

Supporting the mission of providing the best care during various stages of life at Jerome Home

Kensington couple Harry N. and Janice Mazadoorian may be Arbor Rose's and Jerome Home's most enthusiastic cheerleaders. Maybe it is because of the thousands of hours they spent there while visiting his mother, her mother, his brother and her three aunts who received exemplary care during their older and final phases of life.

"We were at Jerome Home on a daily basis. No matter the time of day, you could see how well it operates. We were and still are very impressed with the professional level of care, from the senior administrators to the certified nursing aides," Harry remarked. "An organization is only as good as its people."

The facility was established in 1932 thanks to benefactor Augustus Smith Jerome who willed that a home be established for care of the elderly. Lifelong area residents, the Mazadoorians were familiar with Jerome Home and its excellent reputation. When their relatives needed assisted living and later skilled nursing care it was only natural that they would turn to the skilled nursing community.

A highly regarded attorney-at-law who specializes in arbitration and mediation, Harry thought a logical step in supporting the facility would be to become a board member, which he still is 15 years later. He saw the founding of Arbor Rose, the adjacent independent living community.

He has also seen how the services and physical buildings have evolved and are modified as needs change. "There's none of 'the way we did it yesterday is the way we'll do it today,'" Harry said.

They are also donors, "as are many people," they remarked. This husband and wife are eager to support the mission of providing the best in residential care, assisted living, skilled nursing care and short-term rehabilitation. However, they recognize that the program is much more than the physical care; its holistic approach to address the unity of body, mind and spirit supports residents in understanding and adapting to the changing phases of life.

An essential ingredient in the success and excellent reputation of Jerome Home and Arbor Rose is how professionals and the board continually assess and evaluate what is successful and what the residents want, he explained.

"Central Connecticut Senior Health Services is always thinking about the next step," Harry said.