

Community Tree

AUTUMN 2018

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Greetings!

As the new Administrator of Oakwood Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center, I have been warmly welcomed into the Oakwood community and am so impressed by the kindness and warmth shown to me by staff, residents, and family members.

I began my career 22 years ago as a Recreation Director and I have served as a Nursing Home Administrator for the past 15 years. My vision is simple. It is for each resident to be cared for the way that I would want my Mom or Dad treated – with compassion and empathy. Fostering an atmosphere of teamwork and understanding among staff is key to that objective.

Since my arrival, I have been trying to meet as many people as possible. If we have not had an opportunity to meet or if there is an issue that you would like to discuss, please come to my office. I look forward to continuing to make Oakwood the best healthcare center it can be.



SAM SMITH, NHA
ADMINISTRATOR



Never Say "I Can't"

Moving Forward After An Amputation

Inspiration comes from many sources. Ethel Driscoll could never have imagined that she would be exactly that to so many. Others might not have seen a "below-knee amputation" as a possibility for hope and a "New Day". However, Ethel was determined to regain her strength and balance, relearn the skills needed to live independently, and prepare for the arrival of her artificial leg – and chose to do just that at Oakwood Healthcare. Our physical therapy team worked with her on desensitizing her residual limb area to avoid phantom leg pain and contracture.

Told to expect the delivery of her prosthetic in about a year, she was pleasantly surprised when it was delivered only 3 weeks later! Since she had exerted herself in therapy – doing her daily exercises diligently – she was well-conditioned and able to walk with it immediately after putting it on for the first time.

Ethel successfully reached her goals and is now able to walk with a rolling walker, dress herself, do her own skin checks, and independently manage her prosthetic and shrinkage. Our staff members are thrilled with Ethel's progress and proud of the integral role they played in enabling her to move to Colorado to live with her daughter.



"My therapist Olga Golant really pushed me and motivated me to keep going. She told me to never say that I can't, and that I will. That mantra really stuck with me and I kept saying 'I will! I will! I will!' in my room to help me get through this."

The Doctor's In The House!

The presence of Dr. Sabahat Farooq in our building 6 days a week is Oakwood Healthcare's vital differentiator.

Dr. Farooq, an attending physician at Oakwood for more than a decade, is licensed by the Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine and is a Board Certified Diplomat in Internal Medicine. She parlays her wide swath of experience to spearhead our residents' care—collaborating with our DON and her team, and making her rounds every morning, Monday through Saturday.

Her presence is key to getting our residents the treatment they need quickly as her ability to discern conditions that can be treated in-house such as mild dehydration or pneumonia without hypoxia from medically complex ailments that require hospitalization remains unmatched. Her careful analysis of each patient and forward thinking shows her passion and commitment to maintaining Oakwood's effective delivery of quality care.

"I make these judgment calls daily. I can't reiterate how important it is to actually listen to the nursing staff on the front line. If they are concerned about a patient, I take it very seriously," states Dr. Farooq."

"Having a doctor on premises daily with her level of knowledge, skill and experience, is tremendously reassuring to our residents and families."

– Administrator Sam Smith

Inspired by her father, a doctor, to pursue the field of medicine, she completed medical school in Pakistan – her native country. While a medical student she met and wed her

husband, Dr. Umar Farooq, who is the current Medical Director at Oakwood.

Dr. Farooq resides with her family in Bensalem, PA, where she and her husband have a private practice, Knights Medical Associates, and are active members of the community.



At The Golden Games 30th Anniversary



Pictured L-R, Back Row: Staff Members **Liza Thompson** CNA, **Julio Rivera** CNA, **Kelly Piontko** Activities, **Alice Gallagher** Activities. Front Row: Residents **Charles West**, **Kathleen Yocum**, **Margaret Stasiowski**, **Barbara Kelley**, **Harry Hillman**, **David Lespier**, and **Gladys Brown**.

For the second year in a row, Oakwood residents, accompanied by some of our staff, attended the September Golden Games at Philadelphia's Carousel House.

A wide range of nursing home teams participate in this annual senior olympics event organized by CARIE, the Center for Advocacy for the Rights & Interests of the Elderly.

Team Oakwood competed in a variety of races including the Hat and Scarf Relay, Ball Relay and Wheelchair Race.

We are so proud of their sportsmanship and team spirit!

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

NOV. 1: Entertainment with Gene Gallagher

NOV. 2: What's Cooking / Waffles with Ice Cream

NOV. 8: Entertainment with Kevin Galm

NOV. 9: What's Cooking / Bacon, Sausage, Eggs and Pancakes

NOV. 15: What's Cooking / Turkey Gobbler Sandwich

NOV 16: Entertainment with Jimmy Wells

NOV. 21: Entertainment with Dean Garafolo

NOV. 29: Traveling Dollar Store

NOV. 30: What's Cooking / Assorted Dessert Dips

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



William Parker
Environmental Dept.

We applaud Will upon earning this honorary distinction. Will is a model employee who plays an essential role in maintaining an immaculate setting for our residents. Ask him to complete a task – whether its cleaning the floors to a shine, retrieving an item for a resident, or helping with housekeeping – and he's on it immediately!

Kudos for always being available to lend a hand!

Our Best Wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

