



# *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Program*



## *Services*

*People Need...When They Need Them...  
In a Place They Call* **Home**



Oklahoma Association of Homes  
and Services for the Aging

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## Services

*People Need...When They Need Them...  
In a Place They Call **Home***

### *Welcome to the 2008 OKAHSA Annual Awards Program!*

#### **WHAT IS HOME?**

*A home is not the walls and windows that we call a house. It is much, much more. A home is where your heart is, where friendships grow, and families gather. Home is a place where memories are made. It is defined by where you experience life, the joys that make each day complete. It is where you are fulfilled. Home is where your heart is, the place where you are, the place that becomes your life.*

~ ~ ~

Welcome to the 2008 OKAHSA Annual Awards Program. It is truly an honor to recognize the efforts of many individuals and member communities for their dedication, innovation and commitment to the aging services profession. It is our hope that this program will inspire all in attendance with a new sense of dedication to their work in serving our elders.

Congratulations to all of the winners and to everyone who is making a difference in the lives of so many individuals each and every day.

Mary Brinkley  
Executive Director, OKAHSA

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## *Our Mission*

The Oklahoma Association of Homes and Services for the Aging is the Oklahoma state association of not-for-profit organizations dedicated to establishing the highest standards of excellence for services to the aging in Oklahoma. OKAHSA's purpose is to be supportive of each member organization's quest for excellence.

### **OKAHSA's 2007 Board of Directors**

#### **President**

Terry Clark, University Village

#### **President-Elect**

Richard Woodard, Epworth Villa

#### **Past President**

Martin Hall, Corn Heritage Village

#### **Secretary**

Mitzi Epperson, Rosewood Terrace

#### **Treasurer**

Wendell Short, Baptist Village of Oklahoma City

#### **Directors**

Mike Sewell, United Methodist Health Care Center  
Jim Jakubovitz, Tulsa Jewish Retirement and Health Center  
Steve Dickie, Oklahoma Methodist Manor  
Jessica Pfau, Ardmore Village  
Bill Major, LIFE Senior Services

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# Thank You



**Ziegler**  
CAPITAL  
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## 2008 OKAHSAs Awards Sponsor

The Oklahoma Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (OKAHSAs) represents not-for-profit homes and services, sponsored by religious organizations, fraternal groups, and other not-for-profit agencies that have provided care and services to older people throughout our nation's history. Not-for-profit facilities are mission-driven organizations dedicated to enriching the lives of those they serve.

Not-for-profit facilities emphasize individual attention, high quality services and supportive environments which provide opportunities to maintain independence, dignity, and self-respect. The spirit of community that prevails among the OKAHSAs membership provides individuals with a sense of belonging and the reassurance of knowing you are not alone.



*University Village*

A special thanks to Ziegler Capital Markets Group for their sponsorship of the OKAHSAs Annual Awards Program, to University Village for the printing of the awards program brochures, to Paula Krivanek who coordinated the awards information and to the awards committee for their work.



# *Excellence in Leading Edge Care and Services Award*

Awarded to an organization for displaying an outstanding initiative in the provision of services for the aging.

- A practice that enhances resident satisfaction.
- A practice or activity that demonstrates significantly improved access to services that enhance the quality of life for our residents.
- A practice or activity that is unique to the organization and would be worthy of replication in other organizations.



*Housing with Supportive Services—JELTZ  
Collaboration of  
Oklahoma City Housing Authority, Daily Living Centers,  
Baptist Village Retirement Communities*

**Baptist Village of Cleveland**  
Garell Murray 24

**Baptist Village of Hugo**  
Lee Anne Trantham 36  
Gloria Hare 30  
Judy Babcock 30  
Annie Wickson 23  
Theresa Garman 20

**Baptist Village of Owasso**  
Betty Thurman 22  
Janis Brown 22  
Patrick Smith 21  
Marie Guenther 20

**Baptist Village Retirement  
Community of Oklahoma City**  
Diane Cooper 21  
Debbie Lynch 28  
Anna Thomas 20

**Community Health Center**  
Betty Barwick 28  
Ellen Hines 28  
Carolyn Buchanan 27  
Darrel Spade 23

**Daily Living Centers, Inc.**  
Bill Weaver 20

**Fairview Fellowship Home**  
Karen Neufeld 34  
Terry Martin 32  
Laura Hutton 22

**Frances Streitel Villa**  
Oleta Ellis 28  
Mary Douglass 34

**LIFE Senior Services, Inc.**  
Lurenda Harvey 20

**McMahon-Tomlinson**  
Jeannie Gault 27  
Beate Voegtlin 25  
Gloria Gettens 23

**Oklahoma Christian Apartments**  
Ginny Manzer 21

**Oklahoma City Housing Authority**  
Hazel Lindsay 31  
Cynthia Akins 21  
Gary Martin 22  
Barbie Baker 30

**Oklahoma Methodist Manor**  
Frances Morrison 27  
Connie Keys 25  
Donna Baker 23  
Larnel Foster 21  
Wilma Miller 20

**Saint Simeon's**  
Kim Gates 30  
Linda Daniels 29  
Kum Yon Jones 28  
Ronnie Ferguson 25  
Jerry Williams 25  
Betty Minton 22  
Stella Reynolds 21  
Karen Stanhope 20  
Sonya Anderson 20

**Share Convalescent Home**  
Phyllis Devery 42  
Jane Gaskill 35  
Rita Goodrich 32  
Chris Parkhurst 30  
Jean Rose 26  
Teresa Rogge 22

**Spanish Cove Retirement Village**  
Nelda Jones 27  
Pam Williams 22

**St. Ann's Nursing Home**  
Aldo Iglesias 20  
Ann Davis 24

**University Village**  
Maureen Stickney 27  
Vanessa Neal 23

# Making a Difference Award

This award is given to recognize the dedication and commitment of those individuals who have been employed at an OKAHSA member community for 20 years or more. Each of these special individuals is truly making a difference in the lives of the many residents of the communities represented.

*Congratulations for your contributions to the aging services profession!*



Conversation between three OKAHSA member organizations began several years ago as each organization expressed concern for struggles low-income persons appear to have to stay independent. The lack of resources left residents living on the edge of independence, forced to choose between food, medicine, and medical care.



The Oklahoma City Housing Authority (OCHA), Daily Living Centers and Baptist Village Retirement Communities cooperate together in an outreach that brings supportive services when needed to residents living in the Jeltz Center of the OCHA. Lives are enhanced when supportive services are delivered to the place people live. Once the collaboration was established the OCHA

remodeled the community space of the Wyatt F. Jeltz Senior Center to include an Adult Day Service Center, Medical Office Space, and Computer Lab.



Daily Living Centers opened an adult day services program in the Jeltz Center on September 28, 2007. Thirty-two people were enrolled on December 3, 2007. Baptist Village Retirement Communities, through its Medicare and Medicaid certified home health care agency, Baptist Home Care, provides home health services and health education to residents. The program, as far as we know, is the only one of its kind in a senior's public housing center in our state.

The marriage of public housing for seniors, adult day services and home health care is an example of positive change. It supports people in their home; provides a measure of freedom; enhances lives and enables people to access services they need without leaving their home. The program illustrates how OKAHSA members can use their area of expertise to come together is a great example of collaboration and cooperation to enhance the lives of residents.

*These are "services people need, when they need them, in a place they call home."*

# *Excellence in Leading Edge Care and Services Award*

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- A practice or activity that is unique to the organization and would be worthy of replication in other organizations.



*Interactive, Individual Person-Centered Profiles*

*Corinne Sulaiman  
Oklahoma Methodist Manor*



For the past seven years, Tulsa Jewish Retirement and Health Care Center has created and hosted an annual event called "Let The Games Begin." This event encompasses a Wellness Fair and Senior Game Day that attracts approximately 1800 of Tulsa's seniors in a six-hour period. The day is filled with free screenings performed by medical professionals, healthy lifestyle information, demonstrations and more. Events include contests such as race walks, weightlifting, creative writing, art and more. Winners are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold Medals in a ceremony in the afternoon.



Each year the event has gained momentum, not only from seniors, but also community businesses. Tulsa businesses are willing to perform these services free.

The event has been credited with seniors receiving early notification of serious conditions such as risk of stroke, diabetes, abnormal bone density, high risk cholesterol levels, and one woman was sent to her physician for suspected breast cancer.

After the first year, the event was expanded to include other retirement centers, a hospital and sponsors, and a Health and Wellness Fair committee was formed. They all have the same philosophy, which is to provide an educational, fun, helpful FREE event to all of our neighbors.



Senior attendees look forward to the annual event. Approximately 27 of 40 booths provide free screenings. The Tulsa business community has been very kind with their sponsorships each year making it possible to purchase additional expensive test kits as well as the medical personnel to perform the tests.

*The event has been credited with seniors receiving early notification from the screenings of serious conditions.*

# Excellence in Community Involvement Award

Awarded to an organization for providing a benefit to their community and its residents.

- They have helped the community to become aware of the long-term care profession.
- Their practice or activity would be worthy of replication in other facilities.
- Their practice or activity may have had a positive effect on the environmental concerns of the greater community.
- Must contain elements of outreach from the facility to the community.
- Their practice or activity must have involved Board, residents and/or staff.
- Their practice or activity may have contributed to an unmet need in the community or enhanced a service to the community.



*Let the Games Begin*

*Tulsa Jewish Retirement and Health Care Center*

Corinne Sulaiman has been employed at Oklahoma Methodist Manor for over a decade. She has been the MDS coordinator only a few months, but in that time has created a unique way to present the care plans generated for the MDS. She has developed a PowerPoint presentation that involves the resident personally through live action videos of the resident walking, eating, and transferring to show families how the resident is progressing. During the care plan meetings, the residents and their families are very complimentary of this interactive process. The whole care plan is written in the "I" form: I like to get up, I like to eat, I like to have, so it is totally personalized for each resident.



The use of multimedia is, as far as we know, something unique to Oklahoma Methodist Manor, as well as all of Oklahoma. We are looking forward to seeing how the state surveyors respond to the use of PowerPoint in care plan preparation. We are sure they will not have seen anything like it.

This program has given each resident a part in the care plan production. The families are thrilled to be able to see their loved ones and their progress. The technology used is something everyone at Oklahoma Methodist Manor is in awe of.



Corinne is very talented and has a unique approach to sharing the care plan process for the residents, their families and the staff. She has put life into a rather dull and mundane task of sharing information. Future plans are to burn the presentation onto DVDs and send to families that are out of town so they can share the same care plan experience as local families. The DVDs will also be used for staff training.

*She has put life into a rather dull and mundane task of sharing information.*

# Unsung Hero of the Year Award

## Direct Care Employee

Awarded to an outstanding individual who exemplifies the mission of their organization.

- Good attendance.
- Positive work record.
- Actively participates in the lives of the residents (or the services provided to them).
- Shows leadership.
- Ability to communicate effectively with fellow workers.
- Engaged with other employees as a mentor and/or role model.



*Mindy Walton*

*Baptist Village of Owasso  
Evergreen Care Center*



LIFE Senior Services Adult Day Services, which offers a daytime home for older adults, is partnering with a local Tulsa elementary school in a mentoring program. Students in Grimes Elementary's fifth-grade Gifted and Talented class receive valuable insight from nine of LIFE Senior Services

Adult Day Services (ADS) participants on a biweekly basis, while the adults regain a sense of purpose.

Every other Thursday, LIFE's mentoring group travels to Grimes Elementary for an hour of one-on-one time with a student partner. They do art projects, talk, write stories, and share life experiences. The students and adults have been paired based on common interests.

Mr. Dale Gordon is paired with a student whose father is serving in Iraq. The boy has many questions for his career Navy mentor as he tries to understand what his father may be experiencing. Mrs. Ataka Rhodes Royse, a nationally recognized poet, has a student writer wanna-be hanging on her every word as she offers him valuable expertise. The ADS mentors enjoy the chance to put their experience to use, being the helper instead of the "helpee."



This project came about from the collaboration of the LIFE ADS Program Manager and the Gifted and Talented teachers at Grimes.



Although intergenerational programming is not new, this project is unique in its purpose and venue, to create meaningful interactions between young and old.

In an article printed in the October 2007 issue of the *Tulsa World*, one student put it into his own words, "These are people who had full, productive lives. Now, perhaps they're more frail or have had illnesses, but they have an awful lot of history behind them to capitalize on and this offers them some new experiences, as well."

*The greater good may well be that a younger generation  
is learning the value of an elder's wisdom.*

# Excellence in Community Involvement Award

Awarded to an organization for providing a benefit to their community and its residents.

- They have helped the community to become aware of the long-term care profession.
- Their practice or activity would be worthy of replication in other facilities.
- Their practice or activity may have had a positive effect on the environmental concerns of the greater community.
- Must contain elements of outreach from the facility to the community.
- Their practice or activity must have involved Board, residents and/or staff.
- Their practice or activity may have contributed to an unmet need in the community or enhanced a service to the community.



*LIFE Senior Services Adult Day Services  
Intergenerational Mentoring Program*



Mindy Walton has been in the nursing department of Evergreen Care Center since September 2000, and is currently serving as a restorative aide.

Mindy brings so much humor to her work. Each day she arrives with a smile and leaves with a smile. You never see her down. She can accomplish getting the most difficult of residents to participate in the restorative program.

Mindy has tremendous compassion for the residents and truly lives out our mission each and every day. She will laugh with the residents, cry with them, or just sit and listen.



Her administrator told of an instance when she overheard a great deal of laughing. When she went to see what was happening, it was Mindy telling one of her jokes. She had the staff and residents all laughing. Mindy looked me and said, "You shouldn't work in a place that you can't have fun at!" That is her philosophy of life.



Mindy volunteers on her off hours to take residents to see their spouses who live in other facilities. For almost a year, she took one resident to visit his wife in a duplex two times a week. She will quickly volunteer to help whenever and whatever comes her way.

*"You shouldn't work in a place that  
you can't have fun at!"*



# Unsung Hero of the Year Award

## Resident Services Employee

Awarded to an outstanding individual who exemplifies the mission of their organization.

- Good attendance.
- Positive work record.
- Actively participates in the lives of the residents (or the services provided to them).
- Shows leadership.
- Ability to communicate effectively with fellow workers.
- Engaged with other employees as a mentor and/or role model.



*Mary Laeger  
Montereau in Warren Woods*



According to Webster, a volunteer is "one who enters into, or offers for any service to others." This definition exemplifies Herman "Junior" and Virginia Nachtigall of Community Health Center. Any Tuesday or Wednesday, one can find them engaged in an exciting game of pitch with the residents. When residents are in the

hospital, they can count on Junior and Virginia for a visit. They have conducted church services, worked in the flower garden, took residents to the doctor, and assisted in many other ways to help meet the resident's needs.



As part of a family tradition, the Nachtigall family comes every Christmas morning and sings Christmas carols to the residents. This small act lifts not only the residents, but also the staff. This tradition started at the time when Junior's mother was a resident. Today, the children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren participate in singing.

They volunteer to do town projects such as deliver mail, meals, and groceries to the elderly. They play an important part in the local Senior Citizens group and are strong supporters of the Wakita School system.

Junior and Virginia are active members of the Wakita Baptist Church where they both have taught Sunday school. To their children they have been understanding, loving and supportive parents. Their grandchildren and great grandchildren always find open arms ready to give hugs and extra doses of love.

The staff and residents at Community Health Center feel that Junior and Virginia Nachtigall deserve to be recognized for their many good deeds and volunteerism.

There is not a person in Wakita or the surrounding area whose life hasn't been touched by Junior or Virginia.



*They show an extraordinary "above and beyond" commitment.  
Residents light up when they see Junior and Virginia.*

# Volunteer of the Year Award

## Non-Resident

Awarded to one resident and one non-resident for outstanding contributions.

- Their contributions have come from service to the organization in one of many ways: Board member, financial expertise, special events, resident relations.
- Their contributions have resulted in positive changes for a facility.
- Their contributions may have contributed to an unmet need.
- Their contributions help to preserve the dignity, well-being and independence of our residents.
- They show an “above and beyond” commitment to the elderly with their time and service(s).



*Herman and Virginia Nachtigall  
Community Health Center in Wakita*



Mary Laeger has been involved in health care delivery systems since graduating from the University of Tulsa. She started her profession at Saint Francis Hospital in 1977, and after 21 years she was selected as director of an Alzheimer's Unit

in a traditional nursing home. In 2004, she was asked to be director of Social Services at Montereau in Warren Woods. She is recognized for her dedication and professionalism in the care of the elderly in Oklahoma.

As director, Mary contributes daily to the social and emotional needs of all residents in the Health Centers. Her personal attention assures that each resident can attain or maintain his or her highest practicable physical, mental and psychosocial well being.



Mary is mentioned in almost every correspondence that is received from residents and families with details of how she helped throughout their stay and the transition home by arranging for equipment and home health needs.

Mary is trusted and respected by all levels of staff, residents, and their families. Her gentle, humble manner is endearing, and her knowledge and wise judgment are readily apparent in her interactions with everyone with whom she works or serves. She has a quick smile and a soothing voice for those who need to be uplifted. She is also an exceptionally good listener. Mary mentors in a quiet, unassuming way, usually behind the scenes. She is an admirable role model for all who have the good fortune to work with her.



*Her gentle, humble manner is endearing, and her knowledge and wise judgment are readily apparent in her interactions with everyone with whom she works or serves.*

# Unsung Hero of the Year Award

## Environmental Employee

Awarded to an outstanding individual who exemplifies the mission of their organization.

- Good attendance.
- Positive work record.
- Actively participates in the lives of the residents (or the services provided to them).
- Shows leadership.
- Ability to communicate effectively with fellow workers.
- Engaged with other employees as a mentor and/or role model.



*Mary Douglass*  
*Frances Streitell Villa*



Helen "Wardie" Ward is a master at turning hard times into stepping stones for good things in her life and the lives of those who cross her path. In 2002, Wardie was left paralyzed from complications of surgery for an aneurysm. She was admitted to University Village in 2005 at the age of 81

years, but had already made great strides in overcoming the limitations placed on her.

On admission at University Village she immediately began looking for ways to help and serve others. One day she observed a staff member labeling nursing supplies and said to herself, "I can do that." She approached the administrator and has been labeling and distributing nursing supplies ever since. She also does monthly accounting of volunteer hours and presents a report, helps proof the "Villager" the monthly newsletter, assists with mailing the monthly Parkinson's Support Group letters, distributes and places the monthly activity calendars in resident's rooms and is the chairperson for the Health Center Resident Council.



Wardie frequently acts as an advocate for the residents, advising nursing staff when she observes situations that need interventions. She is at home and is involved and participates in all levels of living at University Village. She volunteers at Hillcrest Medical Center where she has served the community for more than 37 years.

Even in the midst of her own needs Wardie's love for life and helping others motivates her to make the best of what life has handed her through giving and loving others.



*A master at turning hard times into stepping stones for good things in her life and the lives of those who cross her path.*

# Volunteer of the Year Award

## Resident

Awarded to one resident and one non-resident for outstanding contributions.

- Their contributions have come from service to the organization in one of many ways: Board member, financial expertise, special events, resident relations.
- Their contributions have resulted in positive changes for a facility.
- Their contributions may have contributed to an unmet need.
- Their contributions help to preserve the dignity, well-being and independence of our residents.
- They show an “above and beyond” commitment to the elderly with their time and service(s).



*Helen Ward*  
*University Village*

Mary Douglass has worked as a housekeeper at Frances Streitel Villa since 1973, when it was known as Collinsville Manor. In 1997, it became Frances Streitel Villa, a St. John Health System property. In the past 34 years Mary has had a perfect attendance record.



Mary's experience in environmental services is an important asset to the facility as she is able to bring a great deal of knowledge and experience in helping her fellow employees to work faster, better and smarter.

During the time that Mary worked at Frances Streitel Villa, she also worked for First Baptist Church in Collinsville in the nursery. What a privilege she has had watching these young ones grow into adults. Mary's love and dedication to the aged and the young is evident in the care that she has provided these many years



in this community. Mary recently retired from the nursery, but, at 80 years of age, Mary continues to serve the residents at Frances Streitel Villa.



After hearing of his mother's recognition, Mary's son David responded:

“There are days I wish Mom would retire so that she can come stay with me more or do other things. But it is still so very important to her to be able to go to work. Her job is counting on her and the residents need her she tells me.”



*80 Years of Age*  
*In the past 34 years Mary has had a perfect attendance record.*

# Unsung Hero of the Year Award

## Administrative Employee

Awarded to an outstanding individual who exemplifies the mission of their organization.

- Good attendance.
- Positive work record.
- Actively participates in the lives of the residents (or the services provided to them).
- Shows leadership.
- Ability to communicate effectively with fellow workers.
- Engaged with other employees as a mentor and/or role model.



*Elvira Webber*  
*McMahon Tomlinson*



Elvira Webber has been employed at McMahon-Tomlinson Nursing Center since May 2001. She originally applied for the position of nursing secretary but during the interview process it was very evident her skills and personality would make her a perfect candidate for the position of administrative assistant to the Director of Nursing. In 2004,

she moved from nursing to the administration office as Administrative Assistant to the Administrator. Her job duties include accounts receivable, attendance for five departments, purchasing, and all correspondence for an Administrator that serves on state boards. She is a great listener and has the ability to problem solve by using her own knowledge base or by referring to the appropriate person.



She is a friend and personal advocate for two residents with very special needs. One is a Native American gentleman that counts on her for everything from cough drops, silver Conchos for his belt, and daily trips to the soda machine. The other resident is a stroke patient with impaired speech whose first language is German. Mrs. Webber is fluent in German and is able to help the resident make her wishes and concerns known. When the resident's sister phones from Germany, Elvira is there to facilitate the conversation, making a difference in both their lives. Not only residents benefit from her kindness and caring but also staff. She is spokesperson and interrupter for two employees that English is a second language for them.

Elvira is quick to volunteer for whatever needs to be done. During the Mother's Day and Thanksgiving celebrations she can be found both behind a table serving food and behind a mop cleaning up afterwards.



*Elvira is a very kind and caring person, often working with and helping those that find themselves at a disadvantage in our society.*