



---

## A Message from the Executive Director

Dec. 23, 2020

Dear Residents, Family Members & Associates,

As I write this today, amid the holiday season and just days from the turn to a new year, I think about the year that was. We have been through a lot in 2020, some days tougher than others. But regardless of the type of day we've experienced, we've done so together – as a community of residents, associates and family members who want only the best for those we live with and work alongside.

The holidays mark a time to reflect on one of the most important gifts we have – the beauty of our relationships. The pandemic can't take that away and has likely made our relationships even stronger as we've bonded in new ways, be it with more phone calls or video calls, or a friendly chat with a neighbor to see how they're doing. Yes, much has been different this year. But some of the most important things – like our ability to invest in, and enrich, our relationships – remain the same.

And now we enter a new, and positive, phase in combating COVID-19, as the vaccine slowly rolls out. We have much to look forward to, and much to be thankful for as we celebrate during this holiday season and count down to the New Year.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and the very best to you and your family. Our bond as an organization has never been stronger and that, for me, is a gift I'm happy to experience each time I walk into our community!

## COVID-19 Vaccine Reminder

I recently shared with you that residents and associates in the Asbury Solomons Health Care Center are set to receive COVID-19 vaccinations on Saturday, Dec. 26. We feel fortunate to have been scheduled this quickly, and we will actually be the first community in the entire Asbury organization to have the opportunity to receive the vaccine. I am certain we will set a good example for all! Please [click here to read my original letter](#) to residents and families. We have also posted a new section, [Vaccine Information](#), on our COVID-19 Communications Hub.

## Updates and Reminders

***Please note that these updates and reminders are also included on our community operations site, [Asbury.org/asbury-solomons/resources-events/family-friends](https://www.asbury.org/asbury-solomons/resources-events/family-friends):***

- Our journey through the unprecedented challenge the pandemic presents is continually evolving. The Asbury System Operations Team continues to work collaboratively with our community leadership team, including our highly experienced clinicians from acute, post-acute, and senior living backgrounds, and operational experts. While we will continue to communicate timely and important changes to you via email, we want to remind you that our website remains the go-to source for our community operations, including visitation updates, who to contact, and more. [Please visit our community page here.](#)
- **Know a family member who should be receiving our community updates?** Please direct them to this webpage, [asbury.org/family-covid-](https://www.asbury.org/family-covid-)

[email-sign-up](#), to sign up to join our family distribution list!

- **We are so appreciative of the messages of thanks we receive.** If you'd like to share a note of thanks, please [click here to launch a form](#) where you can type in your note of appreciation. We will take your submissions and find creative ways to share with associates. Thank you!
- **As a reminder, all COVID-19 data is updated daily on the Asbury COVID-19 Response and Communication webpage at [Asbury.org/COVID19](https://Asbury.org/COVID19).** You can find the daily status charts in the first blue button on the side bar.

## More than 1,500 Candy Cane Grams Distributed: How One Associate's Idea to Give Back Took Off

The holidays look different this year. A season typically filled with gatherings has been disrupted by COVID-19. Despite this, associates all across the Asbury system have worked tirelessly to keep holiday spirits high for those they serve and work alongside. Since the start of the pandemic, associates have thought creatively to deliver programs, activities and celebrations in ways we never had to do before. This holiday season is no exception.

At Asbury Solomons, Genna Lee, Wellness Associate, had the idea to create a Candy Cane Gram program where residents could send messages and candy canes to one another. Each dollar spent towards a candy gram was donated to the Asbury Foundation's Benevolent Care Fund. What started as a simple idea grew rapidly through word of mouth, Genna said, and before she knew it, she had hundreds of



grams to assemble. [Click here to learn how Genna and a team of associates pulled it off.](#)

## Asbury Solomons Supports Local Hospice Organization



We are happy to share that Asbury Solomons recently made a generous donation to another Southern Maryland organization. Solomons donated \$30,000 to Calvert Hospice in support of the outstanding work they do serving residents in the local market. Executive Director Kelly Friedman, left, presented the check to Jean Fleming, of Calvert County Hospice, on Dec. 3.

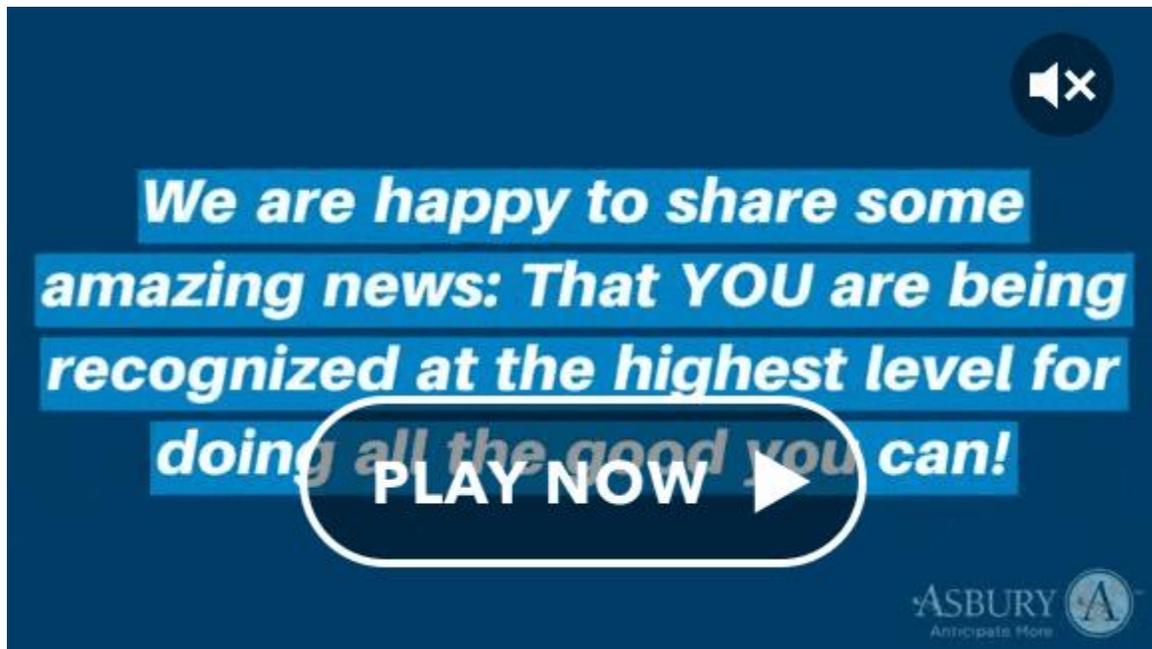
**Top National Ranking: #20 on the Best Workplaces for Aging Services List!**

Great Place to Work® and *FORTUNE* have honored Asbury Communities as one of the 2020 Best Workplaces for Aging Services in the United States. [We are ranked #20](#) on *FORTUNE*'s national list of Seniors Housing & Care (Large).

Making this list is not easy. The last time we made the list was 2018. We are proud of how we've worked together as an Asbury family this year to do all that we can to keep our community safe. We shared the video below with Asbury associates when we learned of our recognition. The comments in this video were taken from the Great Place to Work® survey associates took in September.



From FORTUNE, ©2020 FORTUNE Media IP Limited. All rights reserved. Used under license.



This has been a year to remember. It has been a year that showcases the power of Asbury. We are #AsburyStrong and we are proud of this recognition. Thank you for choosing Asbury Solomons and giving us the opportunity to serve you.

## Thank You For a Historic #GivingTuesday

Together  
we gave.

GI VING  
TUESDAY

**Thank You!**

The total philanthropic impact on #GivingTuesday exceeded \$60,000 across Asbury communities.

Thank you for partnering with us to “do all the good we can.”

ASBURY  
FOUNDATION

On #GivingTuesday, more than 100 residents, friends, family members, and associates from across the Asbury organization partnered with the Asbury Foundation and gave in-person and online through payroll deductions, Facebook fundraisers, parking space deposit gifts, and other creative means! The total impact exceeded \$60,000 -- a new record. Thank you for supporting us in our mission to do all the good we can.

-----

Thank you for so carefully following all elements of our community health and safety measures. We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued understanding and cooperation. We are #AsburyStrong!

Sincerely,

Kelly Smith Friedman, LNHA  
Executive Director



11100 Asbury Circle  
Solomons, MD 20688

O: 410.394.3030

[www.AsburySolomons.org](http://www.AsburySolomons.org)

