

# CHAILIGHTS

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## Announcing our New Chief Medical Officer



We are delighted to formally introduce Dr. Allison B. Ostroff as our new Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Ostroff is a fellowship-trained and double board-certified physician specializing in geriatrics. Previously, she was at Stamford

Hospital, where she started and directed a geriatrics division, as well as established

screenings, interventions, and protocols related to hospital-based care for seniors. Dr. Ostroff was then at NuVance Health in Norwalk where she established another geriatric assessment center in Wilton.

“Geriatrics is by far the most special field of medicine,” Dr. Ostroff said. “Living well at the end of one’s life means doing it with quality and I seek to provide this as well as comfort and understanding.”

*continued on page 2 ->*

## Join Us on Sunday, April 7 at the Community SHARE Event



We are excited to announce a community-wide event, SHARE - Senior Health And Resource Expo. Senior care organizations from across the community will come together for this exciting event on Sunday, April 7 from 10 am to 1 pm. Attendees are invited to Bennett Hall, here at Mozaic Senior Life, to find answers, resources, and insights into the care that’s available for elders throughout the lower Fairfield County area. Representatives from participating organizations will be on site. Whether you’re looking for guidance today

or exploring future options, this is a one-stop place for answers! Participants include: Always Caring of Connecticut, Alzheimer’s Association Connecticut Chapter, American Parkinson’s Disease Association, Bridgeport Department on Aging, Collins Medical, Greater Bridgeport Transit, Hartford Healthcare, Ludlowe Center for Health and Rehabilitation/Cambridge Health and Rehabilitation Center, Attorney Denise Mortati, Mozaic Senior Life, Oasis Senior Advisors, Privatus Care Solutions, The Residence of Westport, RVNAhealth, Sheraton Caregivers, Staver Care Management LLC, Sturges Ridge of Fairfield, Sunrise Senior Living – Fairfield, Southwestern CT Agency on Aging, The Watermark at 3030 Park, and Wesley Village. This event is free of charge and open to all. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us. **Questions? Contact us at 203-365-6474 or [mpruzinsky@mozaic.org](mailto:mpruzinsky@mozaic.org).**

## Excitement Builds for New Life Plan Community

In addition to growing the Priority Reservation list, the Mozaic Concierge Living team reached a major milestone - the First Look Seminars! Priority Reservation Depositors were invited to hear anticipated details such as pricing, amenities, construction timing, virtual tours, and view all 22 floor plans for the new Independent Living community in Stamford, on Long Ridge Road, expected to open in early 2027. All participants were given a large, complete binder full of all the information reviewed at the seminars to review at their own pace at home in preparation for one-on-one meetings. Throughout February, the sales team held individual meetings in sequential order of the Priority Reservation list. During these meetings, Members have chosen their specific Residence, made a 10% deposit, and

are now Charter Members! This entitles them to a great deal of savings in many areas as the project moves from planning to building. It’s not too late to become a Charter Member and reap the lifelong benefits! If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the new Life Plan Community, please contact us at **203-396-1140 or [info@mozaic.org](mailto:info@mozaic.org)**. Details can be found at [mozaicconciergeliving.org](http://mozaicconciergeliving.org).



For more information on Mozaic Senior Life services call 1-833-MSL-LINK (675-5465)

Visit our website at [mozaic.org](http://mozaic.org)

## Chairperson and President's Remarks



Jon August

We are so pleased to share this issue of *Chai Lights* with you! It has been an interesting and productive winter both on and off the campus, as we continue to grow to meet the needs of our community. Our Home Care and community-based services are busier than ever and continue to respond to seniors and their families throughout Fairfield County and beyond. Mozaic Home Care and Mozaic Hospice are just two examples of the programs that come to peoples' homes to provide excellent quality care when it is needed most, and the recruitment to add staff in these programs is ongoing. Our Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program is again recruiting candidates for another class (of ten) so that we can train and hire individuals as caregivers in the nursing home and the community. The Mozaic Jewish Home and Mozaic Assisted Living Residences remain full with a waiting list, and we always encourage families to find out more about these programs before they are needed for a loved one. In that context, we continue to expand and promote the new name, Mozaic Senior Life, throughout our programs and services to ensure that everyone knows that we are all connected.

In this issue you will read more about our new Chief Medical Officer, Dr.

Allison Ostroff, who has had a great beginning in our organization as she gets to know Residents, families, and staff. There are many pictures and stories about our beloved Residents in the Slice of Life, and our staff as well. The celebrations of our diversity, accomplishments, and commitment to our Mission shine through their faces. Finally, you will read more about our development in Stamford, Mozaic Concierge Living, which has reached another critical milestone with the First Look Seminars for the Priority Reservation Depositors, the first 10% Reservation Deposits for Charter Members who have selected their future Residences, the completion of the Sales Center on Long Ridge Road and the launch of the new website, [mozaicconciergeliving.org](http://mozaicconciergeliving.org). This is an exciting time as we prepare for the future of our community.



Andrew H. Banoff

As always, thank you for your support, your generosity, advocacy, and commitment to care for the seniors in our community.

Jon & Andrew

## New Chief Medical Officer

(continued from front cover)

Dr. Ostroff is a geriatrician who has been practicing outpatient primary care geriatrics, geriatric assessments, and nursing home medicine since completing her Geriatrics Fellowship at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine Geriatrics in 2010. Prior to fellowship, she completed Internal Medicine residency at Yale New Haven Hospital. Her Doctor of Medicine degree is from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. Dr. Ostroff graduated summa cum laude from University of Vermont with a BA in Biology and a minor in Jewish Studies.

Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, said of Dr. Ostroff, "We are all very excited to welcome Dr. Ostroff as our new Chief Medical Officer. Her background and experience in geriatrics and area hospital systems makes her uniquely qualified to lead our medical staff into the future."

Dr. Ostroff lives in Stamford with her wonderful husband, Jonathan, their 9-year-old twin girls, Rebecca and Eliza, and the family dog, Ike. Originally from the small town of Canton, MA, south of Boston, she credits her love of caring for the aged population to her close relationship with her grandmother, Frances, who passed at age 92. Dr. Ostroff loves hearing patients' stories, and craves knowing their likes and dislikes, their fears and hopes, their wishes and regrets.

Her deep-rooted devotion and strive for seniors' optimal health align perfectly with our Mission and philosophy. We welcome her to the Mozaic Senior Life team!

## AJAS Conference 2024

Each year, AJAS (Association of Jewish Aging Services) holds a conference, drawing leaders from senior care organizations throughout the country. Mozaic Senior Life was delighted to have a contingent of staff attend, giving them the opportunity to hear of new programming, success stories, keynote speakers, and experience workshops, insightful breakout sessions, and connect with other organizations throughout the country. This year was special as our very own Dr. Kenneth Fine received the Professional of the Year award. A deserving award and even more meaningful to see him acknowledged among a large peer group for his extraordinary commitment to the quality of life of seniors.

We are proud to be members of AJAS not only because of the community it creates within North American senior care organizations, but we fully support the help it has provided Israel during this critical time of unrest and uncertainty.



AJAS attendees from Mozaic Senior Life (left to right): Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, Kara Rodriguez, Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer, Elizabeth Zicari, Vice President, Community Services and Business Development, Dr. Ken Fine, Chief Medical Officer, Marilyn Fine, Dayna Hayden, Director, Development, and Katie Pearse, Director, Post Acute Services.

**Together,  
beautiful things happen.**

As we celebrate 50 years of senior care, we embrace the many memories and lessons learned over the past five decades — each a stone in our ever-changing mosaic. A mosaic that honors the generation that came before us — serving our seniors with dignity, respect, and compassion.

**ADD TO THE BEAUTY**  
Because of community support, Residents and clients of all faiths will always get excellent, loving, and compassionate care. Please consider making a gift to the Annual Campaign. Be one of the precious stones in our mosaic and make beautiful things happen.

[mozaicsl.org/donate/annual-campaign](http://mozaicsl.org/donate/annual-campaign)

## In Memory of Augie, Everyone's Best Friend



He was a familiar face within the halls of Mozaic Senior Life. Beloved by all who knew him for many years, for a short time, or simply as a passerby. Augie was Mozaic Senior Life's compassionate pet therapy dog who comforted so many over the span of his 12 years. M.K. Clinton said it best, "The world would be a nicer place if everyone had the ability to love as unconditionally as a dog." Augie left us in late December and will be missed by Residents, clients, family members, volunteers, and staff. Rest in peace dear friend.

# SLICE OF LIFE



1. Mozaic Adult Day clients Joyce Decarli, Gelsomina Silano, Aurlene Murrel and Frida Johnson and 2. Dorothy Ballerini had planting lessons 3. Joyce Decarli enjoyed pumpkin painting in Mozaic Adult Day 4. The Mozaic Senior Life team for the Alzheimer's Association's Walk to End Alzheimer's 5. Mary Sleeper and 6. Karla Hall (left) and Diana Goomrigian with Better Together students 7. Elaine Rosoff joined Rabbi Shulman to light Chanukah candles 8. Mozaic Jewish Home Residents and staff enjoyed a trip to Mohegan Sun 9. The new playground at Mozaic Child Development Center is enjoyed by Tyler Menezes Vilanova and 10. the Preschool class 11. New Year's party-goers Martin and Irma Grossman and 12. Agnes Lazor 13. Wanda Henderson and 14. Carol Shapiro displayed some of their sculptures at the Resident Art Show 15. Howard Weiss and Gene Dutchess took pride in some recognition on Veteran's Day 16. Mozaic Senior Life volunteers Robert Heilbrunn, Evie Wiesner, and Bonnie Lobel as well as 17. Bonnie Mooney and Marilyn Levi enjoyed a well-deserved Volunteer Thank You Luncheon 18. Time in the sukkah for Bobby Africk, Mollie Gleit, and Deena Berger 19. Larry Condon, Senior Vice President & Administrator, Kara Rodriguez, Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer, Roger Sliby, Vice President, Finance & CFO, Elizabeth Zicari, Vice President, Community Services and Business Development, Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, and Jo-Anne Herlick, Director, Dining Services took time to serve (and entertain) staff during a pre-Thanksgiving lunch 20. Sarah Lehberger and her son Austin delivered flower donations from Soar Together CT, and 21. Patricia Lewis enjoyed the donated flowers in her room.



# FOUNDATION



## 2023 Women's Auxiliary Fall Gala

The 2023 Fall Gala was a huge success! 200 members of the community came together to celebrate Mozaic Senior Life's 50th anniversary and pay tribute to the achievements of Jim Bennett and Joan A. Kuriansky on Thursday, October 26, at Rolling Hills Country Club in Wilton.

Co-chaired by Cindy Epstein and Vivian Epstein, the evening was truly a night to remember. Don Shulman, President and CEO, Association of Jewish Aging Services, presented Andrew Banoff with a beautiful mosaic J in recognition of our 50 years of 'Loving Our Parents'. Jon Sonneborn paid tribute to Jim Bennett for being a leader, friend, and dedicated member of the community, and presented him with the Arthur and Gladys Lunin Humanitarian Award. Jon August, Chairperson of

*Photo credit: Regina Madwed, Capitol PhotoInteractive*

Mozaic Senior Life presented the Louis Lotstein Award for Distinguished Service, to Joan Kuriansky, as she continues to fulfill the legacy of the first generation of Kurianskys through her dedicated efforts for Mozaic Senior Life. Guests bid on great items at the live and silent auction, read the beautiful commemorative journal, and appreciated the gorgeous décor by Ruth Ridgeway Designs. \$205,000 was raised to support many important programs for the Residents of Mozaic Senior Life with \$29,000 earmarked for our sister agency Yad LaKashish to provide support to Jerusalem's elderly by maintaining essential services and a warm community environment, which are essential during this period of unrest in the state of Israel.

## Thank you to the 2023 Fall Gala Auction Donors

Deborah Accurso • Altan Jewelers • Andrew Banoff • Bigelow Tea Company • Bin 100 • Senator Richard Blumenthal • Jim Cabrera • CiMa Sales Strategies, LLC  
Tara Cook-Littman • Crazy Horse Axe Throwing and Lounge • Downtown Cabaret Theatre • Cindy Epstein • Vivian Epstein • Jennifer and Simon Etzel • Farmer's Table  
Framer's Edge • Furnished Quarters, Steven Brown and Gary Brown • Garelick & Herbs • Gather Tap and Tavern • Lydia Gerard • Dr. Geoffrey Gladstein • Cheryl Green  
Hansen's Flowers and Gifts • Hartley + Parker Ltd • Debby Hiller • Il Palio • Innox Men's Jewelry • Jean Jacobs Gallery • JL Rocks • Kasson Jewelers • Barbara Kauders  
Kenneth Cole • Shelley Kreiger • Lancome Cosmetics at Macy's Milford Post Mall • Janice Millman • Morrison Living • Pickleball America • Marlene Polansky  
Ridgefield Spa by Darcey • Rockrimmon Country Club • Rolling Hills Country Club • Vanessa and Jerry Rosenberg • Rough + Tumble • Sherry Sopin • Specs • Elaine Stibel  
Stress Factory Comedy • Tina Dragone • Townhouse Restaurant • Valentine's Diamond Center • Westport Country Playhouse • Wonnaful • Yogatviti • Sandy Young

## Women's Auxiliary Annual Membership Meeting

The Women's Auxiliary Annual Membership Meeting, co-chaired by past Presidents Linda Lazinger and Barbara Kauders, was held on November 14. The Women's Auxiliary enjoyed an afternoon of hands-on cooking, a lesson of gratitude, and the preparation of apple date cookies for the Residents led by Chef Danny Corsun of Culinary Judaics Academy. A special note of thanks to the Women's Auxiliary who generously purchased this interactive cooking year-long series for the Mozaic Senior Life Residents. Chef Danny ran a workshop for the Residents earlier in the day, officially kicking off the program.

## Game Day 2024

All hands in for a wonderful Game Day! The room was a "buzz" with a game played by our Women's Auxiliary members. Friends gathered to play Mah-Jong, Canasta, Bridge, Rummikub, and Boggle. The tables were decked out with playing-themed treats and raffles galore! Co-Chairs Barbara Kauders and Debby Hiller were the hosts for the afternoon serving up so much fun!



# FOUNDATION



## Thank You!

Thank you to all those who supported the Fall Gala – Mozaic Senior Life is extremely grateful for your continued support.

### BUILDERS

Jim Bennett and  
Ellyn Myers  
Roslyn Goldstein

### BENEFACTORS

The Louis J. Kuriansky  
Foundations  
Jon and Cleo Sonneborn

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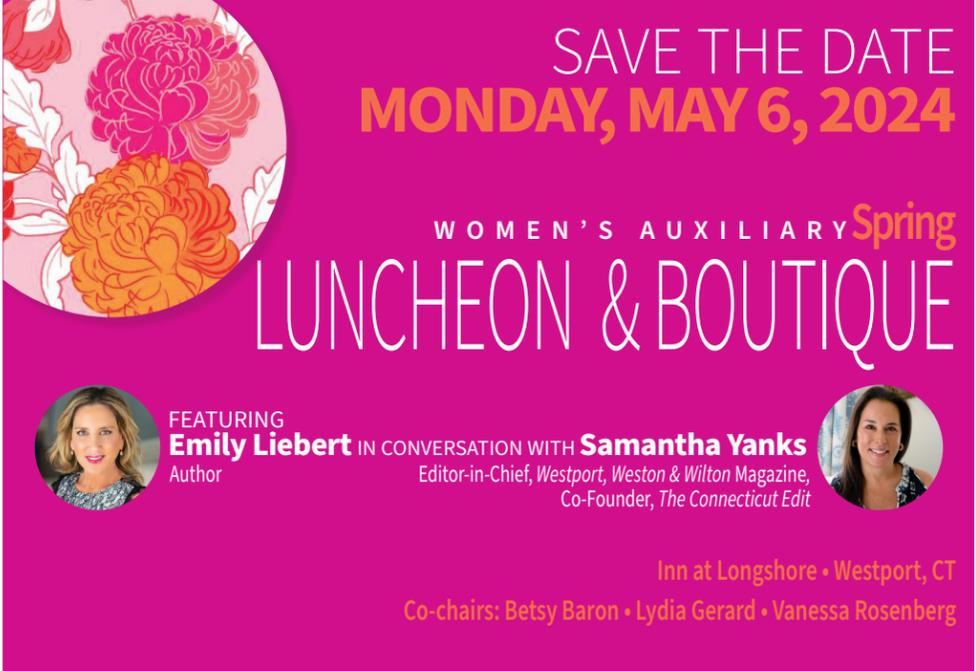
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Lynn Blueweiss, Rob and  
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Raintech Sound & Communications, Inc.  
Renee Roseman  
Samuel Stern

## Men's Club Membership Meeting

A small group gathered for an evening of basketball! Hosted by the Men's Club on November 13, members met at the Fairfield University Mahoney Pavilion for the first home game of the season for the Stags. The Men's Club members in attendance enjoyed a great atmosphere for a little schmoozing, healthy competition, and nosh.



SAVE THE DATE  
**MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024**

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY **Spring**  
**LUNCHEON & BOUTIQUE**

FEATURING  
**Emily Liebert** IN CONVERSATION WITH **Samantha Yanks**  
Author Editor-in-Chief, *Westport, Weston & Wilton Magazine*,  
Co-Founder, *The Connecticut Edit*

Inn at Longshore • Westport, CT  
Co-chairs: Betsy Baron • Lydia Gerard • Vanessa Rosenberg



SAVE THE DATE  
**MONDAY**  
**JUNE 24, 2024**

The Men's Club of Mozaic Senior Life  
**GEORGE LIPTON**  
**GOLF**  
**INVITATIONAL**

ROCKRIMMON COUNTRY CLUB • STAMFORD, CT  
LUNCH • AFTERNOON GOLF • PICKLEBALL • COCKTAILS • AUCTION • DINNER

## For Further Information

...on how to become involved with the **Women's Auxiliary** or the **Men's Club**, please contact Dayna Hayden, Development Director, at 203-365-6409 or dhayden@mozaicsl.org.

Women's Auxiliary Annual Membership dues are \$36, Life Membership is \$250, Sterling Life Membership is \$500 and Gold Life Membership is \$1,000 (all Life Memberships are payable over three years).

Men's Club Annual Membership dues are \$75, Life Membership is \$1,000 and Lipton Fellow Membership is \$2,500 (both payable over three years).

## A special thank you to our Federations

Mozaic Senior Life is a recipient agency of the following community organizations.

We thank these organizations and the communities for their support.

Jewish Federation of Greater Fairfield County  
UJA-JCC Greenwich  
United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan, Darien



# COMMUNITY SERVICES

## Mozaic Home Care Expands Service Area to Southern Fairfield County

*I was a bit hesitant to accept a caregiver into my home as this, to me, seemed like I was giving up my independence. However, after a call to Mozaic Companions & Homemakers, all of my concerns were put at ease. From the first call to set up a meeting, to the time my services started, it was all such a smooth process. I am so delighted with the caregiver that Mozaic Companions & Homemakers assigned to me and was quite impressed with how she knew what to do without being asked and how well she did it! I could go on and on but really just want to say thank you so much!! -- A.V.*

Mozaic Home Care and Mozaic Companions & Homemakers have expanded their geographic service area to the greater Stamford and

Greenwich region. You can be assured of the same trusted service provided for over 50 years through Mozaic Senior Life. Mozaic Home Care, and Mozaic Homemakers & Companions promote recovery, independence, and overall health to individuals. We can assist with medical and non-medical care after a hospital stay, while recovering from an illness, or helping with activities of daily living. Our medical services include skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, home health aide services, and medical social work. Our non-medical agency provides compassionate one-on-one companionship and homemaking services. For more information, please contact us at **203-396-1136** or [homecare@mozaicsl.org](mailto:homecare@mozaicsl.org).

## Planning for Your Long-Term Care While Protecting Your Assets

Mozaic at Home is the membership-based "Peace of Mind" program that provides, coordinates, and pays for long-term care for the rest of your life. Among the many benefits the program provides to members is the care that is covered (similar to long-term care insurance). Every member benefits from having a dedicated care coordinator. Here is how one member described that experience.

*"I would just like to take a minute to sing the praises of (Care Coordinator) Lyn. I have been a member of Mozaic at Home for about seven years and all my contacts there have been very helpful and concerned about my needs. However, after a recent surgery in November and December, I must say that Lyn has gone "above and beyond" in her position! She called/texted me the day before surgery, the day of, the day after, and even one week later. If she felt it necessary, she called twice in one day.*

*Because I live alone, she was so vigilant in checking on me to be certain everything was all right. She gave me her cell number in case I needed help and was the most upbeat and dedicated nurse I have ever encountered. What a gem! Lyn is the epitome of a medical professional!" P.W.*

If you are interested in learning more about Mozaic at Home to help you with your long-term care planning and asset protection, please contact us at **203-365-6491** or [MozaicAtHome@mozaicsl.org](mailto:MozaicAtHome@mozaicsl.org), or visit [MozaicAtHome.org](http://MozaicAtHome.org).

**"Thanks to Mozaic Home Care physical therapists, I am able to make wooden toys as gifts for family and friend's children."**



*My woodworking hobby was put on hold when I wasn't able to walk down the stairs to my woodworking shop. After a stay in the hospital, my physical therapist came into my house and got me back to doing what I love and brought my passion back into my life. The physical therapist is extremely knowledgeable, kind, and one of the finest human beings I have ever met. She knows when I am having a bad day and helps me through it, but she also knows when I am able to work hard and I do.*

*I have used Mozaic Home Care in the past and have always had a great experience with them. Thank you. You have no idea how grateful I am to them." - P.W.*

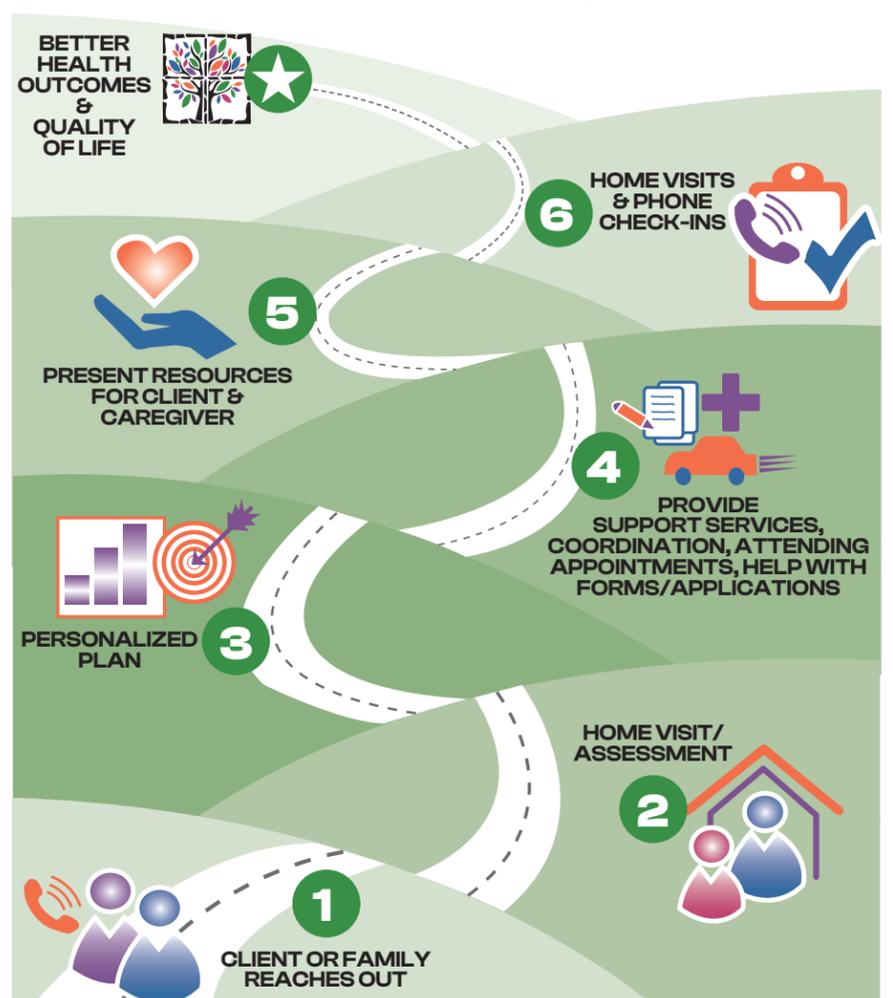
## Employee Spotlight - Payden Houser

Payden Houser joins Mozaic Senior Life as a physical therapist with our Home Care team. As a doctor of physical therapy, Payden comes to Mozaic Home Care with years of experience in a variety of settings including outpatient rehab, home health, and skilled nursing. Payden's over four years (and ninth state) of experience as a traveling therapist has taught him that adaptability and the skill of connecting to patients on a deeper level are invaluable in meeting their care needs which fits right in with the Mozaic Senior Life's philosophy of care. Payden graduated as an undergraduate from Tusculum University and as a doctor of physical therapy from the University of Lynchburg. In his free time, Payden likes to spend time with his wife and daughter hiking and rock climbing. For more information on Mozaic Home Care, contact us at **203-396-1136** or [homecare@mozaicsl.org](mailto:homecare@mozaicsl.org).



## MOZAIC ElderCare Navigation

Care navigation can help families overcome barriers by helping them navigate through complex systems in order to access quality health care, financial assistance, translation services, transportation, and so on.



Let our ElderCare Navigators assist you with you or your loved one's needs. Contact us at **203-396-1066**.



## New Mozaic Leadership



**Nicole D'alessio** joined Mozaic Senior Life in December 2023 and is a MDS Coordinator with over 19 years of experience in short-term rehab. She became an LPN in 2004 and since then has been working as a nurse full-time. Nicole enjoys being a nurse, loves being a part of a team, and is excited to be part of Mozaic Senior Life. When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband, three children, and two dogs, often spending the weekends camping.



**Lharaun Jennings** joined Mozaic Senior Life in October 2023 and was recently promoted to Reception Supervisor, leading the Main Lobby and Community Services reception teams. She was born in Connecticut but raised in Florida. Although she is early in her career, Lharaun's mature approach to life makes her a great fit for this new challenge. She states, "life in Florida was amazing" and she still visits her family that live there and enjoys going to the beach.



**Trigona Mililli** returned to Mozaic Senior Life in December 2023 as the Director of Physical Plant. She oversees Maintenance, Housekeeping, Laundry, and Security. She is a graduate of Sacred Heart University where she received her bachelor's in business administration. The past 25 years of experience focused on providing Residents, their families, visitors, and staff with a safe, clean, and service-centered environment. Trigona's environmental services career journey began working at The Jewish Home on Jefferson Street. She continued her career at Masonicare Healthcare in Wallingford, CT and most recently at Southeastern Services Corporation servicing the Sacred Heart University campus. In her spare time, Trigona enjoys gardening, biking, cooking, and spending time with her family and grandchildren, Gio and Matteo, exploring nature along the Connecticut trails and shoreline.



**Donna Quinlan** joined Mozaic Senior Life in July 2021 as a per diem Registered Nurse in Assisted Living, then transitioned to full-time with Mozaic Adult Family Living in February 2022. Donna recently moved into the role of Housewide Education Director. She has been an RN for 16 years subsequent to making a career change after 12 years in Human Resources in the corporate world. Once she discovered the intrinsically fulfilling and wholly satisfying role of being a hands-on caregiver, she has never regretted the move to nursing. Donna passionately believes in the innate value of all people and has a deep drive to care for and protect the most vulnerable souls each day. Donna is continuing her education, working towards a Masters in Nursing Administration. In her free time, Donna enjoys spending time with her husband, their two sons, and multiple dogs. She also enjoys anything outdoors, including gardening, hiking, running, and biking.

## In-Services '23

The annual In-Services Education Fair was held in December. All staff were invited to attend and complete their mandatory training, take a spin of the prize wheel and receive their holiday gift card from Andrew H. Banoff, President & CEO, who this year was dressed as an Israeli soldier. This is always a fun event, giving staff the opportunity to learn more about all services at Mozaic Senior Life, safety and protocol procedures, as well as extend holiday greetings to co-workers.



## Holiday Celebration for All Staff

The 2023 Mozaic Senior Life Employee Holiday Party was held on December 8, 2023. The evening was a fun celebration of friends and colleagues laughing, dancing, and sharing a delicious meal together. A special thank you to all the staff who made the night a huge success.



The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Team has been actively working to create a more diverse, inclusive work environment. Each month an awareness campaign is launched and shared via posters, social media postings, and interactive projects for all staff. Throughout the month of January, the DEI Team asked Mozaic Senior Life staff to donate winter weather accessories and non-perishable foods. Those donations were then given to area shelters in need. Pictured below (left to right): David Magner, Supervisor, Therapeutic Programming Mozaic Adult Day Program, Katie Pearse, Director, Post Acute Services, Nikki Bohannon, Recruiter, Princess Bryan-Colley, Home Health Aide Supervisor, Mozaic Companions & Homemakers, Ray Hays, Administrative Fellow, Soncerria Holland, Director, Employee Relations, Miles Randall, Supervisor, Environmental Services, Kara Rodriguez, Vice President & Chief Human Resources Officer, and Sherry Mercer, Director, Nursing.



We are grateful to the more than 120 Residents, family members, clients, and friends who donated over \$26,000 in honor of Mozaic Senior Life staff to the Employee Holiday fund. We celebrated with meals of thanks, the party, and giving out 914 gift cards at In-Services.

**Jon August**

Chairperson of the Board

**Andrew H. Banoff**

President & CEO / Editor

Contact us at

**203-365-6400**

**mozaicsl.org**

For address changes,  
to add a friend or be  
removed from the  
mailing list email us at  
chailights@mozaicsl.org  
or call 203-365-6494

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Home Care • Hospice • Institute on Aging • Center for Elder Abuse Prevention • ElderCare Navigation • Adult Family Living  
Long-Term Care Planning/Asset Protection • Child Development Center • Catering • J Fitness Center • Independent Living

## Family Portrait - Elaine Louise Miller Rosoff by Renée Noren



I am the daughter of Elaine (Louise Miller) Rosoff, who is a Resident at Mozaic Jewish Home. My history with Mozaic Jewish Home goes back three generations to the former Jewish Home for the Elderly and then Jewish Senior Services. Both my grandmothers were Residents at The Jewish Home. As a mother by then, I would visit often with at least one of my sons but frequently with all three. We would visit while the boys would play, sit on their laps as they read them books, or have a snack together.

Elaine became familiar with the Adult Day Program at Mozaic Senior Life when my father attended. She also attended readily when she had stopped driving and needed more social activities. In May 2019, she moved into Mozaic Assisted Living after experiencing some health issues. It did not take her very long to look forward to and participate in all activities and outings offered. When asked if she wanted to “go”, her immediate response was “yes”. She would tell me during each visit that she felt safe and at home with her new family. Elaine is described as a positive person engaging in conversation and including all around her. Simply said, she made everyone her friend.

Elaine was born at Bridgeport Hospital on October 2, 1927, to Lillian Binder Miller (Frost) and Jacob Miller. She lived her first four years in New York City and Bridgeport on the weekends. After her father left the family during her first year, her mother Lillian needed to work. When the Depression hit, Elaine would spend the weekdays in an orphanage in NYC. This would ensure she was warm, fed, and cared for on workdays. On Fridays, Lillian would pick up Elaine and both took the train to Bridgeport and stayed with grandparents, aunts, and uncles. At the age of four, Elaine told her mother and grandparents that she did not want to go back to the orphanage. Elaine’s grandparents offered to have her stay and live with them. When Elaine was five years old, she met her friend Justine who was four. (They remain friends for 91 years and

counting!) Elaine met Stanley at the Jewish Community Center in downtown Bridgeport when he registered for his free membership as a returning Veteran. They lived most of their married life in Connecticut - Storrs, Milford, Bridgeport, Westport, and Fairfield. Elaine and Stanley raised their three children (Mark, Renee, and Gary) to be active, involved, honest, friendly, open, academic, and kind.

Elaine was a homemaker and a volunteer for many years. She was involved in the Congregation B’nai Israel sisterhood. She taught countless people, both children and adults, how to swim. Both Stanley and Elaine loved entertaining, whether themed parties or last-minute weekend get togethers at our home. They also loved traveling and took every opportunity to explore America as well as other parts of the world.

Elaine started working as a bookkeeper when her children were teenagers and even went to Norwalk Community College to sharpen her skills. Later, when Stanley and Elaine started their own security business, she managed the office - first in Westport then in Fairfield. Even though she was still working, Elaine started to volunteer at the Maritime Center in Norwalk amassing over 1,000 hours. Elaine moved to Mozaic Assisted Living years later after her Stanley had passed away.

Then COVID-19 became a way of life. It was during that time that the value of Mozaic Senior Life took center stage fully in bright lights. Not only was the actual campus built to minimize exposure, but staff was trained and ready. Communication about all issues was extraordinary and brought families of Residents some comfort. Through it all, Elaine was safe and cared for with love and expertise. FaceTime became our communication until distant visits were allowed. I did hear so often from the staff how many of them would go to her room to feel some cheer; Elaine would greet them with a smile, a compliment, a question about how they were doing. She reciprocated their attention with her own.

Elaine now lives in Siebert House in long-term care. She had a period of adjustment but continues to remind me that she is safe and happy. Even when she asks me to take her home and I remind her that she is home, she smiles and says, “that’s right.” Recently her dementia has worsened, and her health has declined. Elaine continues to share smiles, laughs, and witty one-liners. She has family and friends that visit often but Elaine also lives with her Mozaic family - the other Residents and most notably, the staff.

As I am now serving on the Board of Directors and the Professional Services Committee, I hope to express our family’s gratitude to all who helped build and maintain this facility, volunteers who give their time, and the incredible, caring, and professional staff at this “home” called Mozaic Jewish Home.

### Family Mail

To all Mozaic Home Care nurses: Thank you for all the kindness, support, and compassion you gave my father and us. You always got his humor and laughed with him. He always felt comfortable with you and that put me at ease. We are forever grateful for how you helped him and continue to help others.

- S.V., Mozaic Home Care Family Member

We would like to extend a warm thank you to the wonderful team at Mozaic Adult Day Program. The love the team shared for our mom and our family will forever be remembered. They treated her with dignity and respect and encouraged her feistiness that all knew and loved her for. The family is forever grateful.

- Family of P.M., Mozaic Adult Day Program

### Save the Dates

#### MARCH

- THURSDAY, MARCH 21  
Career Fair
- FRIDAY, MARCH 22  
Women’s Auxiliary  
Special Purim Shabbat Celebration

#### APRIL

- SUNDAY, APRIL 7  
SHARE  
Senior Health and Resources Expo

#### MAY

- MONDAY, MAY 6  
Women’s Auxiliary  
Spring Luncheon & Boutique  
Inn at Longshore, Westport

#### JUNE

- MONDAY, JUNE 24  
Men’s Club  
George Lipton Golf Invitational  
Rockrimmon Country Club  
Stamford, CT