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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



May 25 webinar: “ALPs and PALS – Lessons on Assisted Living from Bright Side Manor;” a model program for low-income older adults with complex healthcare needs

Parker Health Group, Inc. and NJAAW present third ‘Programs and Innovations Series’ event

TRENTON, NJ (May 18, 2021) -- Aging-in-place is a goal being promoted by federal and state agencies but may not be realistic for many older adults, especially those with low incomes. These residents can find themselves needing increased assistance with their activities of daily living as well as with medications, housekeeping and more.

Assisted Living Programs (ALPs) are an option provided to older adults as they age in NJ. Licensed by the New Jersey Department of Health, ALPs provide a full array of health care and supportive services that allow seniors to remain home and age-in-place, such as meal preparation, medication administration, personal care, laundry, housekeeping and recreational activities.

There is only one ALP in Bergen County and it’s proving to be a model for other counties in New Jersey: [Portable Assisted Living Services \(PALS\), offered by The Bright Side Family.](#)

Elizabeth Davis, EJ Vizzi and Julie McGaffin will discuss “ALPs and PALS – Lessons on Assisted Living from Bright Side Manor” at the third free “Programs and Innovations Series” webinar sponsored by Parker Health Group, Inc. Hosted by NJ Advocates for Aging Well (NJAAW), the webinar takes place on May 25 from 2 to 4 p.m. Advanced registration is required. Click [here](#) to register.

“With the PALS program, care provided is based on the individual needs of each participant in a manner that promotes their individuality, dignity, privacy, choice, and independence,” said Elizabeth Davis.

Elizabeth Davis is a licensed clinical social worker and certified assisted living administrator. She is the founder and Executive Director of Geriatric Services, Inc., a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide affordable housing and support services that respond to the changing needs and preferences of older adults, offer choice, promote dignity, and ensure safety and comfort. Under the umbrella of The Bright Side Family, its facilities and programs include Bright Side Manor, The Brookdale, PALS and Age-Friendly Teaneck.

ElesterJoyce “EJ” Vizzi, a licensed social worker, certified assisted living administrator and certified dementia practitioner, is the Assistant Administrator and Social Worker of The Bright Side Family’s PALS Program. She and her social services team connect older adults to the resources necessary to safely and conveniently age-in-place in their community. Vizzi earned her Master’s degree from Rutgers School of Social Work, with a focus on health and aging, management and policy, and non-profit management.

Julie McGaffin, a registered nurse, certified assisted living administrator and certified nurse in palliative care, is the Nurse Administrator of The Bright Side Family's PALS Program. She has more than 40 years of nursing experience in all phases of healthcare: acute, long-term care, public health, hospice, administrative and front-line direct care. McGaffin manages the "boots-on-the-ground" responsibilities of the PALS program.

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About Parker Health Group, Inc.

Parker Health Group, Inc. is a nonprofit, New Jersey-based aging services organization with over 114 years' experience that is committed to empowering older Americans. Since 1907, Parker has been challenging, changing and expanding the idea of what it means to grow older in America and how all of us can make aging part of life.

About NJAAW

NJ Advocates for Aging Well (NJAAW, formerly NJ Foundation for Aging), has been at the forefront of revolutionizing the aging experience since 1998. It is the only statewide nonprofit focused solely on providing leadership in public policy and education to enable older adults to live with independence and dignity in their communities. NJAAW's social action issues include senior housing and hunger, elder economic security, older workers and transportation. The award-winning Aging Insights, a monthly topical TV program produced by NJAAW, connects caregivers, seniors and their families to community-based services and resources. The show is available on NJAAW's YouTube channel at youtube.com/c/njadvocatesforagingwell, at njaaw.org and more than 70 public-access stations across NJ (check local listings for channels and times). NJAAW also presents educational forums and an Annual Conference ("[Rebounding and Rebuilding](#)," [taking place online June 3-4, 2021](#)) offering development opportunities and best practices for professionals entrusted with caring for seniors.

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