

HOME HOME

Christopher Heights goes above and beyond to care for Worcester area seniors

hristopher Heights, the first assisted living community in central and western Massachusetts, and the second in the state, is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Vin Cucchiara, founder of Christopher Heights, always had a dream to provide an alternative to nursing home care, where elders could have their own apartment, be independent, receive the services they need and enjoy life at an affordable cost.

Set up much like a hotel, the facility is made up of 80 apartments, ranging in size from studio to one-bedroom, complete with a private bathroom and kitchenette. The main living room, media room and pub offer space for socializing and group activities.

Walter Ohanian, president and CEO, says, "As soon as you walk through the entrance, you are greeted by a warm fireplace and friendly staff. You feel like this is your living room in your own home."

Residents enjoy home-cooked meals prepared by Christopher Heights chefs in one of the Country Kitchens.

"There are smaller dining rooms, so residents are eating with their neighbors," Ohanian says.

Christopher Heights ensures residents have plenty of opportunities for engagement, from art classes and fitness programs to religious services and group outings. Whether residents are learning new skills, engaging socially or enjoying a quiet moment, Christopher Heights focuses on offering security, independence and love.

But what truly sets this community apart is residents are never asked to leave the facility once their funds are depleted. Residents can age in place without the fear of being displaced due to finances. Tax credit programs enable Christopher Heights to continue to support residents to stay in their homes, among friends and caregivers.

Twenty-five years since opening the first Christopher Heights in Worcester, the company now has six locations, including Webster and Marlborough, and continues to grow.