

LUTHERAN SUNSET MINISTRIES
Report to the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod Assembly

Lutheran Sunset Ministries (LSM) continues to provide services to more than 200 people on a daily basis within our six comprehensive programs: Sunset Home, a 96-bed skilled nursing facility; Hope Center, a secure 32-bed skilled nursing secured neighborhood for memory loss/dementia residents; Heckmann Residence, a 24-apartment licensed assisted living facility; Rainbow Retirement Community, 54 independent living apartment; and Hospice Sunset; Sunset Companion Services serving Bosque County and a 25-mile radius of Clifton.

LSM's website (www.lutheransunset.org) has been attracting users to pages such as the Sunset Senior Guide Blog, Sunset Lifelong Learning and information on our various programs. The Sunset Senior Guide Blog has more than 150 blog articles covering senior living, lifestyle, helpful tips and decisions that individuals and families face as their loved ones grow older. It has been our third most viewed page on the website, behind "Our Residences" and "Contact Us." We encourage you to check it out at www.lutheransunset.org/news.

Social media has been a fantastic way for us to give people a glimpse into our culture here at LSM. We are posting and sharing engaging photos, articles, links and videos to capture the attention of our target audience. Through Facebook, Instagram, Tik Tok, and YouTube, we've been able to connect with people on a personal level, showing all that LSM has to offer in real time. We have one Instagram video that has now been viewed over 1,200,000 times! You can look us up at Lutheran Sunset Ministries on each platform.

We are constantly looking for ways to maintain and improve our successes. It is important to find engaging and diverse activities to empower our residents to take on projects that fill them with meaning and purpose.

The Sunset Home and Heckmann Assisted Living provide *It's Never 2 Late (IN2L)*, a computer system that empowers residents to connect, engage and enjoy life. IN2L integrates the hardware, software, media, and various components necessary to allow virtually any person with any interest in using a computer — regardless of background, physical or intellectual abilities — to do so pleasurable, engagingly, and without frustration. The system is built on a picture-based, touch-screen interface that allows users to simply "touch" their way to find engaging, educational, spiritual, and personalized content that is appropriate to their own level of ability. From using e-mail and web cams to connect with family and friends, to enjoying mind-stimulating activities, to improving hand-eye coordination as part of a rehabilitation program, elders with a wide range of physical and cognitive abilities, most of whom have never used a computer, can now enjoy technology using systems adapted especially for them.

In partnership with the Bosque Arts Center, our Resident Art Show has been a huge success. Resident art is displayed and an artist reception takes place, honoring our residents for their creativity.

In 2024, LSM was also voted "Best Retirement Living", "Best Assisted Living", "Best Independent Senior Living", Best Senior Apartments", "Best Skilled Nursing Care", and "Favorite Senior Services" in Waco Tribune-Herald's 2024 Readers' Choice Awards.

Rehab services are an integral part of the services we offer. Our space has tripled in size and allowed us to add additional equipment to our rehab facility. There are dedicated resident rooms for our short-term rehab patients as well as a living area complete with a small kitchen. .

LSM has acquired additional land and plans are being studied to add independent living cottages to Rainbow Retirement Community. A brainstorming session with current and future residents was held to determine likes and dislikes to guide us. Currently, we are planning to build model homes of the four floor plans that will be built in the larger project. We have space to build up to 44 one-bedroom units and 38 two bed two bath cottages. We do not yet know what the rental rates will be. If you are interested in more information for this housing please call Michelle Lueck at (254) 675-6785.

Clifton is a great place to retire. Small town living is easy with a slower pace of life and neighbors with whom you can visit. LSM has all the services needed with the continuum of care available on our campus, which is particularly beneficial to couples who may require our various services in the future as their health needs may be different as they age. There is also a local clinic and hospital across the street. Clifton has been designated by the State of Texas to be a Certified Retirement Community and a Texas Cultural Arts District. To learn more about Clifton, visit www.cityofclifton.org. To learn more about LSM, visit www.lutheransunset.org or our Facebook page, Lutheran Sunset Ministries. To set up a visit for yourself or your church group call 254.675.8637 ext. 2223. Come and visit!