



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Bethlehem Neighbors was relaunched in January 2019 after transferring its title and incorporation status from a previous group. At that time, an interim board of directors was identified to steer the group, which is part of a nationwide Villages movement to support seniors in remaining as independent as possible in their homes. The board members were:

- Laura Jonas, President (resigned 2/2020)
- Gail Myers, Vice President
- Mike Burgess, Treasurer (resigned 2/2020)
- Ken Harris, Secretary (resigned 9/2019)
- Sylvia Wheeless, Secretary (effective 10/2019)

along with Linda Miller serving as an advisory member.

In February, the group held its first of several community-wide “Meet and Greet” events at the Bethlehem Public Library. These events resulted in a list of interested individuals which included residents of the Town of Bethlehem and representatives of other local organizations which shared Bethlehem Neighbors’ vision, including the Bethlehem Senior Services Department, the Bethlehem YMCA, and Community Caregivers.

In April, Bethlehem Neighbors began hosting a series of monthly “Coffee Chat” events at various locations around the town. Interest in these informal, drop-in events has continued to increase and has become a mechanism for people to learn more about this organization.

In late summer, a compilation of events throughout the community was included on the website. This calendar includes Bethlehem Neighbors events along with those of other community organizations and other recreational and cultural events. Many of these events are shared with Bethlehem Neighbors and are then shared with the membership due to potential interest in such events.



In September, with the help of the Villages Technical Assistance Center, Bethlehem Neighbors was able to purchase liability insurance to cover members while they engage in specified volunteer work.

On September 6th, Bethlehem Neighbors held the first annual Bethlehem Neighbors picnic which was held in the pavilion behind the Bethlehem Y. Both the Bethlehem Y and Bethlehem Senior Services donated assistance carried out by their respective staff members. Over 60 people attended the event, which featured an assortment of delicious picnic fare and potluck dishes as well as a sundae bar provided by Stewarts' Shoppes. Attendees were also given a free membership to Bethlehem Neighbors for the remainder of the calendar year as well as a certificate from the Y which waived initial membership fees for the remainder of the year.

Additionally, in September, a training program was started for several volunteers which allowed them to become Community Support Navigators, with a focus on assisting individuals who are returning to their homes from a hospital stay.

Other activities/accomplishments in 2019 included:

- Two fundraising events supported by Panera Bread.
 - A tour of Pine Hollow Arboretum for members.
 - Progress on defining a strategic plan for the organization to move forward into 2020.
- Memorandum of Understanding with Community Caregivers to coordinate background checks for our mutual volunteers.
- Planning exciting social events for members.

2019 Budget:



Revenue	Expenses
\$1,950 Donations and Savings	\$400 Liability Insurance (9/1/2019 to 12/31/2019)
\$145 Fundraising	\$60 P.O. Box Rental
	\$320 Technical assistance, domain name, SSL
	\$200 Supplies (copies, postage)
	\$200 Refreshments at events
Total: \$2,095	Total: \$1,180