

**Report to Western Quarterly Meeting
from the Friends Home in Kennett
Fiscal Year
7/25-6/26**

Prepared by Samantha Roos-Meiser - Interim Executive Director
and Teal Rickerman - Clerk - Board of Trustees

The mission of the organization continues to guide the board and staff of the Friends Home in Kennett:

Mission Statement: The Friends Home in Kennett is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality care in a homelike atmosphere for older men and women of modest means. We encourage independence, and we respect the individuality and dignity of all in keeping with the values of the Religious Society of Friends.

Value Statement

Friends Home in Kennett has been home to seniors in our community for over 120 years. The Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship guide the way of living at Friends Home. We have attempted to adapt our physical and intangible environments to encourage optimal independence for all our residents. This lifestyle is included in our day-to-day operations by including residents in the planning and preparation of meals, developing the social calendar, and finding opportunities for our staff and residents to both benefit and give back to the Kennett Square community. Friends Home has been able to offer our residents numerous opportunities

utilizing the community right outside our doors.

Leadership Update (from Teal Rickerman, Board Clerk)

Effective July 1, 2026, we welcomed an Interim Executive Director, Samantha Roos-Meiser, an experienced licensed administrator. We have been impressed with her knowledge, care for the staff, and organizational skills. In addition to this change, one Board member, Karen Lee Brofee, termed out. We were joined by two new Trustees: Anna Medeiros (Centre Friends Meeting) and Laura Foltz, an educator at Wilmington Friends School.

Capital Improvements

Three major improvements are underway. The new elevator continues to be a source of frustration with the slowness of progress. The original contractor sold the company; the new owner of the company had little interest in our project and was not efficient in addressing the unknown circumstances related to working on an older building. That contractor was let go, and this spring, a new firm, Tru-Built, was hired to complete the project with a due date of September. There was a new generator installed as part of that project. In addition to that, FHK installed a brand-new HVAC system. This project is nearly completed, with the arrival of a digital server being the last item that we are waiting on. Willow Wing, the secure memory care unit, is nearing completion. There is strong interest in this living option, and a waiting list has been developed for potential long-term care and respite stay residents. Unfortunately, last Saturday, July 11th, the older elevator in our community became

out of service. The Board of Directors, along with our new Director of Facilities, was instrumental in pushing this forward to be repaired. The parts have been received and will be installed early next week.

Staffing

Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me as the new Interim Executive Director. I want to personally thank the Board of Directors and the Leadership Team at Friends Home at Kennett for their warm and gracious welcome. I started July 1st, and we do have some new team members to announce. Rebecca Blankenship has joined our organization as the Director of Nursing in our Linden Hall (Skilled Nursing), and Justin Saccomandi joined us as our Director of Facilities in the last week of June.

To ease the leadership transition, I have Focus Discussions planned with all staff later in July and in early August to help “drill” down on concerns of the staff and will create action plans for improvement with accountability and timelines noted. I am committed to helping the team and organization for even greater things ahead.

With Respect,
Samantha A. Roos-Meiser, MBA, NHA
Interim Executive Director

PS. Friends Home Kennett of Western Quarterly Meeting will

be officially changing our name with the help of legal counsel.
Our new name will be Friends Home in Kennett.