

Activities Assistant Christa Jeanty Makes a Difference in the Lives of Nursing Home Residents



Elderly negligence is an unfortunate and all-too-common occurrence in the state of Florida. Prior to COVID-19, assisted-living facilities were already facing challenges to meet demands—challenges related to inadequate medical treatment, maintaining sanitary and safe living conditions, and having well-trained staff to carry out the duties required of long-term care.

In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the difficulties faced by our vulnerable senior citizens have worsened, with cases of elder abuse going unreported, a recent report says.

Fortunately, some assisted-living facilities, such as Sinai Plaza Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, do excellent work in meeting the needs of their clients and residents.

The Center for Community Service Initiatives (CCSI) partners with Sinai Plaza, located across the street from Barry's Miami Shores campus, and places students there for both service-learning and co-curricular service.

Barry Service Corps member Christa Jeanty was placed there for volunteer work as an activities assistant. The Barry Service Corps is a co-curricular program coordinated by the CCSI.

As a first-year student in Barry's pre-nursing program, Jeanty understood that, at Sinai Plaza, she would have the opportunity to make a positive impact on the geriatric community while gaining a deeper appreciation for the roles and responsibilities of nurses working in long-term care.

"Elderly negligence is a major issue in the wider geriatric field," Jeanty acknowledged. "Sinai Plaza takes it very seriously. The organization is committed to providing professional services, including skilled nursing and extended care."



Sinai Plaza is one of five nursing centers in the Plaza Health Network in Miami-Dade County. The assisted-living facility provides a full continuum and psychological well-being.

Before COVID-19 caused major changes, Jeanty's specific role focused on assisting Sinai Plaza by facilitating social activities that aimed to increase interaction among residents. Activities were designed also to improve moods, contribute to an upbeat environment, and assist residents in maintaining a good quality of life. Board games were engaging; Bingo was a favorite. Cooking classes on Wednesdays would sometimes take the cake.

"Cooking classes allowed the residents to socialize while learning a new recipe," Jeanty shared. "We liked to make blueberry muffins. In doing so, we were able to put a smile on [residents'] faces. Although we engaged in fun activities, we reaffirmed [the need for] a high level of care at the same time."

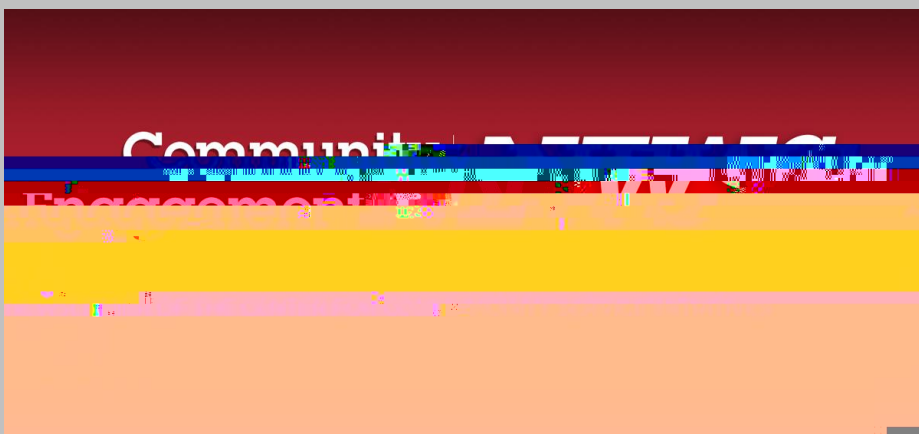
In high school, Christa was able initially to explore her interest in becoming a nurse. However, it wasn't until her involvement with the Barry Service Corps and her work at Sinai Plaza that she realized how important it is to be active in her community.

As activities assistant, Christa Jeanty has made a difference in the lives of Sinai Plaza residents.

Sinai Plaza is one of five nursing centers in the Plaza Health Network in Miami-Dade County. The assisted-living facility provides a full continuum of care to enhance patients' physical and psychological well-being.

"I am encouraging my peers to join the Barry Service Corps as I share about my positive experience working with Sinai Plaza Nursing and Rehabilitation Center," Jeanty said.

Source:



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