

HORIZONS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SADIE G. MAYS HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER



SADIE G. MAYS
HEALTH & REHABILITATION CENTER

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WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY!



Board members and staff receive a proclamation from Councilman Byron Amos (C): (l-r) M. Hakeem, S. Coleman, B. Laxton, M. Yeargin-Allsopp, B. Amos, S. Bacote, E. Curtis, R. Carter and D. Brand.

Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center is celebrating 75 years of serving the citizens of Atlanta! Originally known as Happy Haven, our non-profit nursing home admitted its first patient on March 24, 1947.

Founded by Sadie Gray Mays, social worker, professor, and wife of the esteemed educator, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, it was one of the first nursing homes to admit

patients regardless of race or circumstance. We were leading the charge in health care equity long before it became popular. Today, our 206-bed, award-winning, skilled nursing facility in northwest Atlanta, provides long-term nursing care, short-term rehabilitation, respite, and hospice care. It is a major employer in the community and serves an annual average of 320 people from across Metro Atlanta. The Atlanta City Council recognized the historic contributions of our facility with a proclamation on March 21, 2022. It was presented by Councilman Byron Amos (District 3), whose late father, Johnny Amos, had been a resident at Sadie G. Mays.

The Fulton County Board of Commissioners also recognized the 75th anniversary with a proclamation on March 16, 2022, presented by Vice-Chair, Natalie Hall of District 4, where our facility is located.

In celebration of its extraordinary milestone, the facility held a Virtual Open House on March 24, 2022. Sen. Raphael Warnock delivered a special message to participants. He noted, *"For 75 years, the Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center has been a cherished home in our community that keeps our loved ones healthy. As a rehab center, Sadie Mays empowers folks to get up on their feet, and as a hospice care facility it has served families and loved ones saying 'goodbye' with care and compassion."* Board Chair, Samuel W. Bacote, III, thanked the participants for taking the time, *"...to join us as we celebrate the life and legacy of our namesake Sadie G. Mays and, more importantly, 75 years of providing service to the community, mostly elderly African Americans, to help them enjoy those golden years when they need it most, when their health may be failing them."* When asked



Board Chair, Samuel W. Bacote, III accepts a proclamation from Fulton County Commission Vice Chair Natalie Hall (r) as Shirley Coleman, Beth Laxton, and others look on.



Sen. Raphael Warnock delivered a special message at the 75th Anniversary Virtual Open House. See www.sgmays.org.

how people can help, he said, *"Three things we need -- time, talent and treasure. If you can share those with us, we will certainly be indebted to you!"* Other participants featured on the Zoom were Dr. Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, great-niece of Dr. and Mrs. Benjamin E. Mays; Beth Laxton, Executive Director; and Kathleen Bertrand, vocalist. The Virtual Open House is still available for viewing on www.sgmays.org. Sadie G. Mays will continue its celebration with activities throughout 2022.



HAPPY SPRING!

GET VACCINATED
*Protect yourself
and others*

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE
A DONATION IN HONOR OF
OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY?**



**YOUR GIFT WILL BE
MATCHED BY A FRIEND,
DOUBLING THE IMPACT!
WE ARE RENOVATING AND
EVERY DONATION HELPS!**

Visit WWW.SGMAYS.ORG
THANK YOU!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR OUR
23RD ANNUAL
COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR
JUNE 16, 2022**

10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

Health Screenings, Information, Entertainment, Snacks & More!

**See WWW.SGMAYS.ORG
Visit our Job Fair table!**

A WORD FROM BETH'S DESK



Beth Laxton, SGM Executive Director

A new banner over our front door proudly proclaims, "We're celebrating 75 years of serving our community." It has taken so many people to pull off such a feat:

- All staff members who have faithfully taken care of residents. Each department is very important in the Sadie Mays story;
- Board members who have given of their time and resources to be sure that Sadie Mays is on firm footing, financially and operationally;
- Volunteers who have brought programming, gifts, and much more to our residents and staff; and
- Community supporters who have given of their time and resources.

Our 75-year milestone would not have been possible without all of these people. Exciting things are happening in our community. We will begin a major renovation of our resident bathing rooms and continue work on our outside projects over the next several months. Sadie G. Mays needs your continued support to make the next 75 years as great as the first 75 years! If you have questions about how you can help, please do not hesitate to contact me (blaxton@sgmays.org) or Shirley Coleman (scoleman@sgmays.org). We would be happy to tell you how you can participate in our community.

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Esq.

Sadie G. Mays recently welcomed three new members to its board of directors. Samuel W. Bacote, III, the Sadie G. Mays Board Chair, remarked, "We are pleased to welcome these stellar individuals to our board. They bring an unmatched skillset that will surely help our facility as we embark on our 75th Anniversary year and beyond."

The new board members are: **Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Esq.**, the eminent former County Attorney for Fulton County and first African American to serve as President of the Georgia Bar Association. She currently serves as Administrative Partner with Johnson & Freeman, LLC. With roots in Atlanta, she says "I am looking forward to working with the team to continue improving the quality of care for those who seek our services." **Rimani Kelsey-Rogers, MD**, an accomplished family medicine physician and U.S. Army veteran, who currently runs her own medical consulting practice, Kelsey Imhotep Wellness, Inc. Dr. Kelsey says, "My passion is caring for people from birth to transition, as well as ensuring the longevity of critical community health care organizations for generations to come."; **Edward M. Curtis, DPT**, a respected nursing home administrator and physical therapist, who recently retired and moved to the Atlanta area after 21 years serving in nursing homes across the U.S. He says, "Sadie G. Mays has been an important pillar of this community, and I would like to be part of an organization that is engaging and impactful." They join our other board members: David P. Brand; Valerie Goldston; Pete Hayley; Marvin C. Mangham, Jr.; Alton Myers, CPA; Tyrone Rachal; Jeffrey Tompkins, Esq.; Darryl Tookes, MD; and Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp., MD. We appreciate you all!



Rimani Kelsey-Rogers, MD



Edward Curtis, DPT.

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE!

Sadie G. Mays is pleased to partner with the Dreams Program at Second Wind Dreams, in conjunction with Georgia State University. Second Wind Dreams has been a longtime partner with Sadie G. Mays and has provided volunteers who bring Christmas gifts for our residents every year. The Dreams Program is a special program tasked with granting wishes to seniors living in nursing homes. Led by Andrea Hill, volunteers come from Georgia State University's Gerontology Institute. The program has granted the wishes of two residents. Resident, Theodore Dennis, wanted to play pool again. Program volunteers raised money and purchased a portable pool table which he and others have been enjoying ever since. More recently, resident David Green wanted to plant vegetables in the raised planting beds in our large courtyard. Once again, volunteers raised money and purchased plants, tools, soil, and fertilizer and then helped him complete the task. We're looking forward to making another dream come true!



Victoria Huebner (l) and Andrea Hill (2nd from left) of Second Wind Dreams/GSU brought gardening gifts for resident, David Green (center), as Sybil Jennings (2nd from right) and Beth Laxton (r) look on.

SCENES FROM SADIE G. MAYS



Residents enjoy the Sing-Along after welcoming back the Golden Chorale for the first time in two years.



Volunteers, Evernie Seay, Emma Ferguson and Rev. Jonas Ferguson lead the Sing-Along as members of The Golden Chorale.



Volunteer and former resident, Josie Pegeese (r), leads Tuesday Bible Study with Pearline Gilliam, Rosa Swanson, Ruth Freeman, and Thelma Hill.



Staff members, Sybil Jennings and Lisa McCrimmon, give Christmas gifts provided by Second Wind Dreams, to residents, Laura Whatley and Samuel Finch.



SGM residents enjoyed the annual Thanksgiving Concert by an ensemble of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Band on Sat., Nov. 20, 2021.



Laurie Brashear of the Natl. Assoc. of Black Military Women-Atlanta honored our veterans with a speech and gifts for Veterans Day. Charlotte Peterson, our only female vet, received a special gift.



Resident, Darryl Glover (center, seated) joins Sadie G. Mays staff members to celebrate the Atlanta Braves winning the 2021 World Series.



Resident, Carolyn Floyd, holds a sign encouraging folks to donate to Sadie G. Mays on Giving Tuesday.



Members of the Dietary Department celebrated Dietary Week in October.

WE WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS! CALL ADMISSIONS (678) 420-2946.

NOW HIRING NURSES, CNAs & MORE! Visit our JOB FAIR TABLE at the 23rd Annual Community Health Fair on June 16th, 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. See WWW.SGMAYS.ORG.



**HAPPY
SPRING!**

Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center

1821 Anderson Ave., NW
Atlanta, GA 30314

Phone: 404-794-2477
FAX: 404-799-9876

Newsletter Editor—Shirley H. Coleman
Email: scoleman@sgmays.org



The Joint Commission
The Gold Seal
of Approval™



WE'RE CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE!
DONATE TO SADIE G. MAYS ONLINE AT
WWW.SGMAYS.ORG

WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GIFTS!



Jo Webb and Destiny Leotaud of JenCare Senior Medical Center give resident, Linda Smith, a Bingo prize.



Members of the Metropolitan Atlanta Community Band performed a Thanksgiving Concert for our residents on Nov. 20, 2021.



Members of Cornucopia Outreach Ministry of Word of Faith Church brought Xmas gifts for every SGM resident.



The Path Church provided Christmas treats for SGM staff on every shift.



Residents, Harold Gates, Mary Clark (both seated) and David Green(r) show off their dancing skills with volunteers from St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, while celebrating residents with November birthdays.



Founded in 1947, the Sadie G. Mays Health & Rehabilitation Center is an independent, 206-bed, non-profit, skilled nursing facility providing comprehensive nursing and rehabilitative services.

Listed in *U.S. News & World Report*
"Best Nursing Homes"
2015, 2012 & 2011

Executive Director
Beth Laxton, MS

Medical Director
T. Andrew Frinks, MD

Director of Health Services
Teresa Brown, RN