerry began serving in the Chapel after the departure of our three Felician Sisters.

"The twins" bless Felician Village in giving of their time, talent, and treasure.

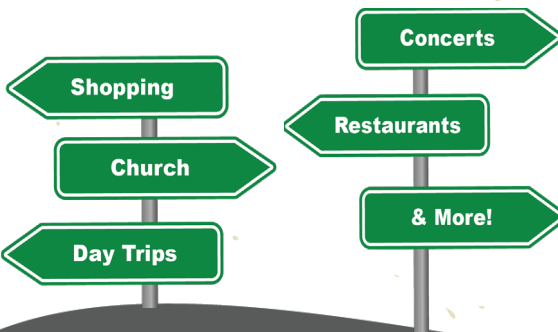


To learn about donating your time to Felician Village, contact Lauren Daun, Membership & Volunteer Supervisor, 920-684-7171, ext. 425.

## KEEP THE GOOD TIMES ROLLING

Our vision at Felician Village is to lead the community in offering seniors personalized services that are life-enriching and wellness focused. Felician Village's 2026 funding initiative is for a new bus. The current 12 passenger bus was purchased in 2013. After twelve years of adventures, it's starting to show its age, and the time has come for a replacement. The current bus no longer has a functioning wheelchair lift for non-ambulatory riders.

With your support, our bus will take residents to a variety of experiences, dining excursions, learning opportunities, and more throughout Manitowoc County and beyond! Help us drive this mission forward!



440  
people used  
the FV bus for  
transportation

In 2024...

## Plant Seeds Today That Will Bloom Tomorrow

Last Christmas we received a blessing from a friend to Felician Village through his estate. Chuck and Renee, Donor Development Director, had many conversations over the last decade where he always shared his gratitude for the loving care that his family received over the years in St. Mary's Nursing Home. Perhaps you have been moved by the care our staff and Sisters gave to you or your loved one.

If you have, please consider leaving a gift in your estate. Sometimes it is as simple as naming St. Mary's Home for the Aged, Inc. (EIN 39-0826123) as a beneficiary in your plans.



For more information, please contact your financial advisor, attorney, or Renee at [rthompson@felicianvillage.org](mailto:rthompson@felicianvillage.org).

Would you consider a gift of MOVEment?



Contact Renee for more info, 920.684-7171, ext. 381 or [rthompson@felicianvillage.org](mailto:rthompson@felicianvillage.org).







Felician Village

Felician Village  
1635 S. 21st Street  
Manitowoc, WI 54220  
920.684.7171

Sponsored by the Felician Sisters

*Leading by example  
through our Mission, Vision & Core Values*

**Our Mission** To continue the healing ministry of Jesus by providing compassionate care that respects the dignity of each person we serve.

**Our Vision** To lead the community in offering seniors personalized services that are life-enriching and wellness focused.

**Core Values** Respect for Human Dignity  
Compassion  
Transformation  
Solidarity with People in Need  
Justice and Peace



**Donate  
today!**

## Turn Your IRA Into a Powerful Giving Tool

If you qualify, now is the time to make a gift through options that may be advantageous to you.

### If you are 70.5 years old

You may donate directly from your Individual Requirement Account (IRA) to a qualified charity through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

**2025 Annual Limit** → \$108,000 per individual  
\$216,000 per couple

QCDs can satisfy part or all your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) while supporting a cause you care about.

### If you are 73 years old in 2025

The IRS mandates that you must take annual withdrawals from your traditional retirement accounts. What better way to invest in charities while possibly reducing your tax liabilities?

### For More Information

on giving through your IRA please contact your financial advisor or attorney.

### Our residents will benefit from your gift

Contact Renee at [rthompson@felicianvillage.org](mailto:rthompson@felicianvillage.org) to learn about the funds and programs and services that our residents will benefit from your gift.

*"When I was approaching the RMD age, I instructed my advisor to include Felician Village in my annual distribution. The organization means a lot to me, and we all benefit."*

Left to right, faithful FV donor Deb, polka dancing with a resident at a FV summer concert.



Information provided by Atty. Michelle Birschbach and Carla Liban, retired Edward Jones financial advisor, both who serve on the Felician Village Donor Development Committee.

### Felician Village Fund Development Committee

Luke Schubert, President/CEO  
Rev. Gerald Foley

Carla Liban, Chair  
Candice Giesen

Atty. Michelle Birschbach  
Shannon Otten  
Pastor Matt Sauer

Megan Bruckschen  
Renee Thompson