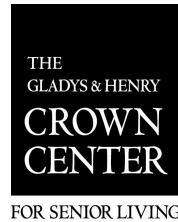


# The Gladys & Henry Crown Center for Senior Living



## Fast Facts

**About us:** Crown Center for Senior Living is dedicated to providing affordable, quality, independent, senior living in a caring, secure, diverse, and friendly atmosphere, honoring the Jewish tradition.

### Our history:

- Crown Center was founded 40 years ago as The Delcrest Apartments to meet a growing need for low income housing and supportive services for older adults.
- Home to a diverse group of approximately 300 seniors with limited financial and familial resources, Crown Center serves a significant Jewish and immigrant population.
- Residents range from age 62 to 96 and span a variety of religions, ethnicities, professions, educational backgrounds, and abilities.
- **All programs and services** at Crown Center are funded by private donations, individual contributions, grants, and fundraising efforts.

### Our services:

- Supportive services at Crown Center include health and wellness programs, support groups, and a kosher social nutrition dining program in cooperation with Mid-east Area Agency on Aging.
- Activities for residents are also open to older adults in the neighborhood, because we welcome the opportunity to serve as a community resource.
- Two full time professional social workers staff our Social Services Department in order to assist residents and their families with life transitions.
- Additional services include visiting nurses to offer blood pressure and blood sugar readings, arrangements for annual mammograms, hearing evaluations, a podiatrist, translators for Russian and Chinese speaking residents, exercise classes, a beauty salon, and banking services.
- Our award winning Program Department offers a copious and creative selection of activities, such as trips to museums, concerts, theater productions, and movies, day trips out of the area, gardening, bagels and learning presentations, off site dining, bell choir, computer learning, English classes, Yiddish club, shopping trips, volunteer and *mitzvah* opportunities, Shabbat services, and Jewish holiday celebrations.
- All activities are offered free or for a nominal cost.
- The opinions and suggestions of residents are respected and sought through a Residents Council and several advisory committees.
- Accredited with the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (AAHSA), Crown Center performs periodic quality improvement measurements in response to grant reporting, as required by the many foundations which support us.

## **The Gladys & Henry Crown Center for Senior Living**

### **Our leaders:**

- Crown Center's 30 member Board of Trustees volunteer their time, skills, and funding to ensure success in providing excellent housing for our older adults.
- Board members are pro-active and serve on a variety of committees to which they bring their talents, professional expertise, and resources.
- Our experienced staff of 25, along with more than 15 community volunteers, provides expert assistance to Crown Center residents in the areas of leasing, building maintenance, social services, program activities, dining, transportation, adult education, and more.

### **Our community:**

- Crown Center touches the lives of not only our residents and other older adults in the community, but the lives of their children and grandchildren, the lives of our volunteers, board members, and their families, who often join residents for programs or at our special event dinners.
- Crown Center also reaches out to many young people in our area, having been chosen as a sight for graduate students in gerontology at Washington University, St. Louis University, and the University of Missouri-St. Louis to conduct their internship programs.
- Students at Washington University, the St. Louis Community Colleges, University City High School, Villa Duchesne Academy, and Solomon Schechter Day School frequently partner with Crown Center for intergenerational programs.

### **Our challenges:**

- As recipients of HUD federal funding, the majority of our residents live at or below the poverty level. No rental income may be applied to funding any Crown Center programs: they must be funded independently.
- 72% of all residents receive rental subsidies; 40% of these have incomes of less than \$14,000 per year.
- Without additional contributions, residents cannot participate in activities and services that enhance their quality of life and that enable them to live independently, for as long as possible.
- Of paramount concern is the ability to respond effectively to the needs of residents who enter Crown Center at a more advanced age and in more frail health, as well as those who have "aged in place." More than 30% of our residents are age 85 and older.
- There is an ongoing necessity to obtain adequate funding to maintain and renovate physical facilities to ensure comfortable, safe, secure, and functional housing and communal spaces.
- Crown Center does not receive allocations from local funding agencies, such as United Way or Jewish Federation.

**Our commitment:** in a climate of fewer government services and public resources, it is a continuing challenge to address the needs of an escalating senior population, but Crown Center is committed to the task.

### **Contact information:**

Nikki Goldstein, Executive Director  
8350 Delcrest Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63124  
314-991-2055

[www.crowncenterstl.org](http://www.crowncenterstl.org)