

## Angelwood Healthcare Heroes



The last month saw so many changes in how America works, and our staff is no exception. While almost all of our administrative team has shifted to working remotely, that is not an option for those who care for the residents of our group homes. Although the activities of their work has not drastically changed, it has presented substantial challenges. Many of those we serve have underlying health conditions that put them at greater risk. Social distancing is unrealistic with the type of hands-on care needs of many of our residents.

Our folks have been sheltering in place since mid-March, and will continue to do so for some time. No visitors are allowed into the homes, including family members. Although we can explain that this is to protect them, more often than not for our population, it is harder to understand why they can't go out to places they enjoy, why their parents can't come over to visit, why people are wearing masks, why schools and day programs are closed. The bright side of this is that our staff have stepped up in ways small and large to make sure our residents are staying healthy while also keeping them engaged, working on skills, and just having FUN!

Our employees have made sure residents can stay connected to family and friends through video calls. They have planned arts and crafts projects that are fun and also help work on fine and gross motor skills. They have had disco parties, cooking contests, and backyard water games. And, more than any one activity, they continue to care for and support the individuals of Angelwood as they always have – like family.

Within the course of a month our employees went from being called Direct Service Providers to being designated as essential healthcare workers. We agree with this designation and believe they deserve to be elevated even more. To us, they are our Healthcare Heroes. And we thank them.



## Angelwood's COVID-19 Response



In case you missed CEO Diane Tuttle's message about Angelwood's response and planning in regards to COVID-19, you may access it [here](#). We continue to be vigilant and follow all the recommendations of the CDC. We are so grateful to our staff for all their extra efforts to keep our residents safe during this health crisis.

## Thank You for Your Support!

We are so fortunate to be surrounded by such strong support from our community! Marge Holtsinger, Angelwood mom, volunteer, and



advocate, made 100 masks to protect our staff and those we care for in our group homes. Joe Smid graciously donated scarce cleaning supplies while Cindy Sullivan gave paper products when we had difficulty procuring the amounts we needed. We have had volunteers and donors call to see how we were doing. Parents have reached out with words of encouragement and thanks. An anonymous donor made an unexpected gift to help us through the early uncertainty as some programs had to be suspended. To our families, staff, volunteers, and donors, we appreciate you and the impact you have made on the Angelwood family. Thank you! We are keeping you all in our thoughts as well, and know that we will get through this, together.

Last week everyone enjoyed making and decorating baskets and arts and crafts projects. For everyone who celebrates, we hope you had a Happy Easter, Happy Passover, and Happy Ramadan! Want to keep up with our activities while we all stay home? Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).





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