



### Greetings from Gerry Foley President/CEO, Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services



Thanks again to the Mary Immaculate Guild for the generous \$10,000 gift to support MI's memory care

expansion. This project will significantly increase MI's ability to respond to the growing need for memory care services in the Greater Lawrence community. MI's memory care expansion bolsters our ability to enhance both the resident and family experience. Mary Immaculate Guild members' continued financial and emotional support helps MI to remain a healthcare leader in the area and provide essential memory care services to those most in need.

Mary Immaculate is the largest post-acute care provider in the Greater Merrimack Valley offering a continuum of services for the senior population, including independent living, assisted living, long-term care, memory care and short-term rehabilitation care. Most importantly, I'm enormously proud of MI's dedicated staff who continues to carry on the Catholic, mission-driven care the Grey Nuns began in 1868.



### 2022 Holiday Dinner Brings Holiday Cheer & New Members

The Mary Immaculate Guild kicked-off the Christmas season in grand style on Thursday evening, December 8, 2022 at their annual Holiday Dinner. With DiBurro's Function Facility in Bradford closing its doors, this year brought a change of venue for the event. We were very pleased with our move to DoubleTree by Hilton in Andover.

Everyone appreciated an opportunity to mingle, catch up with old friends and enjoy a delicious meal. The evening's program included a heartfelt welcome and inspiring words from Guild President, Joseph Bourque. The MI guild traditionally launches their annual membership drive at each holiday dinner as membership runs on a calendar year. Joe stressed that being a member of the MI Guild "doesn't involve any heavy lifting." He reiterated the income from memberships go directly toward the annual gift the Guild presents to the organization. We now offer many levels of guild memberships including the Circle of Care, Circle of Love, Circle of Loyalty and Corporate/Business memberships as well as a Tribute membership. We are pleased to report that from that night alone, we secured 45 new memberships and renewed many existing members. New members are welcome to join anytime throughout the year.

The room was decorated for Christmas with red and green linens and poinsettia plants dressed every table. Everyone had a chance to win one of two Christmas trees, one fully decorated tree donated by Andrea McCann and the other, a fresh Christmas tree accompanied by a full bag of tree decorations donated by Lisa Breen. Other raffle items included items such as Lindt candy baskets, wine baskets, specialty baskets and fruit trays. **Please mark your calendar now for this year's event on Thursday, December 7, 2023.**



**INSIDE: Guild Presents Largest Gift Ever!**



## Community Gifts Spread Good Will

Community is what the Guild is all about. This past year, two gifts to MI, from Guild members, highlighted how small acts of kindness can have tremendous impact.

### Del Downing & Knights of Columbus

Del Downing is a 45+ year member of Knights of Columbus, or K of C, in Salem, New Hampshire. It's a family tradition. His brother and father were also long-time members. After the passing of his brother and father, Del along with the Knights of Columbus made a donation in their memory to Mary Immaculate – and have done so every year since. It is important to the K of C to support a fellow Catholic Institution – especially since MI is the only Catholic institution



The Downing family



Resident enjoys watching fish on an interactive screen.

serving seniors in the Merrimack Valley. This year, their gift was a part of the Guild's annual gift to expand the memory care unit.

### Marty Bourque's Chocolate

Marty Bourque's parents were both Mary Immaculate residents and were proud to call it home. Marty, a Lindt & Sprungli USA Inc. employee, receives a stipend of chocolate through his job. Each year, he generously donates this chocolate to the residents. Most recently, chocolate brought joy to residents during the holiday season in the form of chocolate Santas, elves and snowmen. Lindt is proud to encourage employees to give back to their community, and Marty says MI holds an incredibly special place in his heart.



## Guild Presents Largest Gift Ever!



Oh, what a night! The weather was beautiful, and the residents' dining room at Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services was filled with the many happy faces of Mary Immaculate Guild members and their guests. On Thursday, May 18, the Annual Meeting and election of officers for the 2023-2024 Mary Immaculate Guild Board of Directors was held. Those who attended enjoyed a cocktail reception and a lovely opportunity to visit with old friends and make new friends.

President/CEO, Gerry Foley, gave a brief update about the MI organization and shared that MI hosts the only assisted living program and memory care unit in the city of Lawrence. He also shared that the organization is preparing to launch a construction project that will double the capacity of the current memory care unit, which has proven to be a popular, robust and much-needed program for the community.

Guild President, Joseph Bourque, took to the floor and introduced each member of the Guild. He expressed his gratitude to all in attendance and reiterated the importance of the Guild to the Mary Immaculate community. On behalf of the Guild, Joe presented Gerry Foley with a check in the amount of \$10,000 to be used for the expansion of the memory care unit. He was especially pleased to report that this gift was the largest donation the Guild has ever made to date — and he sincerely thanked everyone for their support of the Love & Loyalty Membership Program.



The neighborhood feel of the memory care unit includes themed spaces and ceiling tiles that look like the sky.

## Mary Immaculate Awarded \$225,000 Grant from Cummings Foundation

"This Cummings Foundation grant will support staffing and programming within a planned for and much needed expansion of the memory care unit," says Gerry Foley, President/CEO. "It will bolster our ability to effectively care for this population and enhance both the resident and family member experience."

The funds will help hire an additional Activities Director, who will be responsible for introducing innovative patient-centered programming for later-stage memory care patients. When completed, this expansion will double memory care patient capacity at Mary Immaculate. "As the local population ages and the need for memory care support services increases, this grant will help ensure we are well-prepared to serve those most in need," remarks Del Downing, Executive Director.

"The way the local non-profit sector perseveres, steps up and pivots to meet the shifting community needs is most impressive," said Cummings Foundation Executive Director, Joyce Vyriotes. "We are incredibly grateful for these tireless efforts to support communities and increase equitable access to opportunities."



(L to R) Susan Oldrid, Director, Resource and Strategy Development, Joyce Vyriotes, Executive Director, Cummings Foundation, Rebecca Alfonso, Program Manager, Memory Care Unit



## Supporting Members 2023

### CORPORATE

Mark Alaimo, LCW CPAs  
 Larry Ardito, Ardito Toscano & McCollum  
 Gino Baroni, Trident Project Advantage Group  
 Kris Fleming & William Amann, Amann Burnett PLLC  
 Daniel A. Hayes, Jr. Esq., Morris, Rossi & Hayes  
 Steve Janavicus, Flowers by Steve  
 Anthony Ngethe, Nurse Care Transportation

### TRIBUTE

Daniel Bourque, in memory of Joseph and Theresa Bourque  
 Marty Bourque, in memory of Joseph and Theresa Bourque

### CIRCLE OF LOYALTY

Joseph L. Bourque Jr.  
 Karen & Cornelius Casey  
 Leah Doherty  
 Gerry & Eileen Foley  
 John & Ann-Marie Giarrusso  
 Karen Sullivan  
 Dr. Deborah Turiano

### CIRCLE OF LOVE

Timothy Barry  
 Harborside Hospice  
 Chris Bourque  
 Michael Bourque  
 Bill & Patricia Boutilier  
 Tom Carroll, Carroll Realty, LLC  
 Ann Corey  
 John D'Ambrosio  
 Roger Desjardins  
 Delbert Downing  
 Denise L. Farris  
 John Felci  
 Richard Gibbons  
 Elvis Mejia  
 John Prochilo, Northeast Rehab

Diane Shikrallah  
 Brian & Tricia Stanton  
**CIRCLE OF CARE**  
 Sheila Allan  
 Barbara Beauchesne  
 Kat and Jim Bielski  
 Ann Marie Bourque  
 Lisa M. Breen, John Breen Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.  
 Eugene B. Casey  
 Brian T. Corrigan  
 Rev. John W. Delaney, Sacred Hearts Parish  
 Richard Dewhirst  
 Brian F. Downing  
 Teresa S. Downing  
 William Fili  
 Charles Gangi  
 David Gangi  
 Jenn Gangi  
 JoAnn Gangi  
 Joseph Gangi  
 Loretta Gangi  
 Mary Gangi  
 Paul Gangi  
 Edward Herger  
 Joanne Karcz  
 Joseph Levesque  
 Mary Lyman  
 Charles Manzi  
 Donald Marinelli  
 James Martin  
 Andrea McCann  
 Linda Molchan  
 Sitha Bou Moore  
 Saima Nabi  
 Peter Nimerowski  
 Frank O'Connor Jr.  
 Kathleen O'Keefe  
 Thomas O'Neil  
 Robert J. O'Sullivan  
 Dana Paradis  
 John Raymond  
 Patricia Shaw  
 Rosemary C. Smedile  
 William J. Sullivan  
 Brad & Wendy Wakeman  
 Michael Wilson

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. If you'd like to change your name listing in future Guild publications please contact Janice Aleksa at 978-685-6321.



## A Note from Joe Bourque, President of MI Guild



When I became president of the MI Guild, I had the privilege of continuing to promote the “LOVE & LOYALTY” theme created by my predecessor, Diane Shikrallah, that has become the cornerstone of our membership campaign.

One of my main goals was to increase **awareness and visibility** of the MI Guild in the community. I believe we accomplished that. This past year we:

- Enhanced our social media presence by creating a MI Guild Facebook group.
- Added more information about the MI Guild on the **mihcs.org/guild** website.
- Created five new membership levels: Circle of Care, Circle of Love, Circle of Loyalty, Corporate and Tribute.
- Held our Annual Holiday Dinner event, which 150 people attended, at a new location – the DoubleTree by Hilton in Andover. This year’s event will be held there again on **December 7, 2023** – so, please mark your calendars!
- Shared our first MI Guild newsletter. This proved to be a highly effective way to inform the community about the goings-on at MI.
- Presented Mary Immaculate Health/Care Services Inc. with our largest gift ever – \$10,000!

I’m proud to say the MI Guild has generated a lot of momentum. We’re **active, vibrant and growing!**

If you are not presently a member, please consider joining. 100% of membership dues are returned to MIHCS via MI Guild’s Annual Gift.

It takes a **team!** None of this would be possible without a strong Board of Directors – a talented, committed and generous group of individuals – each contributing different talents and strengths – all the while juggling the responsibilities of their careers, businesses and families. To them, I say a heartfelt “thank you very much.”



172 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, MA 01841

*Address Service Requested*

### OUR MISSION

The Mary Immaculate Guild, Inc. has been established to assist the MI Nursing/ Restorative Center to carry out its mission and improve the lives of its residents through service and fundraising. This organization is open to both men and women interested in this type of community service.

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To give feedback, ask questions, or if you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Janice Aleksa at 978-685-6321.

[mihcs.org/guild](https://mihcs.org/guild)

Follow Us! 



The proceeds from membership comprise the annual gift presented to Mary Immaculate each year at our Annual Meeting. We welcome you to join us.