



September 9, 2015

To: The Roe Foundation

From: Kelly Dorish-Bladek, Administrator for Allegiance Assisted Living

Update on Art for Everyone

The opportunity to give our activities program a boost would not have been an option without support from the Roe Foundation. As stated in the original grant application, Medicaid reimbursement rates for our types of facility have been stagnant for nearly six years which, in turn, creates tremendous cost pressures. Unfortunately, this has only allowed for minimal funding going toward an interactive activities program at Allegiance, until now.

Since receiving the monetary award from the Roe Foundation, Allegiance has been able to purchase accommodations for our group activities. These accommodations include much needed activity tables and art supplies (along with storage for the supplies). As a result, we have been able to utilize community volunteers for approximately 20 hours as well as giving our staff the tools needed to better serve our residents. Beyond tapping into creativity, the incorporation of an ongoing art program at Allegiance has benefitted our residents in the following ways: stress reduction, improvement of emotional health, decrease in boredom, nurturing self-esteem, encouraging interaction and laughter, and overall decrease in disruptive behaviors.

One resident, who will be referred to as "Susie", stands out as a success story. In the past Susie had developed a reputation for being argumentative and was usually not in the best of moods. Susie was unable to participate in community activities due to mobility issues, rarely interacted with peers, and the only group activity she participated in was bingo. With the reboot of Allegiance's programming, Susie slowly started participating more often. Susie is now a standout when it comes to painting and is showing more interest in being a participant. Outside of increased participation in activities, Susie has shown more interest in her peers and can even be caught laughing on a daily basis!

Rural Resources Community Action along with Allegiance Staff and Administration would like to take this opportunity to thank the member of the Roe Foundation for the positive impact you have had on our community at Allegiance and other communities alike. This grant has allowed our residents to express their creativity and connect with others. Thank you again for your support.