Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.

– Dr. Mae Jamison

Like Dr. Jamison who was the first black women to travel in space, Eliza Bryant was a trailblazer whose story continues to inspire how the Village evolves. Imagine a world where aging adults have a safe place to retreat from the pain of physical, verbal or financial abuse. Picture a place where aging adults can join their peers for activities, healthy meals and enriching programs, while accessing medical services, including dental exams, podiatry and social services. As the needs of older adults change, envision an organization that remains committed to providing care to those who can’t afford to pay and that will remain rooted in the community that it serves.

We imagined this world. We changed, improved, revised and enhanced programs, expanded services, and broadened partnerships and funding sources to make this world a reality at the Village. These changes have improved the quality of life for more than 1,200 seniors we serve each year through skilled nursing, senior outreach, independent housing and our volunteer program. They were also essential as we embrace new ways to fulfill our mission “to provide quality services, outreach programs and a dignified, compassionate and secure living environment for seniors.”

Albert Einstein once said, “Imagination is more important than knowledge. Imagination gives birth to evolution.” Eliza Simmons Bryant changed how African-American adults aged in greater Cleveland nearly 123 years ago. Today, Eliza Bryant Village advances her legacy as we continue to influence how older adults live in safety with dignity, respect and happiness. Because of her unyielding determination to care for African-American seniors, we remain dedicated to helping vulnerable seniors live independently, age in place with supportive services, and receive quality skilled nursing care. Inspired by Eliza Simmons’ vision for a safe place for at-risk seniors to be treated with dignity and respect in their golden years, we are expanding how we can better serve the needs of today’s aging adults. We are creating change.

As you’ll read in this year’s report, we’ve worked thoughtfully to better meet the needs of the seniors we serve today. We invite you to join us as we reflect and celebrate our role as Change Makers for vulnerable older adults in Greater Cleveland.

[Signatures]

Danny R. Williams, JD, MNO, LNHA
President & Chief Executive Officer

Danielle Sydnor
Board Chair
More than 15,500 skilled nursing facilities (SNF) provide care to more than 1.35 million people in the United States who need assistance with their Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), including going to the bathroom, getting out of bed, getting dressed, feeding themselves, and showering, or who have cognitive difficulties, such as from dementia. Nationally, SNF use has declined as people live longer and choose home and community-based services (HCBS) over institutional care. From 2004 to 2014, the percentage of people age 65 and older in nursing homes dropped from 3.6% to 2.5%, a decrease of 24.5% 

– U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

THE FACE OF AGING AROUND THE NATION IS CHANGING DRAMATICALLY AND SO IS THE FACE OF THE VILLAGE

The continuing national decline in skilled and long-term nursing care presented a challenge for the Village in 2018 that required us to thoughtfully evolve our operating model. Skilled Nursing facilities in Ohio pay a tax on each bed license that it holds of approximately $4,400 annually per bed – whether the bed is occupied or vacant. Given the decline in our census, we needed to change our business structure to reduce this expense for our long term sustainability.

In 2003, the Village expanded from 100 beds to a 175-bed facility after acquiring the former Madonna Hall Nursing Home, at the request of the City of Cleveland. Today, however, the needs have changed. Consequently, in December 2018, the Village surrendered 17 bed licenses to the Ohio Department of Health, changing our capacity from 175 beds to 158 beds. Reducing the number of beds at the Village will save nearly $75,000 per year in bed taxes. In addition, the City of Cleveland finalized an agreement in November to forgive a $1.9 million debt that was due from an Empowerment Zone loan that the Village took out about 15 years ago to assist with the Madonna Hall acquisition. That forgiven loan saves the Village about an additional $400,000 a year in interest and principal payments on that obligation. The surrendering of 17 beds also freed up space for our Elder Justice Center, which will not only make a significant impact on the health and safety of seniors, it will also create a new revenue stream for the Village.

These changes have helped us better manage our day-to-day budget – that is already stretched. When considering that the Village relies predominately on Medicaid payments, that budget becomes even tighter. However, new programming that will launch in 2019 should have a significant impact on both service offerings and our financial health.

Because of the gap between Medicaid reimbursement and the actual cost of care, Eliza Bryant Village provides more than $1 million in unfunded charity care each year.
MEETING CHANGING PREFERENCES

The extended life expectancy and independence of older adults has changed how we offer programs and services to seniors and their caregivers. Our affordable, independent senior housing and senior outreach programs help seniors either age in place in their home, on our campus, or stay active in the community.

For seniors who are able to live on their own, our affordable senior housing program helps individuals 62 and older live independently. Our three apartment buildings, featuring one-bedroom units, provide a community of friends with access to amenities, including healthy lunches, transportation, social services, a fitness center, a computer lab and fun activities like fitness classes and field trips. And, for seniors who live off-campus, our expanded Home Care services help older adults remain in their home while still receiving the help they may need with daily tasks like cleaning, cooking and transportation to medical appointments.

“Excellent service! My aide provides great service and she accompanies me to my appointments. She is a great companion!” Ms. B – Eliza Bryant Village Home Care Client

Eliza Bryant Village’s Senior Outreach Program offers specially tailored programs and services to assist seniors with a wide variety of activities that help maintain independence, promote feelings of self-worth and help seniors stay in their homes longer. As we listened to the needs of our participants and the concerns of their caretakers, we learned we needed to improve our services for emotional and mental health. With funding from the United Black Fund, we created a quiet room that helps participants find a safe space to take time to themselves to think, relax, and gather themselves before returning to activities with their peers. We also added a new service – massage therapy – that helps reduce problems associated with chronic stress, such as depression, anxiety and hypertension, as well as to heal physical aches and pains of aging.

“Eliza Bryant Village’s Adult Daycare is a godsend. In 2008, my mother was diagnosed with dementia. As her primary caregiver, I realized she wasn’t able to be left at home alone. I feared for her safety and that the lack of social interaction would make her condition worsen. Eliza Bryant Village is not only convenient because it’s close to my home, but most importantly, it’s a warm, welcoming environment. With my mom in the program, I am able to work fulltime and know she is safe. My mom looks forward to the program and enjoys offering assistance to other participants in the program and to the staff!” – Paula M., Caregiver, Eliza Bryant Village

According to the National Institute on Aging, there are today approximately 35 million Americans age 65 or older, and this number is expected to double in the next 25 years. Modern medicine and new insights into lifestyle and other environmental factors allow a growing number of people to remain healthy and socially and emotionally vital into advanced ages.

– National Institute on Aging
Approximately 1 in 10 Americans aged 60+ have experienced some form of elder abuse. Some estimates range as high as 5 million elders who are abused each year. One study estimated that only 1 in 14 cases of abuse are reported to authorities. Elders who have been abused have a 300% higher risk of death compared to those who have not been mistreated. While likely under-reported, estimates of elder financial abuse and fraud costs to older Americans range from $2.9 billion to $36.5 billion annually.

— National Council on Aging

CHANGING THE FUTURE FOR VICTIMIZED ELDERS

To help the growing number of victimized seniors desperate for relief, Eliza Bryant Village will launch a new Elder Justice Center to provide temporary respite care for older adults who are experiencing some form of trauma, violence, abuse, or criminal victimization. To ensure clients will return to a safe environment, we will work with a variety of community partners to connect clients and their families to legal, financial and social service supports.

Former Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced on October 11, 2018 that his office would be awarding $111.8 million in grants to crime victim service providers across Ohio. Eliza Bryant Village received two separate awards totaling nearly $779,000. A continuation of the Villages’ core grant from last year of approximately $202,000 was awarded, along with a new grant to launch our Elder Justice Center, totaling approximately $577,000.

“At Eliza Bryant Village we believe aged adults have the right to live in a safe and secure environment where they are treated with dignity and respect,” said Danny R. Williams, JD, MNO, LNHA, President and Chief Executive Officer of Eliza Bryant Village. “This funding not only helps us launch a new service line, but also continues our 122-year-long legacy as an anchor institution in Cleveland’s Hough neighborhood meeting the evolving needs of our community’s most vulnerable elderly.”

At the beginning of 2017, the Village received its first-ever Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant from the Ohio Attorney General, and it was renewed for a second year. The bulk of the funding is for programming shown to be beneficial for seniors who have been a victim of crime, violence, abuse and/or trauma during their lifetimes. An initial survey conducted at the Village indicated that more than 80 percent of seniors served at the Village self-identified as a victim of some type of trauma, abuse, or violence during their lifetime.

Danielle Sydnor, Chair of the Eliza Bryant Village Board of Trustees, said, “The support of our Ohio Attorney General’s office has been key to the start of us addressing abuse, trauma and violence on a more comprehensive and therapeutic level. We are encouraged that this issue has caught the attention of the nation’s leaders and we look forward to making a valuable contribution in Cleveland and beyond.”

We continue to honor the legacy of our founder, Eliza Bryant, to be a leader in our community to combat this crisis, providing help and safety to those in need. While our services evolve to best care for older adults, our commitment to our founder, older adults and our community remains unwavering.
NAVIGATING THE CHANGES OF AGING AT ELIZA BRYANT VILLAGE

Mr. Dozier is a tenant at Eliza Bryant Village. He has lived in the Villages’ independent housing for seniors for 10 years. He serves as President of the Tenant Council, providing a liaison between tenants and staff, as well as local elected officials to communicate the needs of his neighbors and peers. “I like to be the problem solver if I can be. I feel like I can help people,” he said about his role as President of the Tenant Council.

He is also in the choir in the Villages’ Senior Outreach program, where he practices with his group every Friday. He said, “I’ve made some good friends in the choir. Last year, we sang at the Annual Meeting – that made me feel like I’m a big shot."

Earlier this year, following a medical procedure, Mr. Dozier received skilled nursing care at Eliza Bryant Village. For a few weeks, Mr. Dozier stayed at the nursing home for physical therapy until he was strong enough to return home. Sitting in the hallway with brand new flooring, freshly painted walls and a nursing staff greeting him with smiles, Mr. Dozier reflects on the changes over the years. He remembers when he visited a friend about five years ago. “A lot has changed. It’s beautiful here. It’s clean. The staff is nice from the president to the nurses – everyone. I don’t think I could find a better place.”

When Mr. Dozier was discharged, he continued his Home Care services. His Personal Care Assistant through the Eliza Bryant Village Home Care program helped him cook and clean and that assistance has not changed. Mr. Dozier plans to keep winning Bingo during activities. Eliza Bryant Villages’ 17-acre campus offers services along the continuum of care for aging adults, their caregivers and friends. A safe place for elders, the Village is proud to help seniors like Mr. Dozier comfortably access services that help improve their quality of life.
At Eliza Bryant Village we believe older adults have the right to live in a safe and secure environment where they are treated with dignity and respect.

– Danny R. Williams

Because of the gap between Medicaid reimbursement and the actual cost of care, Eliza Bryant Village provides more than $1 million in unfunded charity care each year.

A lot has changed. It’s beautiful here. It’s clean. The staff is nice from the president to the nurses—everyone. I don’t think I could find a better place.

– Mr. Dozier
2018 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

REVENUE
- Medicaid $8,379,219 48.1%
- Medicare 2,047,737 11.8%
- Hospice 139,210 0.8%
- Veteran Administration 774,863 4.5%
- Outpatient Therapy 8,380 0.0%
- Private Pay 1,528,937 8.8%
- Outreach Programs 1,068,696 6.2%
- Grants & Contributions 826,789 4.8%
- Investment Income 359,902 2.1%
- Other Income 2,239,764 12.9%
TOTAL REVENUE $17,373,497

EXPENSES
- Wages & Benefits $9,404,174 55.0%
- Dietary 616,540 3.6%
- Therapy Expense 693,787 4.1%
- Utilities 739,463 4.3%
- Security 79,433 0.5%
- Supplies & Indirect Expenses 2,561,847 15.0%
- Occupancy Expenses 1,653,060 9.7%
- Interest Expense 148,636 0.9%
- Depreciation 1,172,279 6.9%
TOTAL EXPENSES $17,069,219

REVENUE OVER EXPENSE $304,278

*not including unrealized losses of $578,915
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