

October 2021



Dear Lambeth Impact Circle member:

Your support of our vital work changes lives. That is why we use the word “impact” in the name of our new donor recognition program. Your generosity makes a difference here.

For those of you whom I have not met, my name is Paula Garner, and I am the “new” President and CEO of Maryhurst. I have been in this position for more than 16 months and have been with Maryhurst for 25 years – but when you follow someone like Judy Lambeth who was CEO for 30 years, I am sure I will be considered “new” for quite a while. Ironically, because I started my position during the COVID-19 pandemic, some days I feel like I have been doing this job for ten years already.

I still feel extremely blessed to have been chosen for this role by the amazing Maryhurst Board of Directors, and I was fortunate enough to have Judy guiding my transition during her last months in this position. As you will see later in this letter, Judy has graciously agreed to continue in an emeritus role to offer support in any way she can and to maintain her deep relationships with many of you whom she has known for years.

Despite the myriad challenges Maryhurst has faced over the last few months, we remain strong. You are a big reason for that. For 178 years, we have relied on the kindness and generosity of this community. Your financial support has helped us navigate challenges in the past, and certainly during the pandemic, we have had donors step up in ways that both humble and inspire us.

Maryhurst’s work continues to make a profound difference in the lives of children and families locally and around the state. The agency leadership at all levels has vision and courage, and our frontline staff’s dedication and passion regularly overwhelm me. Maryhurst’s interventions are cutting edge, and we consistently are held up by peer agencies and state leaders as a model for trauma-informed care.

Because you have chosen to invest in Maryhurst the way you have, we want our Lambeth Impact Circle communications to be significant for you – an insider’s look at our celebrations and our challenges. We welcome your feedback about content.

CHALLENGES

- Staffing Issues - Maryhurst has struggled with low staffing just like most community businesses have. While Maryhurst employees are quick to talk about how rewarding their job is, working in this field is difficult. We are constantly looking for ways to support our amazing employees and recognize their efforts. Let us know if you have heard of any special efforts you think we can incorporate.
- Program Changes - Kentucky's use of residential treatment is evolving in response to emerging state and federal priorities. Our most highly structured programs remain in high demand, but our Rosehaven site (pre-independent living) has seen a steady downward trend in referrals. After significant deliberation, we have decided to close Rosehaven's current program but will continue to use the building for day programming and aftercare services. We are carefully helping each young woman currently in the Rosehaven program find the best option for her future placement. All the Rosehaven staff will have jobs in other parts of our agency.

CELEBRATIONS

- New CFO – We are very pleased to announce Anne McArthur as our next CFO. She will start with us in late November and comes with tremendous experience in both corporate and not-for-profit settings. She has been recognized by Business First on two occasions for her impact in the not-for-profit sector.
- Helping Youth Find Their Voice - Our staff works hard to help the youth in our care find a voice. In recent weeks we've had both a talent show and a poetry showcase that gave our youth an opportunity to shine in ways most of them never thought possible. Cheered on by peers and staff alike, the participants experienced support and affirmation that few have enjoyed before. Finding ways to tell their stories gives our youth power and hope. Our listening to their stories gives us understanding and lets the youth know their worth in our eyes.
- Third Party Events - Again this year, we are deeply grateful to the Persimmon Ridge Ladies Golf Association for hosting the recent 2021 Beauties vs. The Beast Tournament which benefited Maryhurst. Maryhurst also receives funds each year from a bowling tournament sponsored by Civil Design and the Virgil Christian Tribute Polo Match hosted by the Boland family.

Fundraisers like these are known as “third-party events” – meaning the bulk of the coordination is done by someone other than our Maryhurst development

staff. Events like our Journey of Hope Luncheon are very different because our staff puts in countless hours to pull these off.

Third-party events are valuable to us for at least two reasons. First, they require minimal effort and time commitment on our development staff, allowing them to focus on other activities. Second, a third-party event is excellent public relations because it shows the community that a club, corporation, or family is so invested in our work that they are raising funds for us.

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Maryhurst has been on a journey for several months to promote an environment that acknowledges and respects diversity, equity, and inclusion for our youth, families, staff, and board members. Consultants have helped us examine policies, hiring practices, and decision-making to make sure we affirm all individuals. We recently created a new position – Director of Equity and Inclusion – to make sure this remains a focus.
- Keeping in Touch - We always enjoy connecting with program alums and their family members:
 - o Recently, a donor from Colorado told us she was a youth at Maryhurst in the 1960s at our Bank Street property. She said she will support our work as long as she lives.
 - o We also heard from a woman whose grandmother and great aunt were placed at Maryhurst in 1905. The great aunt eventually decided to become a nun herself and lived at Maryhurst until her death in 1948.
 - o A few weeks ago, one of our alums from the 1980's came to campus to lead a clinical training for a group of our current staff. She is one of many Maryhurst alums who decided to pursue jobs in social services so they could give others the same kind of help they received.

As I said before, Maryhurst remains strong, and I am deeply grateful for the part you have played in our work. Thank you for being a member of the Lambeth Impact Circle. Maryhurst changes lives because of you. Please feel free to reach out to me any time.



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Turn the page for a message from Judy!

And a few words from Judy . . .

Let me start with a heartfelt “thank you.” Most of you I know, but whether I have met you in person or not, we are connected by our love for Maryhurst.

When I came to Maryhurst as a student intern, I had no idea I would spend the next 46 years of my life (30 as CEO) in this place. Throughout that time, I knew Maryhurst’s mission was being supported by a group of donors whose generous hearts would see us through all the highs and lows that came our way. Our staff may have been the actual hands and feet doing the work, but you were there every step of the way through your gifts, your words of encouragement, your volunteer hours, and your advocacy. Your impact individually was magnified by your power together.

I always knew I would continue to be an active part of the Maryhurst family even in retirement, and I am fortunate now to have the title CEO Emeritus. Some of you are aware that my first year of retirement brought several personal challenges that required much of my time and attention. This is a new day, though, and I am all in again.

I look forward to being a part of the Lambeth Impact Circle, not just because it carries my name, but because I know the impact we can have together. I was a donor myself while I worked here, and I am committed to continuing this support. I have also included Maryhurst in my estate plan because I want to be part of the good that happens here for years to come.

Thank you for the support you have already shown to Paula. She is an amazing person, and I know Maryhurst is in the best hands with her at the helm. I am grateful that she has been so open to my continuing to share my passion for Maryhurst.

I hope that our “impact circle” will continue to grow as we invite others to invest in this vital work. I wish all of you the very best.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.