



COVIA 2019 SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Building healthy communities





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Cultivating community





Community can mean many things. It's the place where you live. Sometimes it's a group that shares a common belief or interest. Or it can be a network of people who give each other support, companionship, and care. Community is an extension of home. And it's at the heart of all we do at Covia. We are a nonprofit organization, a network of dedicated professionals, and a community. We don't all live or work in one place, but we all share a common goal: to help people live well and age well, anywhere they call home.

For more than 50 years, Covia has been building strong communities — not just within our own properties, but across Northern California and the areas we serve. We connect with our communities through programs, events, food, art, and more. And we are always working to extend our reach by offering support and engaging with more people in more locations and life situations.

We are proud to build healthy, creative, engaged communities. Because we all need to feel human connection to thrive.

COVIA MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to promote positive aging by cultivating healthy and engaged communities with a continuum of innovative services that actively support intellectual, physical, emotional, spiritual, and social well-being.

A place called home





Community and home go hand in hand

Home isn't just where you sleep at night. It's where you can be yourself. It's where you feel safe, comfortable, and loved. Through our communities and programs, we help people create connections, build community, and find a place where they feel at home — whether that means aging in place and staying engaged, or finding a new place that provides fulfillment or supports changing needs. Whatever you need to feel at home, Covia is here to help.

Offering a creative alternative

It's no secret that there's a shortage of affordable housing in California, which is why Home Match is important. Not only does this home sharing program help both homeowners and home seekers find stability, it brings people together in sometimes unexpected ways. Many of our matches become fast friends and caring companions. It may even save lives! Three times this year, a Home Match roommate called 911 on behalf of their homeowner, getting them help when they needed it most.

In 2019, the Home Match program grew by leaps and bounds. We took over managing the Home Match program in Fremont and were invited to expand into Monterey County — adding to our ongoing Home Match program in Marin, San Francisco, and Contra Costa Counties. We hosted over 100 outreach events, formed powerful new partnerships to support our work and our participants, and opened the program to renters. Next year, our goals are to make more than 200 matches and to roll out new tools to make the application process even easier.

Covia's **Home Match** program helps people with extra room in their home connect with those seeking an affordable place to live.



“At this time of sky-high rents and need for greater community, Home Match offers a vital service. I am so thankful I was matched to a very special homeowner just when it seemed I could no longer afford to live in the city I love.”

HOME MATCH SAN FRANCISCO
PARTICIPANT



PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT
JOYCE AND CHRISTINA

With only Social Security income, Joyce wasn't sure she could stay in the home she's owned for over 50 years. Christina faced a difficult choice between couch-surfing to stay near her job as a San Francisco teacher, or moving away altogether. Home Match brought the pair together just in time. After sharing a home for more than a year, both women are able to maintain their livelihoods—and their friendship. They never run out of things to talk about over coffee and cake.

42% report monthly savings of \$800 or more.	63% believe they have safer and more secure housing.	73% feel less worried about money due to their match.	100% would recommend Home Match to a friend or relative.
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Affordable and engaging communities

Our affordable housing communities, located from Santa Rosa to San Jose, provide safe, comfortable housing for over 1,000 low-income seniors. We bring the continuum of care by providing resident service coordination at each location, connecting residents to the support and services they need to age in place. Covia’s Resident Service Coordinators support 28 affordable communities throughout the state, serving over 3,000 people. We’re proud to lead the Bay Area in providing homes for seniors with financial limitations, that also keep them connected and active. As we look to the future, our goal is to grow our communities, expand our services, and maintain the highest level of quality for everyone we serve.

COVIA AFFORDABLE HOUSING BY THE NUMBERS



70 staff	911 apartments
1,048 residents	3,268 people served

AFFORDABLE HOUSING WORKSHOPS

For low-income seniors, finding housing can be a real challenge involving long waitlists and confusing regulations. Sonoma County offered two affordable housing application tools workshops this year to help seniors learn how to find a home that's both available and within their means — one of them hosted at Jennings Court, a Covia Affordable Community in Santa Rosa. The panel of experts included Jennings Court Housing Administrator Sadie Bracy, who answered all kinds of questions and provided specific logistical details and tools to help with the application process.



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT
AUTHOR DONNA RANKIN LOVE

Spring Lake Village resident Donna Rankin Love has written and self-published three books since turning 80. Her latest book, *The Kind of Village This Is*, features a collection of stories detailing her decision to join a senior community and her subsequent move to Spring Lake Village. She hopes the book will serve as guide to others on the same path. To celebrate publication, Spring Lake Village hosted a book release party attended by 120 residents. Donna also teaches writing workshops to help others gain confidence and learn how to share their own stories.

“Providing older adults with the resources they need to secure affordable housing takes the fear out of a daunting process.”

TRACY POWELL

VP OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

The power of a helping hand

Community is all about working together, which is why Covia partners with local Rotary Clubs to create Rotary HOME (Home Maintenance for the Elderly) teams. Every other month, pairs of volunteers from a participating Rotary Club pay in-home visits to help older adults in their communities with small repairs and other tasks they can't manage on their own. Volunteers can assist with anything from changing lightbulbs to fixing a leaky tap. While these may seem like small things, they can make a big difference to safety and comfort. This year, we partnered with two more clubs and served 330 individuals—nearly three times as many as last year.

Building bridges





Life is better when you're part of something bigger

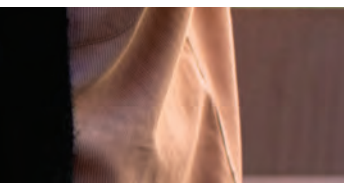
Maintaining a sense of connection is vital to aging well. It's not only good for your emotional well-being, it's important for supporting physical and mental health, too. At Covia, we strive to foster human connection in our own communities, in the neighborhoods we serve, and through our Community Services programs that keep seniors engaged. Throughout the year, we focus on building bridges between individuals, among our residents, and with the larger community.

Celebrating 10 years of Social Call

Isolation and loneliness can impact the well-being of older adults on many levels. Just one phone call or in-person visit a week can make a real difference. For 10 years, Covia has been matching seniors with vetted, trained volunteers through the Social Call program, creating a vital sense of community that's often lost in today's busy world.

In addition to local participants who receive a weekly in-home visit, Social Call has now expanded to include phone visits. Connecting people by phone eliminates barriers of transportation and mobility and allows us to match people by shared interests and personality, which makes for wonderful bonds and fun conversation. It also means we now reach a total of 247 seniors across 17 states. As the program continues to grow, we're also incorporating activities and creative conversation starters that foster more meaningful visits.

Social Call pairs older adults and trained volunteers to meet in person or by phone for friendly conversation and companionship.



“When I left, Anna said she was feeling much better — but honestly, I think our visits benefit me even more than they do her!”

SOCIAL CALL VOLUNTEER



SOCIAL CALL PARTICIPANT IMPACT

71%

REPORT AN IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR QUALITY OF
HEALTH AFTER PARTICIPATING, AND

75%

SAID THEY FEEL HEARD.



Social Call volunteers provide in-person visits in Alameda, Marin, San Francisco, Sonoma, and Los Angeles Counties.



Making connections in Adams Point

St. Paul’s Towers residents and staff have long enjoyed being part of the scenic and vibrant Adams Point neighborhood in Oakland. This year, St. Paul’s Towers deepened that relationship by joining the Adams Point Neighborhood Group (APNG), getting new opportunities to mingle with more neighbors and to have a positive impact on the area. We lend our support through offering printing services, providing meeting space, and purchasing business materials. Next year, the APNG leadership team hopes to raise enough funds to offer residents a self-defense class.

“When you know your neighbors, the neighborhoods are better taken care of.”

JACLYN CARENBAUER

ST. PAUL’S TOWERS RESIDENT SERVICES MANAGER

Walking for Alzheimer's Awareness in Palo Alto


Residents of Lytton Gardens and Webster House were proud to participate in the annual Alzheimer's Awareness Walk in September. With many of our residents impacted by the effects of this devastating disease, this cause is close to our hearts. Over 300 residents, family members, volunteers, and staff joined the effort to raise awareness.

Webster House and Lytton Gardens welcomed participants from the City of Palo Alto, Wells Fargo, Stanford University, and Santa Clara University, as well as students volunteering with Webster House's Healthy Connections pre-med program. Residents and staff had the opportunity to share stories with volunteers about their diverse experiences with Alzheimer's and other dementias. We were thrilled by the outpouring of support from the Palo Alto community for this important issue.



Civic engagement





Making a difference by getting involved

A central focus of our mission at Covia is to help everyone age well. That's why we are actively involved in the greater communities we serve — sharing our experience, applying our knowledge, and participating in the world beyond our walls. We love working with other organizations and individuals that share our vision of promoting positive aging and community building.

Getting involved and working together

In Sonoma County, Covia works closely with the Area Agency on Aging (AAA). This group consists of people from different backgrounds who live or work in Sonoma County and are dedicated to identifying and trying to meet specific needs for the older population. The AAA conducts surveys, holds public meetings, and makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on how Older Americans Act funding can be best put to use.

Covia's Sonoma County Director of Senior Resources, Jen Arent, serves on the AAA Advisory Council. She chairs the Housing Committee and was instrumental in creating the affordable housing workshops we began co-hosting with the AAA this year. Jen's involvement in both organizations builds a bridge between our efforts and theirs, which often run parallel to each other.

“It's a great way to meet people who care about older adults in our area. We know what's happening in our community, and we've improved their knowledge of what we do.”

JEN ARENT

DIRECTOR OF SENIOR RESOURCES, SONOMA COUNTY
AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER





National Night Out in Oakland

For the seventh year in a row, St. Paul's Towers, in partnership with Covia Senior Resources of Alameda County, hosted a block party for National Night Out, an annual event that promotes neighborhood camaraderie and partnerships with first responders. This year about 400 people attended, including many people from the neighborhood, as well as residents, staff, family members, and volunteers from both St. Paul's Towers and Oak Center Towers, making it the largest National Night Out event in Oakland. Bacheesos restaurant, Home Care Assistance, the Oakland Police and Fire Departments, and the Adams Point Neighborhood Group also joined the festivities.

National Night Out is a safe, fun, and welcoming way for everyone to get to know each other. With food, games, and entertainment, it's no wonder the event was so successful — we even had folks who kept on dancing while we were cleaning up. We were also thankful to be able to share food with our neighbors. Because that's what community is all about.



Bethany Center Senior Housing in San Francisco serves as a polling place for our local community, supporting our residents and neighbors in doing their civic duty each election day.



Taking initiative on aging

In September, representatives from San Francisco Towers and Covia’s Home Match San Francisco team attended the California Master Plan for Aging panel discussion. The event, organized by the Dignity Fund Coalition and the California Collaborative for Long-Term Care and Support, explored what local leaders would like to see covered in the plan. Key themes included long-term care, housing and aging in place, and caretaking — both professional and family-based. Of course, funding was a hot topic as always.

It was promising to hear so many ideas about repositioning aging as an exciting prospect, and to learn about all the opportunities available for older adults in our state. With California’s 60+ population growing rapidly, Governor Newsom has made developing this initiative a priority. We look forward to contributing and connecting with new resources, particularly in the areas of long-term care and affordable housing.

“Older Californians [are] part of the diversity that makes our state so extraordinary, and we must do everything in our power to help them live fully in our communities.”

GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA



Proudly celebrating Pride

We honor our core values of welcome, inclusion, social justice, and grace all year long, but they are a special focus during Pride month each June. Covia residents and staff participate in Pride events, including creating an award-winning “Wall of Love” at Sonoma County Pride, and joining the annual San Francisco Pride Parade. This year’s theme, “Generations of Resistance,” put seniors at the center of the celebration.

As the first west coast endorser of the Long-Term Care Equality Index (LEI), a project aimed at improving LGBTQ+ inclusion in long-term care residential settings, Covia is leading by example. And we empower our LGBTQ+ community throughout the year by hosting support groups through our Well Connected program, as well as in person through Senior Resources in Marin County.

“Covia has long supported the inclusion of LGBTQ+ seniors and staff in our communities.

We are glad to support the work of SAGE and the Human Rights Campaign Foundation in ensuring that senior communities throughout the country are safe and welcoming for everyone.”

KEVIN GERBER

COVIA PRESIDENT AND CEO



Creative aging





Making art and building community

Aging doesn't mean you stop growing. At Covia, we know that aging brings creativity and innovation, a new and continued chapter of exploration and growth. We support community services, events, and programs throughout the year that help seniors discover new passions, explore their purpose, and write their own story. Plus, we have a lot of fun and make some great art along the way.

“Old age should be viewed in its entirety; not just as a time that contains loss, but also one of revelatory growth and immense value. Creative aging allows us to see our worth and purpose, to feel seen and heard.”

KATIE WADE

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL CALL

Ruth's Table in San Francisco's Mission District offers intergenerational creative arts programs, exhibitions, and community initiatives.



Creativity in the East Bay

Art is always on display at Oak Center Towers in Oakland. Each month, residents are invited to express themselves through a creative project that’s fun and engaging. This year, artwork created by eight residents from Oak Center Towers was displayed in the 27th Annual Art with Elders Exhibit in San Francisco from October 27 to November 18. Artists from Lytton Gardens in Palo Alto and San Francisco Towers also participated in the exhibition.



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT VISIONARY FOLK ARTIST LEON KENNEDY

Oak Center Towers resident Leon Kennedy has been painting his whole life. His work has been displayed at prominent museums around the country, including the Smithsonian Institute. Kennedy captures the people, scenes, and spirit of Bay Area life, always with the goal of serving others. Some of his best works have been created on bed sheets he finds on the street and hangs up on fences and walls around the community. He’s currently creating a mural for the Oakland Public Library.

“We’re here to serve and love and encourage one another. When I get a vision, I hope it helps someone.”

LEON KENNEDY
FOLK ARTIST AND OAK CENTER TOWERS RESIDENT

Everyone has a seat at Ruth’s Table

Ruth’s Table, an arts center and gallery space providing cross-generational programs and regular exhibitions, had a lot to celebrate this year, including a grand re-opening of its new gallery space in San Francisco’s Mission District. For its 10th anniversary year, Ruth’s Table welcomed people of all ages to rotating exhibitions, art workshops, community initiatives, and a shared backyard garden with Bethany Center Senior Housing. In addition, Ruth’s Table partnered with Reimagine End of Life to host multiple events that look at death and dying through the lens of creativity and art forms as varied as poetry, symbolism, and dance. By facilitating meaningful conversations, we transform what can be a difficult topic into a celebration of life. To learn more, visit ruthstable.org.

“We want to create an environment where growing older is inspiring.”

JESSICA MCCRACKEN
RUTH’S TABLE DIRECTOR



Power to change

Covia was proud to host the second annual Creative Aging Symposium, Power to Change, in January. In 2019 the focus was on internal change, creative growth as a tool for facing loss, and exploring perceptions about aging. Five hundred attendees from around the country joined this webinar to hear from innovators in the field and find inspiration to rewrite their own stories about what it means to grow old. To learn more, visit covia.org/creative-aging-symposium/.



Canterbury Woods in Pacific Grove hosted renowned scholar and aging expert Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil. He shared his passion about the fourth quarter of life, and spoke candidly with residents and guests about smart aging, current trends, retirement options, and more.



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT
POET SALLY LOVE SAUNDERS

San Francisco Towers resident Sally Love Saunders has been a poet her whole life. In addition to publishing six volumes and appearing in hundreds of anthologies, she has shared her love of the craft by developing poetry therapy for mental hospitals and teaching poetry in underserved areas in Appalachia. Now, Saunders plants the seeds of creativity as a volunteer teaching classes at senior centers and affordable housing communities, as well as through our Well Connected program, where she loves helping others tap into their own creativity.



Opening doors





New experiences, powerful opportunities

We are always looking for innovative ways to use our resources to provide opportunities to connect, learn, grow, or just experience something new. Our Community Services and volunteer programs open doors for our residents, staff, volunteers, and seniors around the country, helping to build and support strong, healthy communities.

“Covia aims to connect all older adults — regardless of income level, language spoken, or technological savvy. Well Connected and Well Connected Español are the most innovative, creative, and inviting programs out there. My wish is for everyone to experience the joys of being part of one of our virtual communities!”

AMBER CARROLL

DIRECTOR, WELL CONNECTED

Well Connected offers a wide range of classes and groups accessible from the comfort of home by phone or online.



Making meaningful connections

Already one of our most popular Community Services programs, Well Connected saw incredible growth this year — including the launch of Well Connected Español in April. Latinos and Latinas make up 8% of the older population nationwide, with a quarter living in California. We're excited to offer a phone-based program that connects the Spanish-speaking community with activities they can enjoy from their homes, and hope it will revolutionize the way Latino seniors age in place.

Well Connected Español is currently offering 25 Spanish-language groups and activities, including Encuentrame en la Cocina (Find Me in the Kitchen), Poesía de Otros Tiempos (Poetry From Other Times), and Lotería (Mexican bingo), allowing participants to partake in games and conversations tied to their Latino roots. Participants can join from anywhere and currently come from five states. Starting in January 2020, Well Connected Español is offering 39 Spanish language groups and activities. We hope to use this program as a model to offer Well Connected in more languages in the future.

Overall, Well Connected increased participation to over 1,800 participants in 44 states. Next year, we plan to continue our growth, refine our offerings, and increase our impact.



PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT **GLORIA LARIOS**

As a child in El Salvador, Gloria had to take care of her younger siblings rather than going to school — so she never thought of herself as someone with knowledge to share. But since joining Well Connected Español, she's found a renewed sense of purpose and belief in herself. Not only is she an active participant, she's now facilitating a Migration Story class.

OPENING DOORS WITH NEW PARTNERSHIPS

To extend our reach, Well Connected partners with organizations around the country:

Presented at multiple national conferences, including NTEN, American Society on Aging, LeadingAge, NCOA, Minnesota Aging & Disabilities Odyssey Conference, OIC-TAC, and Illinois Department of Aging Conference

Live streamed art events with the Chicago Art Institute

Launched accessible conferencing system to bring programming to those with cognitive and physical challenges

Extended outreach in New Hampshire in partnership with Easterseals

Received funding from Navigage Foundation, Metta Fund, Easterseals

Partnered with Meals on Wheels America and Brown University to explore using technology for social connection

Profiled in *U.S. News & World Report* and *Next Avenue*

“Well Connected Español is a loving, caring, and culturally sensitive community. We want our participants to learn, connect, and create together in a community where they feel supported and loved.”

LIZETTE SUAREZ

WELL CONNECTED ESPAÑOL PROGRAM MANAGER

Pets In Need visit Webster House

Animal lovers have long known the therapeutic benefits of having a furry friend, and so do the residents of Webster House in Palo Alto. Every month they look forward to a visit from Pets In Need, a local nonprofit organization that runs two no-kill shelters in Santa Clara County. Volunteers bring dogs to Webster House where residents can visit and spend time with them, giving the animals opportunities to develop socialization skills. Not only do the residents love petting and playing with the animals, the visits reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and provide emotional support, helping to counteract depression and feelings of loneliness. The program has been so successful, we're hoping to bring dogs in for visits weekly in 2020.



Paving the way for future doctors

In September, Presidio Gate Apartments, a Covia Affordable Community in San Francisco, welcomed a diverse group of medical students from UCSF for a tour of the community followed by a candid discussion about senior care, needs, and challenges. The Q&A covered a wide range of topics, from interventions and right to choose, to benefits, boundaries, and common roadblocks to providing care. Students were surprised to learn about some of the issues our staff face and the realities of life for residents. They also gained a sense of the vital role they can play in the lives of older adults as future doctors, especially the need for compassion in the growing field of gerontology.

“Book smarts can only take you so far.
It’s wonderful to see UCSF reaching out and
exploring other ways of teaching, and opening
up discussions about how our future doctors
can do more than just patch up patients.”

ESTHER KOC

RESIDENT SERVICE COORDINATOR

Healthy Connections at Webster House

Residents and staff at Webster House Health Center in Palo Alto welcomed pre-med student volunteers from Stanford University and other participating schools throughout the academic year. As part of the Healthy Connections program, students commit to completing 100 hours of service, which allows them to foster caring relationships with long-term residents. In addition to shadowing doctors, nurses, and physical therapists, they answer simple resident requests and provide support to prevent injuries and falls. They also host various projects to engage residents and improve their quality of life. The program helps students get firsthand experience in providing care and brings comfort to residents as well.





VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT
JACOB UMANS

Language barriers can increase isolation. This was a problem for one of our residents who only speaks Mandarin — until he met Jacob, a Healthy Connections volunteer. At 19, Jacob has completed all the requirements for a bachelor’s degree in biology at Stanford University and is applying to the MD/PhD program. He’s also a fluent Mandarin speaker. Over the last year, the pair have built a strong and lasting relationship, which has helped the resident overcome his isolation.



In January 2019, the Healthy Connection Pre-Medical Students Volunteer Program was presented with a grant award of \$15,000 from the Sereno Group’s 1% For Good Program.

Sharing resources





Helping more people live well

As an organization with over half a century of experience, understanding, and dedication to helping people age well, Covia is committed to sharing best practices. Through strong partnerships, ongoing outreach, and with the widening footprint of our Resident Services Coordination (RSC) program, we are helping older adults throughout California and beyond find new ways to live well and age well.

Keeping it fresh with Market Day

Good nutrition is vital to healthy living, but getting fresh fruits and vegetables can be challenging — especially for those who may have limited mobility or access to transportation. That’s why we are expanding Market Day, our popular low-cost fresh produce markets.

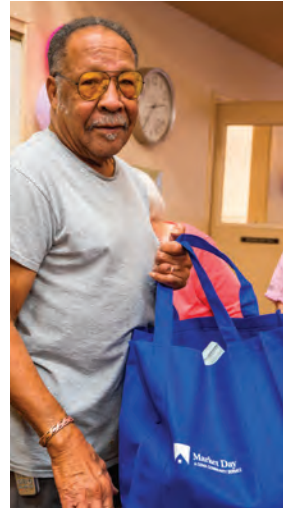
This year we added new markets in San Jose, Marin City, and at Emerson Village in Los Angeles, our first in Southern California. Shires Memorial Center in San Jose and Bethany Center Senior Housing will be opening Market Day in early 2020, and we are working with our RSC contract communities to open new Market Day sites, bringing fresh produce to seniors throughout the state. We also plan to enrich the market experience next year by educating shoppers about nutrition and other health-related topics.

“I look forward to Wednesdays because I enjoy meeting and talking with the regular shoppers, and appreciate the variety and freshness of the produce. Plus, the low cost is a great benefit to our budget.”

SHOPPER

ST. PAUL’S CHURCH, SALINAS

Market Day brings fresh fruit and vegetables as well as conviviality to senior affordable communities, senior centers, churches, and more.



Did you know Market Day has a mission within a mission?

We donate leftover fruit and vegetables to local nonprofits to share the wealth (and health) with others in need.

Helping people keep food on the table

For low-income individuals and families, having money to buy food and groceries is not always a given. CalFresh can help. For those who qualify, monthly food benefits are issued via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card, which can be used at grocery stores and farmers markets. Three Covia Market Days in the North Bay and the Home Delivered Grocery Program in Marin County now accept EBT cards. In 2020, we plan to bring EBT accessibility to all 23 Market Day locations to help low-income seniors get the fresh produce they need.

As with many benefit programs, the application process isn't easy. That's why we've partnered with the CalFresh Assister Program to help people apply and enroll. In just over two years, we've been able to sign up 140 individuals. Around a third of those we've enrolled this year are receiving well over the national average of \$110 a month. That amount can make a real difference in someone's well-being.

“You never know what this benefit means to people. One woman who came to me for help with her application cautiously told me she'd recently escaped an abusive relationship. CalFresh was an important resource to help establish her independence and start a new life.”

PAULA FREEMAN

CALFRESH MARIN PROGRAM SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Neighbors in harmony

Bethany Center Senior Housing in San Francisco provides opportunities for musicians to hone their craft and share their newfound skills in a supportive environment. Twice each week, Bethany opens its doors to their next-door neighbor, the Community Music Center, to use its multi-purpose room as a choir rehearsal space. Bethany also offers two rooms for private lessons, classes, and practice space. In exchange, the Community Music Center offers multiple performances for Bethany residents throughout the year.

Community Music Center also partnered with Bethany Center in San Francisco's Carnaval celebration. Students from the Center's Mission District Youth Marching Band brought the rhythm, Bethany Center residents brought the dance!



Fall prevention saves lives

For older adults, a fall can result in serious injury. That’s why Covia staff and volunteers work hard to spread the word about safety measures that can help prevent falls. As part of the Los Angeles Falls Prevention Coalition, Resident Service Coordinator Sara Choi translated falls prevention training materials into Korean. For Falls Prevention Awareness Week, Covia provided a handout to raise awareness, provide information, and offer resources to residents and their families, and made it available to download online. Next year, we plan to distribute fall prevention materials at Market Days, available in English, Spanish, Chinese, and other languages. Because safety should come first in any language.



Resident Service Coordinators Sara Choi and Chan Park (with Katherine Smith, Senior Director of Social Services, center), are honored at the Los Angeles Fall Prevention Recognition Award Ceremony for their work on fall prevention.

A culture of generosity





Giving and gratitude

As a nonprofit organization, Covia has always relied on the generosity of individuals and organizations to support our work. In addition to financial contributions, our residents give generously of their time and talent. Our employees go the extra mile to provide care and support. And our network of partners and volunteers strive to create change for the people, communities, and goals we serve. Kindness. Care. Generosity. These characteristics are built into everything we do.

Covia Foundation

We couldn't be more proud of the work the Covia Foundation does each year, from providing financial assistance to those in need, to supporting the wide range of Community Services programs that keep seniors connected and engaged. This year we brought together people from all walks of life to carry out our mission of nourishing vitality and building strong, healthy communities.

Circle of Friends

To provide ongoing support for Covia Life Plan Community residents who outlive their resources, we hosted the fourth annual Circle of Friends luncheon, A Tasteful Affair. The sold-out event was planned by a committee of residents from three of our communities and hosted at Spring Lake Village. We were also blessed to receive a generous legacy gift of \$100,000 from a resident's estate. This year, the Circle of Friends provided funds to support 44 neighbors in need.



In 2019, nearly one thousand donors made gifts to the **Covia Foundation** to support life-changing services for seniors.



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

PIANIST VAN MOLLER

Long-time Spring Lake Village resident Van Moller has been tickling the ivories since he was nine years old. Every Saturday he plays and sings to a devoted crowd in the Great Hall. To support the Circle of Friends, he provided a DVD of his music for those who made a donation. That kind of support is music to our ears.

CELTIC CUP WINS AGAIN

The Covia Foundation hosted the 8th Annual Celtic Cup Golf Tournament and Gala at the Berkeley Country Club. More than 230 people joined the sold-out event and raised over \$275,000 for low-income seniors. A big thank you to all who came out! We hope to see you again this year on April 27th. Learn more at celticcup.org.



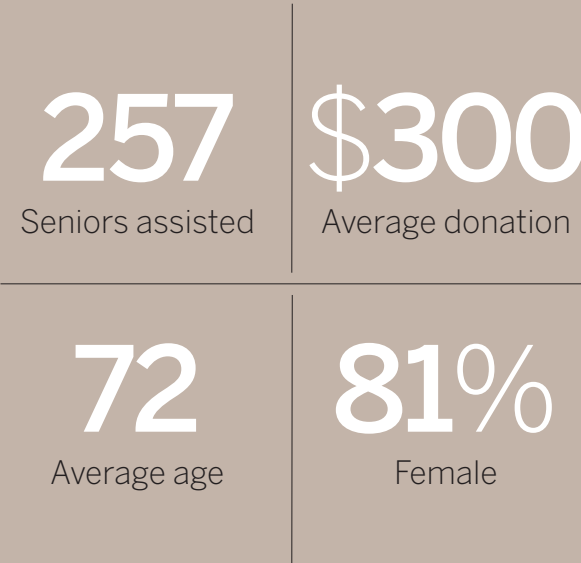


EMERGENCY FUNDING

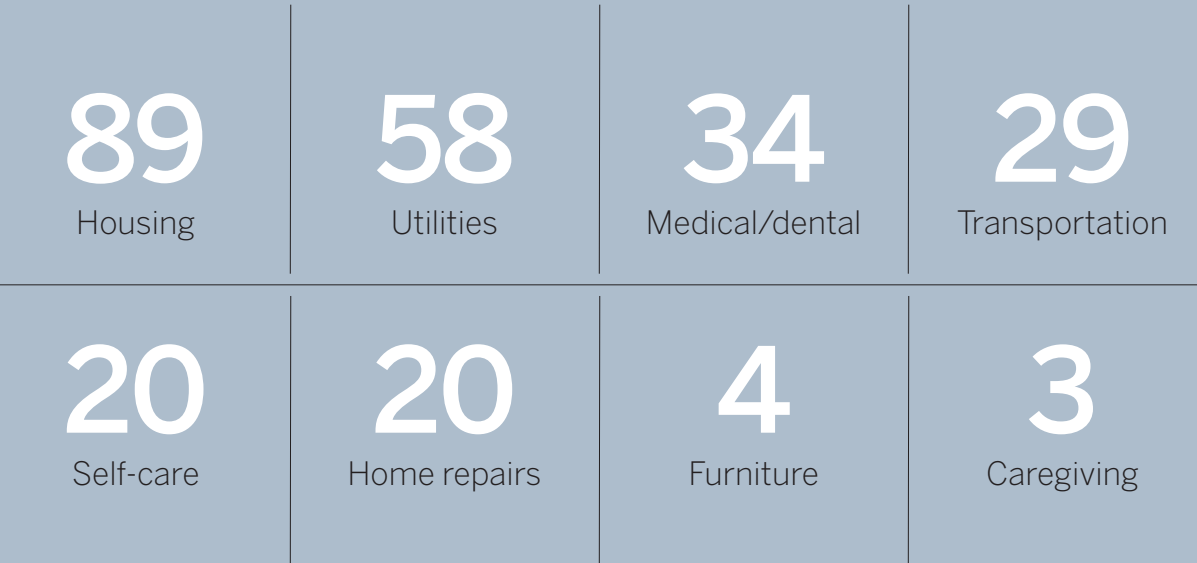
For older adults, unexpected expenses can be devastating. That’s why Covia is proud to provide emergency funding to help seniors get the care, services, and goods they need, when they need it most. The chart below shows how we helped in times of crisis this year.

Through the Emergency Funds program, Covia was able to purchase clothing, shoes, underwear, and socks for a formerly homeless 83-year-old man living in a post-acute care center who literally had only the clothes on his back when he entered the facility. Emergency funds also provided rental assistance and vehicle repairs, covered dental insurance payments, and much more.

EMERGENCY FUNDING IMPACT



FUNDING CATEGORIES SUPPORTED



Supporting vital services

This year the Covia Foundation partnered with corporate and institutional funders to provide more than \$600,000 in support of Covia Community Services programs. Several residents also contributed specific gifts for projects close to their hearts and to the communities where they live. Many program participants supported the programs they care about with regular monthly gifts.

Looking forward, we will continue to share information with the wider community about the many ways people can provide charitable support, including tailoring gifts to specific passions. We encourage supporters to consider including a legacy gift in their will to provide ongoing support for the communities and services that have made a difference in their lives. We are always looking to expand our support base, just as we're always looking to expand our reach. To make a gift of any size, visit covia.org/donate.



As always, I want to thank everyone who helps Covia carry out its mission. I am proud and humbled by the work of our staff, residents, volunteers, donors, board members, and more who make Covia the great organization that it is.

For all of us at Covia, “building healthy communities” is more than words. It’s something we believe in deeply and put into practice every day.

If you are not yet part of Covia, we invite you to learn more about us and to join us in our mission. Together, we can do even more to make our communities places where everyone can find meaning and purpose in a place they call home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kevin J. Gerber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kevin" and last name "Gerber" clearly legible.

KEVIN GERBER
President and Chief Executive Officer



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Live well
and age well—
anywhere
you call home.

Covia is a nonprofit organization that promotes well-being by building strong and engaging communities, connecting people with the services they need to thrive, and providing compassionate, personalized support. We've been working with seniors for over 50 years and we're here to help you live the way you want to — today and tomorrow.

covia.org
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