DEAR FRIENDS,

Eliza Simmons Bryant had a dream. She envisioned a city in which the poor and neglected among us would have a place where they could find shelter and nurturance and respect. The conditions that inspired her vision are different than those we face today, but the need to keep her dream alive is no less urgent.

The aging population in Greater Cleveland is changing and Eliza Bryant Village is changing with it. We are adjusting our programs and modifying services to better meet the needs of seniors and their caregivers. We continue to expand and diversify our dedicated Board of Trustees and compassionate staff (a few of whom you will read about in this year’s report) and cultivate new revenue sources and new friends. Although Eliza may not have imagined today’s challenges, we are confident she too would have found creative ways to respond.

The ranks of seniors is growing. By 2020, one in four residents in half of Ohio’s 88 counties will be 60 or older. Nearly one third of Cuyahoga County residents will be over 60 by 2030, according to projections by the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University. Also by 2030, the number of seniors in Cuyahoga County will be almost equal to the number of people under the age of 20, according to projections by the Ohio Development Services Agency.

This means that programs and services will have to be modified to meet the needs of this expanding population. New technologies will need to be accessed to help our seniors maximize their potential. Specialized programming will be required to address the impact of traumas many of our seniors were taught they should suppress. And, changes to our physical plant must be undertaken to ensure that we will have the necessary facilities for as long as there is a need.

“Hold fast to dreams,
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird,
That cannot fly.”
– Langston Hughes
Successfully tackling these and other ambitious goals will require that we share Eliza’s dream with others. Otherwise, our mission “to provide quality services, outreach programs and a dignified, compassionate and secure living environment for seniors” will fail to live up to Eliza’s noble vision. We must constantly remind ourselves that “We Are All Eliza.” We invite you to join us in keeping Eliza’s dream alive.

Sincerely,

Danielle Sydnor
Board Chair

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

The aging population in Greater Cleveland is changing and Eliza Bryant Village is changing with it. We are adjusting our programs and modifying services to better meet the needs of seniors and their caregivers.
Our Stories...

Auxiliaries

Eliza Simmons Bryant was a pioneer for female empowerment. Today, our influential Auxiliaries continue to honor her legacy through their dedication to improving the quality of life of our seniors through fundraising and community engagement.

The past year has been transformational for women. National movements like Times Up and #MeToo highlight the power of women working together, supporting each other, to change injustice. Eliza Simmons Bryant was way ahead of her time. The Village that today employs more than 250 staff and serves more than 1,200 seniors annually was supported by a group of empowered, passionate women. Our Auxiliaries – three groups of more than 100 female volunteers – continue her legacy and support the Village in so many ways. The women host annual public luncheon fundraisers to help support the annual operating funds and endowment of the Village. These proceeds help bridge a growing gap in our budget from decreasing Medicaid reimbursements. They also host annual celebratory events with the seniors such as a game night, a spring fling and a holiday party. A mix of new members and women who’ve been supporting the Village for decades, the Auxiliaries continue to support our mission, help improve the quality of life for our seniors and honor our founder, Eliza Simmons Bryant.

Bill Beargie

The story of Eliza Simmons Bryant continues to inspire staff, volunteers and supporters. Thanks to Board of Trustee Member Bill Beargie and his son Andy, we are able to share our story with more friends to help continue our legacy for another centennial.

We have a powerful story. A story with an African American heroine and a tenacious group of female volunteers who created opportunities for underserved African American seniors, their families and our community. Our story makes us unique and our extensive history plays an essential role in the population we serve. We are grateful to Bill, who played a critical role in accurately capturing our story to share it with our supporters, seniors, funders and new friends. With the help of his son Andy, a professional cinematographer, we now have a powerful video documentary that tells the story of Eliza Bryant Village.

Under the leadership of Dr. Kimberly Lenahan, History and Women’s Studies Professor at Cuyahoga Community College, Bill and Andy worked with current and former board members, staff, supporters and residents and spent hours researching to find historical documents,
photos and articles that represent how Eliza Bryant Village has impacted so many individuals – including seniors, their caregivers, staff, volunteers and the Hough neighborhood. Because of this video and Bill’s determination to create a strong message, we are now working with Special Collections at the Michael Schwartz Library, Cleveland State University to archive many of our historical documents. The story of Eliza Bryant Village continues as we use this video to share our story with many new friends for years to come.

Thanks to our other friends who helped make this video possible:

- Ohio Arts Council
- Dr. Alex Johnson
  President, Cuyahoga Community College
- Bob Bryan
  Executive Director Media, Cuyahoga Community College
- Michael Kell
  Videographer/Director, Television Video Services
- Michael Donato
  Television Video Services
- Christine Hickney
  Television Video Services
- Todd Salvi
  Television Video Services
- Carl Penko
  Television Video Services
- Dorothy Salem, Ph.D.
  Blockhouse Studios
- Kimberly Lenahan, Ph.D.
  Blockhouse Studios
- Linda J. N. Proskak
  Retired Chief Development Officer, Eliza Bryant Village
- Anita Bailey
  Executive Assistant, Eliza Bryant Village
- Western Reserve Historical Society
- Special Collections
  Cleveland State University
- Interviewees: Anita Bailey, Jocelyn Booker, Barbara Bray, Deborah Enty, Dr. Donald Ford, Ruth B. Fore, William Ginn, Rufus Heard, Jean Allen-Jenkins, Fred Kelly, Linda Newsom, Mattie Reid, Harvey M. Shankman, Martha L. Smith, Rev. Hilton O. Smith, Mecie Taylor, Donald Williams, Carole J. Wright, Adrienne Coleman, Danny R. Williams

Camille Martino

*Camille Martino, LPN, represents the passion of our founder, Eliza Simmons Bryant, in the way she finds empathy for our seniors arising from experiences she has had and witnessed in her own family of caregivers.*

Camille and her six sisters are all nurses. Her passion for nursing was instilled at a young age when her great-grandmother was honored for her many years of service as a midwife in Louann, Arkansas. Camille earned her LPN after previously working as an EMS call intake worker for the City of East Cleveland. She realized after years of taking calls about those who needed help that she wanted to be on the end providing the care. She is proud that Eliza Bryant Village is the oldest operating African-American founded, long term nursing facility in the United States. She wants her colleagues to be proud of this as well and so she says it often. It’s important to Camille, like it was to Eliza Simmons Bryant, to care for all seniors with dignity and respect. But her ability to provide quality care to an underserved population of largely African-American seniors reminds her that the residents at Eliza Bryant Village are not a family member to someone, they are like family to her. As the MDS (Minimum Data Set) Nurse for more than ten years at Eliza Bryant Village, Camille has found her calling at the Village because of our unique story that reflects the important history of African-American triumph that is not always taught in school. For her, it is not just learning about the history of Eliza Bryant Village, but, by working with our seniors and their families she is touching it, feeling it and connecting to it on a more personal level.
Juanita McGhee

A current tenant of our affordable independent senior housing and a former State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA) at the Village for 17 years, Juanita McGhee’s transition from dedicated employee to tenant highlights the atmosphere of caring and community that makes Eliza Bryant Village home.

Juanita will celebrate her 76th birthday this year — nearly 30 of which she has spent with Eliza Bryant Village. In 1990, Juanita began working the night shift as an STNA for our nursing home. For 17 years, she worked with our seniors and credits her supervisor for teaching her the proper way to care for the residents — detailed service that is delivered with compassion and respect. Her inspiration for providing quality care came from the loss of her mother. She didn’t realize it at the time, but she felt she did not do enough for her mother when she was alive and cared for the residents of the Village like family as a tribute. After retiring, she suffered a stroke and was admitted to Eliza Bryant Village nursing care for short-term stay. She still knew some of the staff providing her care that she had worked with for so many years, which made her feel more comfortable. After she was discharged, it was easy for her to transition to living in our Independent Senior Housing. It is because of our affordability, one-story layout, accommodations, friendly and accessible staff and access to her friends at the Village that Juanita enjoys calling Eliza Bryant Village home.

Maefair Duckworth

Maefair Duckworth embodies the values of Eliza Bryant Village, as evidenced by her active engagement in and enhancement of several of our key outreach programs.

Maefair’s enthusiasm for our Senior Outreach Program can be felt throughout our 17-acre campus. Her love for music and religion began when she learned to play the piano growing up in Midway, Florida when she was 12 years old. Today, she helps Senior Outreach staff facilitate the Faith-Sharing activity on Wednesday afternoons by playing piano. She can pick up the key of a tune based on the pitch of the singers. During her tenure as a program participant over the last four years, Maefair has oriented new Music & Wellness instructors on how best to play for the singing group — “it’s slower than the instructors are used to,” she says. On Fridays, Maefair starts her day with chair yoga and spends her afternoon chatting with her friends, eating lunch and laughing while her friends play Wii bowling. Then, she heads straight to choir practice with her friends who also live in our Independent Senior Housing and doesn’t get home (in The Manor) until early evening. On the second Friday of every month, Maefair visits with her friends living in our Memory Care unit, who, due to their memory impairment, are unable to participate in our Senior Outreach Program. After she visits, she attends our church service in the evening where she prays for them. She doesn’t like to just “sit around,” she says, so she takes advantage of the many activities and programs throughout our campus that make her feel useful and young and keep her smiling.
John Carroll University Community Engagement

Eliza Bryant Village, supported by dedicated volunteers, continues to harness the power of treasured volunteers who bring invaluable resources to the Village. Our partnership with John Carroll University offers a prime example.

John Carroll University students enhance the Village through one-time and on-going service projects, such as the nail spa, fun and games and spiritual activities. During the 2017 spring semester, students enrolled in a history class connected with our Senior Outreach Program participants to help bring history to life. The students visited with our seniors to interview them several times over the course of the class and then developed a visual story board representing their lives. Many of the stories related to the challenges our seniors faced growing up black in America and not having equal access to resources like healthcare and education. This program highlights the importance of the work of our founder, who created a safe haven for Cleveland’s black seniors during the late 1800s. John Carroll University student volunteers are on-site four days a week to provide social visits, manicures, play games and participate in faith-sharing. They also selected the Village for their Day of Service, bringing beautification, cleaning and friendly visit services. This partnership symbolizes Eliza Bryant’s ability to reach a wide range of stakeholders to support our mission and improve the quality of life for our seniors.

Odessa Fields

Eliza Simmons Bryant’s vision for creating a community of care for seniors relies on qualified, compassionate staff like Odessa Fields. She plays a critical role in our ability to adapt, and has supported innovative programming over the years that has improved the quality of life for our residents.

Odessa is our longest serving accountant at Eliza Bryant Village. She began her career in our business office in 2000 as a temporary employee and has progressively taken on additional responsibilities since that time. She was pressed into service to manage the business office for nearly a year while the department was in transition when the Village restructured leadership. When long-time former Controller of Eliza Bryant Village, Deborah C. Enty, transitioned to her current role as Chief Operating Officer and Administrator, Odessa found herself a one-women operation in the business office. She successfully maintained accounting functions, including general accounting, billing, financial reporting, cash management, consolidations, and taxes. She oriented new staff and helped implement systems, controls and processes to prepare the organization for continued growth. Equally important is her interaction with residents and their families. Odessa witnessed how the implementation of our Rehabilitation Program has revitalized many of our residents. These services that help seniors walk, speak and write have not only strengthened the bond between residents and staff, but also improve the quality of their life in their golden years. Compassionate employees like Odessa play a critical role in shaping how we live our mission.
DONOR HONOR ROLL

THANK YOU!

With your continued support, Eliza Bryant Village will continue to remain a premier provider of outstanding healthcare, programs and services along the continuum of care.

The Development Department has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the donor honor roll. Please let us know of any errors or omissions by calling (216) 361-6141, ext. 880.

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2017 CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

**REVENUE**

- Medicaid: $8,971,996 (59.4%)
- Medicare: 1,770,090 (11.7%)
- Hospice: 253,800 (1.7%)
- Veteran Administration: 1,018,081 (6.7%)
- Outpatient Therapy: 8,509 (0.1%)
- Private Pay: 1,202,938 (8.0%)
- Outreach Programs: 1,020,546 (6.8%)
- Grants & Contributions: 422,910 (2.8%)
- Investment Income: 308,340 (2.0%)
- Other Income: 118,588 (0.8%)

**TOTAL REVENUE** $15,095,798

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**EXPENSES**

- Wages & Benefits: $9,781,554 (57.8%)
- Dietary: 595,803 (3.5%)
- Therapy Expense: 529,152 (3.1%)
- Utilities: 676,910 (4.0%)
- Security: 76,936 (0.5%)
- Supplies & Indirect Expenses: 2,350,460 (13.9%)
- Occupancy Expenses: 1,563,668 (9.2%)
- Interest Expense: 165,818 (1.0%)
- Depreciation: 1,187,186 (7.0%)

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $16,927,487

**REVENUE OVER EXPENSE** ($1,831,689)

*not including unrealized gains of $268,507*
WE ARE ALL ELIZA
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