COMMUNITIES TOGETHER INC

For families affected by Alzheimer's disease, the impact reaches far beyond the person diagnosed. It touches loved ones, caregivers, and entire communities. **At Potomac Woods I and II in Woodbridge, VA, residents turned that shared concern into action—one step at a time.**

For more than two months, residents prepared to participate in the Walk to End Alzheimer's on October 10. With support from a resident's daughter, they formed a walking club to build strength, balance, and stamina. Communities Together helped turn residents' commitment into an opportunity to participate. We worked with Alyssa Hargis, Walk Manager for the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter, to coordinate registration and connected with Sherwin White of A-to-Z Shuttle Service to arrange free, reliable round-trip transportation. Together, we removed logistical and financial barriers so community members could participate safely and comfortably in an event that mattered to them.



Their commitment paid off. Ten Potomac Woods residents joined the Tri-County walk, helping raise *more than $2,500* for Alzheimer's care, support, and research. One participant captured the spirit of the day:

"Thank you for this opportunity to give back to our Alzheimer community."

What began as preparation for a single event has now become a ***weekly tradition***, with 8–12 older adults gathering on Tuesday evenings to walk, connect, and encourage one another.

The first walk's impact continues. At Potomac Woods, residents have turned a shared commitment into lasting connections, healthier routines, and a stronger community—showing how collective action can make a difference both close to home and beyond. That's what we mean by "community-building". Managed by Residential ONE, Potomac Woods is an AHD Inc. community.

New Community Highlight: Welcome, Faircliff Plaza West!

Communities Together is growing *again*! We're excited to welcome Faircliff Plaza West in Washington, DC's Ward 1 as our 30th community and our fourth partnership with Somerset Development Company, selected as the 2026 Developer of the Year by the DC/MD/VA association of affordable housing organizations (“Housing&”).

Located in Columbia Heights, Faircliff Plaza West is home to 112 families and a diverse community of neighbors, more than half of whom are Spanish-speaking. The community has a long history of resident engagement, with an active resident association and shared spaces for educational programs, activities, and neighborhood connections.

At Faircliff Plaza West, Communities Together coordinates a collaboration of five other organizations, helping ensure that residents have access to programs and resources that reflect their priorities. Communities Together’s Senior Coordinator, Ana Karina Buckley, oversees this collaborative effort, connecting partners, coordinating services, and helping residents navigate opportunities ranging from food assistance to other essential supports.

This new partnership reflects one of the things Communities Together does best: bringing people, organizations, and resources together to build on the strengths of a community. We're getting to know Faircliff Plaza West residents and supporting the opportunities they envision for their families and neighborhood.

Team Highlight: "Coach" Anthony Saporito

Some people have a natural gift for bringing people together. **For Anthony Saporito, community engagement isn't just a job—it's something he brings energy, dedication, and heart to every day.**

As Communities Together's Community and Resident Engagement Coordinator for Seniors, Anthony draws on more than 20 years of experience helping people navigate challenges, build connections, and thrive. His career has taken him from supporting foster youth and young people transitioning from probation to working with older adults in assisted living and memory care settings. Today, he brings that experience to his mission: helping Communities Together

residents maintain their independence, build relationships, and age in place with dignity.

Originally from South Philadelphia, Anthony is also a former Division I and amateur baseball player. “Coach” is not just a nickname. The encouragement, teamwork, and dedication he brings to his work with residents are also on display on weekends when he coaches his daughter’s elite traveling fastpitch softball team.



Anthony's colleagues describe him as a natural community builder who takes initiative, earns trust, and goes above and beyond for the people he supports.

As his supervisor, Program Manager Manpreet Bhogal says:

"Anthony is a self-starter who has a true knack for community engagement. He is reliable, trustworthy, and continues to amaze me with his vast knowledge of working with marginalized folks such as low-income seniors. Keep up the great work, Anthony: You are a gem!"

Whether he's connecting older adults with resources, building relationships with residents, or encouraging young athletes, Anthony understands that strong communities grow through trust, connection, and showing up for one another. **We're fortunate to have Coach on the Communities Together team!**

By the Numbers

In the past 12 months, Communities Together has facilitated the participation of **2,000+** residents in wellness programming, including health screenings, vaccinations, fitness and nutrition programs, and activities that build social connection. Grants from Cloudbreak Foundation and the Wardman-Naselli Memorial Fund have helped us sustain our neighbors, particularly seniors in Washington, DC.

Partnership Spotlight: Empowering Residents to Make Their Voices Heard

Every election gives residents an opportunity to shape their communities. But navigating voter registration, understanding election procedures, and finding reliable information about candidates isn't always straightforward.

Communities Together is a nonpartisan 501c3 nonprofit and nongovernmental organization. That's why Communities Together partnered with the League of Women Voters to bring nonpartisan voter education and registration resources directly to Govans Manor, Hubbard Place, and Portner Flats this October.

Across the three communities, more than 60 residents participated, learning about voting rights, key election dates, and resources to help them make informed decisions. At Hubbard Place, eight residents registered to vote. At Portner Flats, residents explored VOTE411, a resource for researching candidates and finding polling locations. One resident who had just turned 18 picked up a voter registration form, while others proudly shared that they'd already cast their absentee ballots!

By connecting residents with trusted, nonpartisan resources right where they live, Communities Together and the League of Women Voters are helping more people exercise their right to vote and make their voices heard.

Looking for an opportunity to pitch in with your mind, body, or resources? Communities Together has plenty of opportunities for all three. Contact manpreet@commtogether.org if you would like to volunteer or contribute in some other way.

In service,

The Communities Together Team

Give Here

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