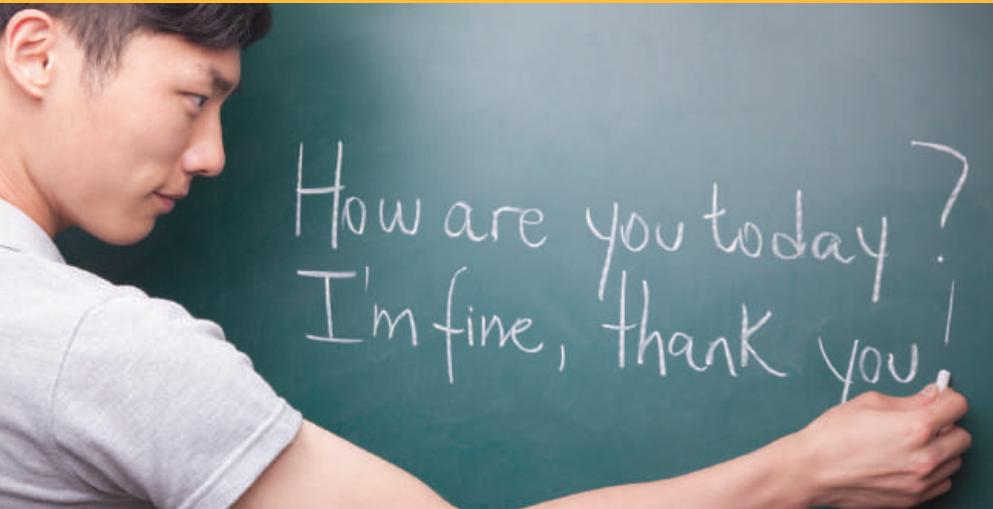


THE WESLEY

Community · Choice · Continuing Care



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World Relief: Wesley Goes International

Wesley Des Moines has entered into a partnership with World Relief to provide temporary housing for nine people seeking refuge from their country of origin. Each participant at Wesley has been approved for sponsorship by World Relief and has full security clearance, permanent asylum residency status and work permits for the United States.

"These are people who have been through pretty big life challenges," said Wesley Community Foundation Executive Director Susan McConnell. "They really need housing, and it must be a safe place to transition from their old life so they can acclimate to the U.S."

Though providing housing for refugees is not the normal course of business for Wesley, this opportunity to help others couldn't be ignored. Susan brought the idea to the campus after she witnessed the passion for World Relief by a future Wesley Des Moines resident. With The Gardens building coming down in the next year, the campus has several vacant studio apartments. Rather than have an increasingly empty building, Wesley is using its resources to help the greater community. They

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Now Open!

Wesley Bradley Park Brownstone



**Be the first to know
what's going on at Wesley.**

Sign up at WesleyChoice.org to receive eWesley, our monthly online newsletter.

Wesley is a faith based organization providing retirement communities and a network of services for older adults.

With love and joy, we are called to meet the physical, social and spiritual needs of those we serve.

We affirm the worth of all those we serve and those who provide service.

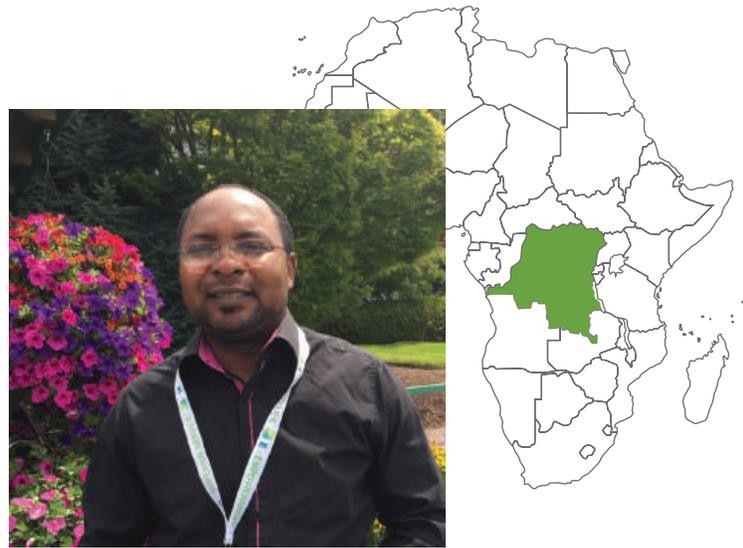
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reviewed World Relief's humanitarian efforts and wanted to help refugees and immigrants rebuild their lives.

"Everyone is so grateful to be here, and our residents have embraced our guests like family," said Susan. "We are very happy we have been able to be supportive to this group of people and partner with World Relief."

One refugee, Antoine Bolamba, is from Democratic Republic of the Congo. As a political journalist, his reporting didn't always present that country's president in a positive light. When Antoine's life was threatened, he made the difficult decision to leave his home and family and travel to the U.S. Antoine has made friends at Wesley. He appreciates the peace he's found here and looks forward to someday continuing his education at the University of Washington.

World Relief clients may live at Wesley at a reduced rental fee for up to six months. This gives them the chance to improve their English, take classes to



Antoine Bolamba

become employable, familiarize themselves with their new home country and become independent. They remain clients of and have a caseworker at World Relief. They volunteer, work and socialize with our residents. Even speaking a few different languages has not stopped the communication as love of neighbors is what Wesley and World Relief is all about!

Making Each Day Count

People are afraid of hospice. We only need it when we or a loved one is nearing the end of life. Rather than focus on the end, Wesley Hospice focuses on life. These are our last days. What do we want to do with them?

Marta*, who had been refusing food, wanted a burger and a milkshake. A Wesley Hospice nurse granted Marta's wish. She made it her mission of faith and compassion to visit a fast food chain to bring joy to Marta. It was the first meal Marta had eaten more than 50 percent of in a month.

Marta's daughter was gladdened to see a photo of her mother's burger bliss.



The one thing Harvey* wanted was to leave a care center and go home. Coordinating with his various caregivers and family, Wesley Hospice arranged to bring Harvey home. Once there, he was visibly comforted by his surroundings.

Along with pet and music therapies, these are the types of delights people receive through hospice, the types of treasures that help bring the spirit of life to each moment.

* Names have been changed for privacy.



New Accommodations Coming Right Up

Summer's here, and Brownstone residents are moving in to their new homes at Wesley Bradley Park (cover) and Des Moines (below).

Bradley Park Pioneer Gretchen Herris has waited three years for her new home. She's looking forward to the companionship and community that Wesley Bradley Park offers.

"I volunteer three days a week at Good Samaritan Hospital and Granny's Attic, but I've still been a little isolated," said Gretchen. "I'm looking forward to doing things with other people. I'm excited to get in there and make it my home."

She's been busy packing and decluttering, but she's also been shopping for her new one bedroom apartment with a sun room. New dishes, new linens and a new bedspread help make Gretchen's new start exciting.

"It's the first time I've ever moved into a brand new place," said Ruth Kenyon, native Australian and 14-year resident of Wesley Des Moines. At 95, she is moving from one of the old Cottages into a second floor Brownstone apartment. Ruth can't garden as she used to but looks forward to container gardening and having tea on her balcony.

New Cottage accommodations will also be opening this summer. Current Cottagers and new residents have been measuring to determine where their furniture will go. Others have been busy downsizing or making small adjustments to areas like closets to fit their storage needs.

For information on Brownstone or Cottage living, contact us today.

Lisa Osterloh for Bradley Park (253) 466-2720

Rob Lanouette for Des Moines (206) 870-4705



Ed Stanton
and Rita Lambert

A Lifetime of Service

Forty years ago, Rita Lambert joined the Wesley team in the social services department. She's seen a lot of change, but thankfully, some things are the same. From day one, it was a "very friendly environment. I learned early on that there were good people here," said Rita. She planned to stay with Wesley for a couple of years, but "It's never boring here," she said. "There's always the possibility to learn, to try something new."

Two things that most impress Rita are Wesley's "incredibly diverse staff and the residents. They're so supportive. It makes Wesley a great place to work."

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Des Moines, WA 98198

WesleyChoice.org
Toll Free 1 (866) 937-5390

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Wesley is a not-for-profit organization offering a full spectrum of lifestyle options for aging well, including residential communities, in-home health and care services in King and Pierce counties.



Sharing the Knowledge

Wesley Bradley Park Pioneers visited their counterparts at Wesley Lea Hill for some advice on woodshop design.

The Lea Hill tour guides were happy to share their experiences in setting up their shared space. They advised on arranging the shop, encouraging others to participate, alleviating fears of newcomers and demonstrating the safe way to work with the tools.

“The most important thing is to set the shop up in an efficient, convenient and safe way,” said Will Gering of Lea Hill. “Then control the dust. A good vacuum system is absolutely critical.”

“We want to make our woodshop as efficient as theirs,” said Marlen Miller, Bradley Park Pioneer.

Marlen and other Pioneers are donating their tools to the shop. The guides suggested a group evaluate the tools and choose the best ones. They could sell duplicate tools and buy better ones.



They also suggested the Pioneers find their niche. Will makes wine bottle and glass holders, internment boxes and walking sticks. Others have made seam rippers, jewelry, clocks and bird houses.

“It’s important to put your items on display to show the talent in the woodshop,” said Will.

Their last bit of advice was to sell their creations. The proceeds can go to the Resident Council, which often donates monies to Circle of Concern or other areas of need.

