



WESLEY WOODS
FOUNDATION

SPRING 2021

THE CONNECTION

NEWS FROM WESLEY WOODS



What does a cable pioneer, civil rights leader, and 34-year telecommunications veteran have in common? The distinguished trio will join ranks as honoree recipients at the [annual HEROES, SAINTS & LEGENDS gala to be held on August 19, 2021](#). This revered event honors individuals who have transformed Atlanta's community through a lifetime of achievement and commitment to leadership, service, and devotion to others. This year's honorees are:

- [DR. ALLEN ECKER](#), Executive Vice President of Scientific Atlanta (retired)
- [PHIL JACOBS](#), founding Partner of The Pendleton Consulting Group, pro bono Senior Consultant for Coxe Curry & Associates, and retired President of BellSouth's Georgia Operations and President of Business Communications Services of AT&T-Southeast
- [BISHOP WOODIE W. WHITE](#), Bishop of The United Methodist Church and former Bishop-in-Residence at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University (retired)

Funds raised through Heroes, Saints & Legends provide housing and meal assistance for older adults who have outlived their resources, on-site chaplains providing pastoral care, and innovative wellness programming to help seniors live independently for as long as possible. We are excited to be in-person for this year's event, chaired by Lillian Budd Darden, and we encourage the community to [join us as we gather to shine a light on our 2021 honorees and to support the older adults who have made Wesley Woods their home](#).

For additional information on the 2021 honorees, and to view prior honorees and sponsorship/ticket information, please visit wesleywoods.org/heroes or call 404-728-6290. It will be an event you will not want to miss, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Gratefully,



Diane

Diane Vaughan
President
Foundation of Wesley Woods



Terry

Terry Barcroft
President and CEO
Wesley Woods Senior Living



WELLNESS IS BODY, MIND AND SOUL

By Wendy Smith, Director of Wellness and Life Enrichment

One in four adults ages 65 and older will struggle with anxiety, depression, PTSD, or other mental health issues. At Wesley Woods, we have seen a growing need for mental health support which has been exacerbated by the pandemic. We began offering free counseling services to residents in one of our affordable housing communities to help make mental health services available and accessible to residents as a complement to our current wellness programming.

To date, we have provided more than 200 psychotherapy sessions, with both residents and staff having noticed a marked improvement, especially in participant coping skills. These skills help us minimize, manage, and endure stressful situations in life, which can help everyone feel better physically and physiologically, impacting overall well-being. Wesley Woods is grateful to the foundations and individuals who have generously supported mental health services and wellness programming.

To support wellness programming, visit wesleywoods.org/donate.

WESLEY WOODS
WELLNESS
PROGRAMS
DELIVERED IN
THE PAST YEAR:

2,915

VIRTUAL
FITNESS CLASSES

1,256

IN-PERSON
FITNESS CLASSES:

9,462

WELLNESS
VISITS

231

PSYCHOTHERAPY
SESSIONS

DONOR SPOTLIGHT ON DIANE BRYANT

DIANE BRYANT is an avid supporter of Wesley Woods in every way. She generously supports the Foundation of Wesley Woods through her personal giving and is also a tireless volunteer for the Wesley Woods Branan Towers community. Diane was recently honored with the *Lillian Budd Darden Laity Award*. She is known by the residents of Branan Towers as someone who loves them, and that when she sees a need, she will find a way to meet it.

As chair of the Branan Towers Advisory Board, Diane rallies board members to host an annual Spring Soup and Song, summer cookout, holiday party, and even created an essentials supply closet for resident needs which helped tremendously during the pandemic. Diane's home church, Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church, generously steps up every time a Wesley Woods need is presented to them and eagerly supports Diane's leadership. Diane is quick to say that giving back to Wesley Woods is a great combination of her faith, education, and family resources. *Thank you, Diane!*



CONNECTION THROUGH COMMUNION

By Rev. Carol Scroggs, Wesley Woods of Athens Chaplain

We served communion on Maundy Thursday to residents in personal care. When I entered the apartment of one resident, she expressed excitement that I had arrived with the bread and cup. As she received the elements, tears rolled down her face because the sacrament means so much in her life.

Another resident shared that she gave a prayer of thanksgiving for me because she able to receive communion in her apartment. Your donations provide a chaplain to each Wesley Woods community to make communion and connection possible.

To make a gift to support the pastoral care program, visit wesleywoods.org/donate.

IN THE PAST YEAR, CHAPLAINS HAVE PROVIDED:

12,787
RESIDENT
CONNECTIONS

1,048
FAMILY
CONNECTIONS

3,640
STAFF SUPPORT
CONNECTIONS

2,716
WORSHIP SERVICES
AND DEVOTIONALS



WESLEY WOODS
FOUNDATION

1817 Clifton Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329

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Heroes, Saints & Legends

benefiting Wesley Woods

JOIN US — THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021

FLOURISH

**3143 MAPLE DRIVE
ATLANTA**

5:30 PM

*(L to R): Phil Jacobs,
Bishop Woodie W. White,
Lillian Budd Darden
(event chair), and
Dr. Allen Ecker*



BECOME A SPONSOR OR PURCHASE TICKETS AT [WESLEYWOODS.ORG/HEROES](https://www.wesleywoods.org/heroes)