



Memphis Jewish Home and Rehabilitation Center

Memphis Jewish Home and Rehabilitation Center Receives Matching Grant from the Bornblum Foundation

Cordova, TN, May 14, 2008 - Residents of the Home are now enjoying outings in a new large bus purchased as a result of a matching grant from the Bornblum Foundation. The Foundation made the matching grant to the Home equal to half the cost of the new bus if they could raise the other half of the cost. With the help of the Plough Foundation and ten individual donors, the Home raised the funds and met the challenge.

Outings are a large part of adding to the quality of life for MJHRC residents. They go to lunches at Baron Hirsch and the JCC, to the zoo, to the casino, to museums, to sporting events, to performances, etc. The old bus was outdated and had begun to cost a great deal to maintain. It did not have a rear heating and air system so they were unable to use it in the hottest part of summer and colder days of winter. The lift and hydraulics which enable staff to lift wheelchairs into the bus were outdated and high maintenance.

This new bus, made especially for the Home, was customized to fit all the needs of the residents. Not only does it have the rear heating and air system, a very smooth ride, and easier to use wheelchair lift, but the seating is flexible depending on the type of residents going on the outing and whether they need to stay in their wheelchairs or can transfer into a regular seat. The visibility for those riding in the bus is much better as well.

“Boredom is one of the most common complaints of nursing home residents that hinder their quality of life”, said Mary Anna Kaplan, the Home’s administrator. “Outings give residents something to look forward to and provide them with unique activities to help alleviate boredom and help improve their mental well-being. Without reliable and safe transportation, it had been very difficult for us to provide this service as much as we would have liked.”

“We are so appreciative of the generosity of the Bornblum Foundation for making this matching grant possible, and to the Plough Foundation and all the individual donors who allowed us to obtain this matching grant”, said Joel Ashner, the Home’s community relations director. The Home relies on the generosity of the community to provide funds for purchases like this. Through donations received throughout the year and through its annual golf tournament, the Home is able to provide the special equipment and programs that enable the staff to provide the quality care that the community has come to expect from the Home.

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