

"If you ask me why there is a need for the Senior Guest House, I'd say 'we serve older adults who are socially isolated.' This may be coupled with other factors - financial challenges, overload in current housing responsibilities, significant health issues or poor thought processes. Not everyone has each of those - but almost every guest is isolated. When they leave the Senior Guest House, they aren't so alone." - Fairhill Team Member



Ray Stewart with volunteer Ursula Rossman and daughter - at Senior Guest House reunion.

Mr. Stewart (75 years old), a retired Ohio Bell salesman, had a pretty successful career – nominated for and winning the salesman of the year award in 1958. He was a victim of fraud and lost his apartment as a result. Homeless, widowed, no children and without a social network, he was referred to the Senior Guest House by the Dept. of Senior and Adult Services and stayed for more than 3 months. While there he made friends with volunteer Ursula Rossman and her family. As a result of the services and relationship he discovered at the Senior Guest House, he lives in Rocky River in a senior apartment complex and Ursula and her family regard him as a foster grandfather – they visit with him regularly.

and Adult Services. A home owner for over 30 years, her husband died 3 years ago leaving her unable to financially maintain her home. She needed hip surgery and became confined to the basement to have access to bathroom, kitchen, etc. on one floor. When she came to the Senior Guest House, she could not see a way out of her problems. Working with the team at Fairhill, Mrs. Arnold secured a subsidized one bedroom apartment close to Fairhill - she wanted to be close by to have access to all the Fairhill programs. Another resident of the Guest House moved in, and together they have created their own support system. Mrs. Arnold uses her telephone with a mission - calling current residents to offer support. She may not know them personally - but she does know what it is like to be alone.

Mrs. Arnold (69 years old) moved into the Fairhill Guest House on 9/14/06 after a referral from Dept. of Senior



Lois Arnold pictured with friend Jean Carr, a volunteer at the Senior Guest House.



William Andrews shares a joke with one of the volunteers helping him move into his new apartment.

Mr. Andrews (84 years old) is a WWII veteran. He stayed at Fairhill Center in the mid 1940's when the property was a Marine Hospital. He had very little medical care since and, as a resident of the Senior Guest House, saw a physician for the first time in many years and was able to get help with cataracts and high blood pressure. He operated a TV repair shop - A1 TV Repair - for many years. He was primary caregiver for his wife until she died. Their only child also died. With the help of his Fairhill case worker, Mr. Andrews is living in a subsidized building in the Slavic Village neighborhood - his old neighborhood. He knows that he can reach out when he needs help - indeed his new apartment was furnished (new bed, dresser and couch) with the support of volunteers and a donor family. He found these friends at Fairhill.