



John Knox Village

2025 Community Involvement Report

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The Power of Community at John Knox Village

Successful businesses thrive in healthy and connected communities. That's why it is important for John Knox Village to make the most of its community involvement efforts. The Village's commitment to community involvement goes far beyond financial contributions. It is the power of the people—their expertise, skills, time and talents—that makes the most impact in the communities in which the Village operates.

Thanks to its size and its diverse offerings of services and amenities, John Knox Village is uniquely positioned to support the community in meaningful ways—from sharing spaces and resources to offering leadership, entertainment, education and intergenerational connections. These efforts allow the Village to enrich the lives of those it serves and strengthen its identity as a trusted community partner.

This report highlights how John Knox Village's community engagement helps:

- Fulfill its mission of enriching lives and building community
- Break down stereotypes about aging and older adults
- Enhance its visibility and reputation
- Inspire interest in its services and residency
- Reinforce its role as a not-for-profit leader

The Village's community involvement extends beyond volunteering and donations: it also continually works to become an even more sustainable, earth-friendly organization. What better way to make a positive impact within the communities it interacts with than by minimizing its carbon footprint for future generations?

John Knox Village remains committed to achieving its mission of “Enriching lives, building community” in Lee's Summit and beyond. Its community involvement efforts allow it to connect with and enrich the lives of thousands of individuals. This report is more than a showcase of the Village's generosity—it is the story of how the organization makes a difference in the communities it serves.

About John Knox Village

- Founded in 1970, one of the first life plan communities in the nation.
- Not-for-profit organization 501(c)(3), run by a nine-member volunteer board of directors.
- Mission: To enrich the lives of older adults through community living – Enriching lives, building community
- Located in Lee's Summit, Missouri, with home health offices in Prairie Village, Kansas
- Serves nearly 1,400 residents on its campus and about 5,000 community members who live in western Missouri and eastern Kansas
- With almost 900 associates on staff, one of the largest employers in Lee's Summit

Independent Living: Residents enjoy maintenance-free living in freestanding homes, villas or apartment homes. On-campus amenities include an art studio; library; beauty salons; meeting and banquet rooms; bowling alley; chapel and prayer room; 9-hole executive golf course; two fitness centers; a convenience store; multiple restaurants and a coffee shop; 1,400-seat special event space; guest rooms; two indoor swimming pools and an outdoor pool; whirlpool; movie theater; media centers; community garden; woodworking center; dog park; veterans memorial; and, coming soon, pickleball/basketball courts!

John Knox Village Emergency Medical Services: In addition to serving the Village campus, JKV EMS provides emergency and non-emergency transport services throughout the Kansas City Metropolitan Area. JKV EMS also has mutual aid agreements with the cities of Lee's Summit, Missouri and Raytown, Missouri, which enables them to respond during an emergency if the need arises. JKV EMS also runs a behavioral health van service to provide non-emergent transportation to patients in need of mental health care.

Helpers by John Knox Village: Trained staff provide Village residents with in-home person-centered care services, such as light housekeeping, shower assistance, companion visits, medication reminders, transportation, pet care and more.

Home Health by John Knox Village: With offices in both Lee's Summit, Missouri, and Prairie Village, Kansas, the Medicare-certified home health agency provides intermittent skilled care as ordered by a physician, including skilled nursing; physical, occupational, speech and respiratory therapies; and medical social work. Licensed health care professionals provide services to JKV residents as well as patients who live in 12 counties in Greater Kansas City.

Village Assisted Living: Licensed by the state of Missouri, Village Assisted Living offers 24-hour nursing assistance; medication management; regular housekeeping; three meals a day; planned activities; exercise classes; an on-site therapy clinic; assistance with activities of daily living; and more.

Village Assisted Living Memory Care 1, 2 and 3: Each memory care neighborhood is licensed by the state of Missouri and provides a full range of services as well as a supportive and secure environment for residents with memory-related conditions. The facilities provide 24-hour highly supervised and interactive care; private and semi-private rooms; secured indoor and outdoor environments; monitoring systems in resident rooms; and more.

Village Care Center: The freestanding skilled nursing facility provides 24-hour nursing services for long-term care, memory care and Medicare-certified rehabilitative care.

Hospice by John Knox Village: The agency is licensed and certified by the state of Missouri and serves JKV residents as well as patients in western Missouri by providing comfort-oriented services to individuals with life-limiting illnesses.

Outpatient Therapy by John Knox Village: Serving patients who live in the surrounding community as well as JKV residents, Outpatient Therapy provides physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapies.

Parkinson's Support: Our teams of dedicated professionals is trained to provide personalized care, including physical therapy, exercise programs, emotional support and education. **The Parkinson's Connection by John Knox Village** is designed to assist individuals and families face the unique challenges of living with Parkinson's disease.

Civic Engagement

By encouraging participation in community organizations, political involvement, activism and advocacy, the individuals who give their time enhance the lives of their families and their neighbors.

Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development

John Knox Village's involvement in the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce and the Lee's Summit Economic Development Council includes both leadership and financial support, which creates an optimum environment for economic growth and development.

Village leaders consistently serve on a variety of chamber committees, oftentimes in officer positions. Also, more than three dozen associates have participated in Leadership Lee's Summit, a nine-month education program.

Members of the Village community also volunteer at Chamber-sponsored events. For example, about 30 associates and their families serve food during the annual Oktoberfest in Downtown Lee's Summit.

Finally, associates acting as ambassadors for a variety of Village services, including Hospice by John Knox Village, are active in area chambers of commerce and other organizations.

Civic, Community and Not-for-Profit Organizations

John Knox Village associates, residents and board members routinely volunteer for not-for-profit organizations. Although not sponsored or facilitated by John Knox Village, such involvement indirectly – yet positively – reflects on the Village. The organizations also benefit from the volunteers' leadership, intellectual capital and time. The following list are examples of the diverse organizations Village community members support: **Scouting America, Citizens' Advisory Committee, Missouri Family to Family, Girl Scouts of the USA, Heartland Men's Chorus, The Humane Society of the U.S., India Association of Kansas City, Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City, Chandana Kannada Sangha Kansas, The Micah Ministry, KCUR-FM Public Radio, Lee's Summit Optimist Club, Lee's Summit Educational Foundation, Rotary Club of Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit Symphony Orchestra** and many others.

Dr. Daniel Rexroth, John Knox Village president/CEO (until June 2025), believes in giving back to the community. He is a member of multiple boards and committees, including: **MidAmerica Nazarene University** – Chair, Board of Directors and Chair, Finance Committee; **Olivet Nazarene University** – Foundation Board of Directors, Vice-Chair; **Harvest Partners** – Vice Chair, Board of Directors; **Palestine Economic Development Corporation** – Board of Directors; **International Church of the Nazarene** – Audit Committee; **Kansas City District Church of the Nazarene** – Advisory Committee; **Lee's Summit Economic Development Council** – Board of Directors; and **Symbria Great Plains Pharmacy** – Board of Directors.

Political Participation

John Knox Village leases space to the Jackson County Board of Election Commissioners for poll locations. Village residents volunteer at polling locations both on- and off-campus.

In addition to contributing to a strong voter turnout, Village residents are active in a variety of political endeavors and campaigns. They frequently invite and/or host elected officials and political candidates to speak at resident gatherings. The Village provides support to aid in these efforts from time to time.

Activism and Advocacy

Members of the John Knox Village community routinely advocate for older adults and services for seniors in both state and national arenas. For example, Seniors For Justice is a resident-run, non-partisan group of individuals who discuss current events and, when appropriate, take action.

Public Safety Emergency Management

John Knox Village Public Safety serves Village residents and associates; campus guests; and members of surrounding communities. The Village's ability and willingness to assist during an emergency or times of crisis helps take financial and staffing tension off stressed city and state programs. When emergency situations occur outside the Village campus, Public Safety leaders can allocate resources and labor to assist emergency response efforts when appropriate and without adversely affecting the safety or wellbeing of residents or associates.

Public Safety has partnerships with local, state, regional and national public service organizations to provide security assistance, emergency service administration and more. They have formed mutually beneficial partnerships with **local hospitals/health care facilities; Lee's Summit Fire and Lee's Summit Police; Jackson County Emergency Preparedness; Jackson County Public Health; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; Missouri State**

Emergency Management Agency; the American Red Cross; Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); Homeland Security; and other agencies.

Public Safety provides multiple outreach services in Lee's Summit and other communities. Examples include:

- **Safety:** Security patrols at community events such as Lee's Summit Downtown Days.
- **Continuing Education:** The Village provides space for educational events, such as a regional Homeland Security emergency preparedness workshop. It also has furnished vacant buildings to Lee's Summit Police and other emergency services to use in training.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** The Village routinely participates in emergency preparedness exercises both on campus and in surrounding communities. Examples include city-wide tabletop disaster drills conducted by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC). Other activities include fostering relationships with city, state and national organization and overseeing continuing education exercises.
- **EMS Services Beyond the Village campus:** JKV Emergency Medical Services provides emergency and non-emergency interfacility transportation to patients in Lee's Summit, Harrisonville and Kansas City. It also has mutual aid agreements with the cities of Lee's Summit, Missouri, and Raytown, Missouri that enables JKV EMS to respond to emergencies if the need arises. JKV EMS recently added a behavioral health transportation service to help patients having a mental health crisis get the help they need. Finally, the Village is a member of a Kansas City metropolitan-wide emergency preparedness group.
- **Partnerships:** The Village has a closed Points of Dispensing (POD) arrangement with the American Red Cross. During a pandemic, the Village can provide space to allow large numbers of people to receive immunizations, in turn, reducing the demand on public dispensing sites and contribute to an effective emergency response.
- **Prescription Take-Back Collection Site:** The Village, along with the Lee's Summit Police Department, Lee's Summit Cares and the National Drug Enforcement Agency, hosts Prescription Take Back events for residents, associates and members of surrounding communities. As one of three collection sites located in Lee's Summit, the Village has collected over 2,000 pounds of unwanted or no-longer-needed medication during the last 10 years.

Corporate and Community Philanthropy

John Knox Village offers modest financial support to organizations that host events or provide services with a measurable social impact within the community and/or encourage older adults.

John Knox Village has three categories of giving.

- **Corporate** giving helps build awareness and integrates the organization into the local community. Examples of corporate giving include sponsorship of the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce golf tournament. The Village also supports the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest celebration and Lee's Summit Symphony through donations of volunteer time and event space.
- **Community** giving helps make Lee's Summit and surrounding communities stronger. The Village contributes to a variety of organizations such as the Lee's Summit CARES and Lee's Summit Social Services.
- **Workplace** giving enables generous people to contribute to projects such as Operation Christmas Child. Individual departments also host drives, collecting items such as socks and blankets for the City Union Mission.

Cultural Offerings/Special Events

John Knox Village hosts a variety of special events that are open to all members of the community. These activities are a way to share resources and allow people to have a positive experience on the Village campus.

- John Knox Village choral and instrumental groups performances are open to the public.
- The John Knox Village Community Theatre produces free shows.
- The Village hosts free concerts including performances by the American Legion Band; United States Air Force Jazz Band; the Heartland Recorder Orchestra Concert; and others.

Donation of John Knox Village Facilities, Equipment and Support

Enabling groups to meet in appropriate settings helps promote John Knox Village as a good community resource and allows the organization to break down stereotypes about aging.

Meeting Spaces/Tours

Because of the availability of meeting spaces with varying capacities, several organizations offer classes/seminars/meetings on the Village campus. For example, JKV has donated space to **Lee's Summit CARES; Missouri League of Nursing; Essential Tremors Support Group; Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce; National Association of Health Care Assistants; Toastmasters International; and other groups** at a value of about \$20,000.

In addition, Village residents involved in civic/church/retiree groups hold meetings on the Village campus. The Village also regularly hosts campus tours for area schools, scout troops, professional groups, etc.

The Pavilion at John Knox Village

John Knox Village donates its special event venue, The Pavilion at John Knox Village, multiple times a year. The donations fulfill a variety of needs, such as bringing entertainment that might not otherwise be possible in Lee's Summit. In other cases, community meetings and programs are enhanced because of The Pavilion's amenities and services. The Village donates the venue at a value of about \$50,000 (figure based on rental rates). Examples of event donations include:

- City of Lee's Summit Annual Meeting
- Lee's Summit R-7 School District events
- Lee's Summit Mayor's Outreach Breakfast for Community of Character
- Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce annual banquet
- CLAIM Medicare Enrollment events

Surplus Equipment

John Knox Village donates equipment, supplies and/or gently used items to other not-for-profit organizations, such as the Surplus Exchange and the Lee's Summit Hope House. Schools, camps, childcare facilities, nursing homes and churches also have received surplus supplies.

Support Groups and Bereavement Support

John Knox Village hosts support groups for Village residents as well as members of the surrounding community, such as an Alzheimer's Support Group, multiple Parkinson's Support Groups and an Essential Tremors Group.

Hospice by John Knox Village bereavement services offer opportunities for healing from loss, including a Hope for the Holidays Workshop and the annual Memorial Service and Butterfly Release. Grief support is available for the families of all patients for up to 13 months after their loved one has passed.

Education

John Knox Village offers a variety of educational opportunities for people of all ages and skill levels that enhance the lives and careers of Village community members as well as members of surrounding communities.

EMT Pathways Training Program

John Knox Village provides a training program that enables new security officers to earn their emergency medical technician-basic (EMT-B) license while on the job. As part of the training, associates attend a 40-hour first responder medical course. They also shadow another security officer who already has their EMT-B license when responding to medical calls. Finally, the trainee also enrolls in a five-month EMT Basic program; when associates complete the course and earn their license, they receive up to \$1,000 for tuition reimbursement.

EMT-B Training at the Herndon Center

John Knox Village Public Safety also works in partnership with the Herndon Career Center in Raytown, Missouri, to train students to become Emergency Medical Technicians.

Emergency Training Institute

Since June 2006, the JKV emergency medical service department has offered paramedics and emergency medical technicians opportunities to earn continuing education units of credit (CEUs) via the John Knox Village Emergency Training Institute as well as initial Emergency Medical Technician training.

Lee's Summit R-7 School District Involvement

John Knox Village supports Lee's Summit R-7 School District in a variety of ways, including the well-established Partners in Education program and the new Diploma Plus program. Diploma Plus embeds career exploration through the K-12 experience by connecting the classroom to business and industry support to help students graduate with confidence and skills. The Village provides professional resources, such as mentors who assist with student projects. For example, the Village hosted a technology learning event where students worked one-on-one with residents to help them with their mobile phones, tablets and other personal technology.

Mentoring Program

For more than two decades, John Knox Village has partnered with the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine to provide "well elderly" residents to mentor first-year medical students. The Mentoring Program enables future doctors to learn from residents about the normal processes of aging, which helps students to see past negative stereotypes. It also teaches the students how to relate to people as a whole person, not just a patient. The program has helped to shape an entire generation of physicians by making them more sensitive to issues affecting older adults and helping them become more effective communicators and better listeners.

VIP (Virtual Intergenerational Project)

Thanks to a partnership between John Knox Village and the University of Central Missouri, students and residents are breaking down barriers between generations. The VIP Project pairs Village residents (VIPs) and students in the Child and Family Development program. The assignment promotes communication and understanding between generations.

Student Internships/Classroom Partners/Work Exploration/Job Shadowing

John Knox Village routinely partners with educational institutions to offer students learning opportunities.

- **Internships/Clinical Rotations.** Multiple departments host student interns to help them gain important on-the-job experience while they are learning a trade or completing a degree. Participants must be high school, technical school or university students. Some internships follow school curriculum, while others are left up to the individual and the Village. The Village typically offers internships in Nursing, Therapy, Marketing, IT, Dining/Nutrition, Music Therapy and Social Services. In the last five years, the Village has hosted about 50 interns.
- **Job Shadowing.** Students with an interest in learning more about a specific career path often shadow associates in their chosen field for a day or more. The students are typically associated with a school program or community organization, but occasionally individuals with an interest will reach out. For example, students from Pro Deo Youth Center visit Village restaurants and participate in hands-on activities to learn about opportunities in the hospitality industry. Students involved with the Lee's Summit R-7 School District **Gaining Real-life Experience and Training (GREAT) program** learn important work and life skills by assisting staff in dining, activities and nursing departments to build skills that will help them find employment after they finish the program.
- **Career Opportunities.** In addition to working with local school districts, colleges and universities, Human Resources representatives have partnerships with a variety of local and regional organizations committed to helping people find rewarding work, such as the **Community Services League, Job One, Ability KC, Life Unlimited, Healing House KC, Kauffman Real World Experiences, Kansas City Metropolitan Healthcare Council** and **many others**. The team attends events within a two-hour radius of the Village to educate and inform participants about the Village and the rewards of working with seniors. They also provide guidance and advice to students who are deciding on a career and/or looking for employment.

Environment/Sustainability Efforts

John Knox Village strives to be a sustainable, earth-friendly organization.

Notable "green" efforts include the following.

- Maintaining a recycling program to collect paper, aluminum, cardboard, glass, plastics and batteries.
- Using technology and software solutions to decrease printing and paper usage.
- Reducing energy usage by investing in new equipment and lighting. For example, Village dining venues use induction cooking to reduce energy usage; the Village uses LED bulbs throughout campus and no longer uses incandescent or fluorescent replacement bulbs; and, finally, as equipment is replaced, the new equipment is designed to operate at a higher level of efficiency, which saves energy. Our new buildings and villas employ newer technology, which also improves energy usage.

- Reducing the number of miles driven by the transportation vehicle fleet and business vehicles.
- Hosting multiple solar panel arrays on roofs throughout the Village.
- Repurposing cabinets, windows, office equipment, etc. Scrap metal is sent to a scrap yard instead of a landfill.
- Adding hybrid vehicles to the fleet.
- Incorporating electric cars into the Public Safety security fleet – when fully charged, the cars operate for up to 110 miles and use zero gas.
- Participating in Evergy’s Clean Charge Network. The Village has nine vehicle charging stalls. The public-use stations are in The Pavilion and The Meadows parking lots. A third station is outside public safety offices.
- Building parking garages with vehicle charging stations.
- Using recycled asphalt mix that meets project parameters for paving projects throughout the campus.
- Composting leaf-and-yard waste to reduce the use of chemicals around campus and keep waste out of landfill.
- Using ZooPoo fertilizer from the Kansas City Zoo and Aquarium around the campus.
- Providing space for two beehives near the John Knox Village Resident Gardens.
- Partnering with KC Can Compost, an organization that collects restaurant food waste for composting. The Village also has taken steps to expand the program, enabling residents to compost their own kitchen scraps.
- Using more environmentally friendly take-away containers, decreasing the use of plastic straws, increasing the use of low-energy equipment and recycling fryer oil in the Village’s restaurants.
- Replacing the traditional three-compartment sinks in the restaurants with environmentally friendly heated soak tanks. Staff fill the tank with fresh water once a month and add carbon removing powder. (Staff needed to replace water in the three-compartment sink every 2 to 4 hours to ensure proper water temperature and chemical strength.) Any equipment that needs soaking and/or scrubbing is placed in the tank from 2 to 24 hours, and then rinsed and dried – without any scrubbing or use of corrosive cleaners. At the end of the 30-day cycle, the now gray water is drained or transferred into an irrigation holding tank.
- Hobby Hut volunteers reuse wood and other recyclable materials to make toys for area children.

Industry/Professional Involvement

Involvement in industry and professional organizations aids in building the knowledge and skills of John Knox Village associates, introduces new ideas to the organization and enables Village associates to share expertise.

Industry Involvement

John Knox Village is a member of LeadingAge Missouri and LeadingAge, which enables Village leadership to remain on top of industry trends and innovations. Members of management attend state and national conferences, make presentations at the conferences, serve on state and national committees and hold positions of leadership.

The Village’s general and professional liability insurance company, Caring Communities Insurance Company (CCIC), shoulders the advanced risk management and quality healthcare responsibilities for other not-for-profit life plan communities around the nation. The Village helped establish this innovative risk-financing program. What’s more, the Village’s involvement in CCIC has resulted in savings that helps to better meet community involvement commitments.

Professional Involvement

- ***Boards of Directors and Advisory Board Participation:*** In addition to participating in professional associations, several Village associates have been members of the boards of directors, committees and/or advisory boards for various organizations, such as: **Lee’s Summit Medical Center, Saint Luke’s East Hospital, UCM Child and Family Development Board, Lee’s Summit Symphony Board** and multiple others.
- ***Professional Associations:*** Multiple members of the management team belong to the local chapters of professional associations; a number also hold leadership roles at the local, state and/or national level. Examples of industry associations that associates have been members of include: **American Chef Association, American Health Information Management Association, American Hospital Association, American Society for Healthcare Risk Management, American Society of Safety Engineers, Association for Healthcare Foodservice, Board of Certified Safety Professionals, Full Employment Council/ Eastern Jackson County Workforce Board, Kansas State Advisory Board for Hospitality Management, Missouri Association of Medical Staff Services, Missouri Association of Nursing Home Administrators, Missouri Hospice and Palliative Care Association, Missouri League for Nursing, Missouri Restaurant Association, National Association of Home Care & Hospice, National Hospice and Palliative Care Association** and dozens more.

John Knox Village Board of Directors

Because good governance is vital in business, one of the most valuable assets the business community can offer is intellectual capital.

The John Knox Village board of directors consists of volunteers who offer business insights and help make decisions about strategy and direction that help the Village achieve its mission. The board has three residents and six individuals who live in surrounding communities. Most board members belong to a variety of professional and civic organizations and are (or were – prior to retirement) prominent in their professions. Examples of board members community involvement have included: **Cornerstones of Care, Eastern Jackson County Workforce Investment Boards, Emeritus Member of the American College of Physician Executives, Fellow in the American College of Physicians, Gillis, International Municipal Attorneys Association, Johnson County Mental Health Association, Kansas City Municipal Assistance Corporation** and many other organizations.

John Knox Village Foundation

Established in August 1983, the John Knox Village Foundation enables residents and friends of the Village to make tax-deductible contributions to projects and funds.

- The Foundation has raised funds to purchase state-of-the-art ambulances, contributed toward the beautification of the Village campus and assisted with other projects that benefit the Village and surrounding communities.
- The Foundation funds projects for departments and programs such as the Hobby Hut, performing arts, Village Care Center, Hospice by John Knox Village, food pantry, resident financial assistance and more.
- The Foundation established the Legacy Brick Program to raise funds for fitness initiatives throughout the continuum. It has a long history of funding health and wellness programs, including the Squire Anderson Fitness Center at the Villager Inn and the fitness center at The Meadows.
- The Foundation staff and a committee of residents, associates and community members host annual galas and have raised more than a million dollars.
- Finally, the Foundation secures grants from a variety of foundations to fund programs and purchases that enrich lives and build community such as purchasing equipment for the Village Care Center Memory Care Unit with grants from the Greater Lee’s Summit Health Care Foundation.

Volunteer Opportunities

Members of the John Knox Village community are always ready to lend a helping hand.

Village Volunteer Program

Residents and associates volunteer their time and talents on the campus as well as in the surrounding community. In 2024, a total of 309 volunteers who assisted across the continuum of care contributed 21,706 hours to the Village. The Village offers a variety of volunteer opportunities, such as companionship visits; assistance with special events and activities; and transporting residents in wheelchairs throughout all levels of care. The Village also has volunteer opportunities specifically designed to support veterans.

Hospice by John Knox Village Volunteer Program

Hospice by John Knox Village has a group of volunteers who play an important role in the last stages of life for hospice patients. In 2024, Hospice by John Knox Village’s 12 volunteers logged 1,134 hours. Hospice volunteers provide comfort, support, and companionship to patients and families in many meaningful ways. Some offer respite to caregivers or sit with patients during their final hours. Others bring joy through pet visits, help with grief support, or assist with gentle touch massage and aromatherapy to promote relaxation.

Conclusion

At John Knox Village, enriching lives and building community—both within our community and beyond—is at the heart of everything we do. Our commitment to community engagement creates lasting relationships across generations, strengthens our brand, supports our strategic goals and reinforces our reputation as a vibrant place to live and work. A thriving community is more than a reflection of our values; it’s a cornerstone of our success and a key reason why John Knox Village continues to be a leading provider of senior services.