Ways to Age Well

2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

IN HONOR OF OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY,
WE'D LIKE TO PRESENT:

75 years young
Mather LifeWays Board of Directors

Our board of directors provides governance, oversight, and assistance in setting our strategic direction.

Graham Atkinson, Former Chief Marketing and Customer Experience Officer, Walgreen Co.

Timothy Burke, Former Partner and Chief Financial Officer, William Blair & Company

Paulette Dodson, Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary, PetSmart

Nancy Felton-Elkins, Former Senior Vice President and Fiduciary Division Head, Wealth Management Group, The Northern Trust Company

Mary Louise Corno, Managing Director, Ingenuity International

Victoria Hergot, Former Managing Director, Zurich Scudder Investments

Dian Langenhorst, Adjunct Faculty, Health Systems Management, Loyola University

Mary Leary, CEO and President, Mather LifeWays

Roger Lumpp II, Former Director, KPMG and Mather LifeWays Board Chair

Michael McGee, Former Partner, Chapman and Cutler LLP

William McLean, Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, Northwestern University

John Phillips, Former CEO and Chairman, Corporate Solutions Group, Jones Lang LaSalle

Scott Smith, Former Publisher, Chicago Tribune, and President, Tribune Publishing

Terence Toth, Co-Founding Partner, Promus Capital LLC
Over the past 75 years, Mather LifeWays has discovered—and invented—many Ways to Age Well. As a meaningful way to mark our anniversary, you’ll find 75 more of them sprinkled throughout these pages.

You’ll also find updates on our senior living residences, community initiatives, and Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging. The last few pages provide an overview of our history—including an introduction to our founder, Alonzo Mather, who set the bar for our commitment to innovation.

This booklet offers many examples of this commitment, from our success in helping to craft a new name for Continuing Care Retirement Communities (page 5), to the extraordinary transformation of Mather Place of Wilmette (page 9), to research on how to proactively boost your happiness—and your health (page 19).

We’ve reached a significant milestone—and we’re looking forward to more. As we continue to grow our presence in Chicagoland and find ways to reach more older adults in person and online, we’ll achieve greater impact, significance, and sustainability. As always, our plans will be guided by our mission of enhancing the lives of older adults by creating Ways to Age Well.

We’re grateful to those who make our mission possible—our dedicated Board, employees, residents, and customers.

Here’s to celebrating the past and embracing the future.
Mather LifeWays by the Numbers
As of December 31, 2015

$15.5 million contributed by Mather LifeWays to enhance the lives of older adults through a combination of initiatives in senior living, community-based programs, and Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging

$3.5 million in financial assistance provided to residents of our senior living residences

$631 million in total assets, with net assets of nearly $393 million

$450 million in investments in our endowment and trusts

$239 million in owned or managed property and equipment

105,595 older adults served in 2015 (directly and indirectly)

OUR MISSION
Mather LifeWays enhances the lives of older adults by creating Ways to Age Well.™

OUR VISION
To transform people’s views of older adults

OUR CORE VALUES
Purposeful
Possible
Extraordinary
Transformational

Making a Name for Our Industry

Language matters. That’s why Mather LifeWays has created our own dictionary—dubbing our executives “the Possibilities Team,” trading departments for “experience centers,” and upgrading retirement to Repriorment™, where older adults have time to rediscover priorities and passions they may have pushed aside but not forgotten.

In 2015, we were delighted to play a role in a major change in the language of senior living, as our industry agreed to use the category name “Life Plan Community” rather than “Continuing Care Retirement Community.”

This name change did not happen overnight. Mather LifeWays partnered with LeadingAge, the association of not-for-profit senior living/aging services providers, on a national initiative that took more than two years and included multiple meetings, focus groups, and surveys to identify an appropriate new name. The result: a fitting term for what consumers call the place where they, or their parents, may “reprior”—a name that speaks to the idea that living and planning are central influences for those most likely to move to a Life Plan Community.

As an organization with two Life Plan Communities and a love of positive language, we heartily endorse the new name.

Cultivating a New Crop of Leaders

Who are Mather LifeWays future leaders? With this question in mind, we’ve created an in-house program called “Ways to Lead Well.” The year-long leadership development program is designed to provide participants the opportunity to significantly develop their leadership brand and competencies to gain insight and real-life experience for leading within Mather LifeWays.

Employees apply to be accepted into the program, which is limited to 12 fellows per class. In May 2015, our inaugural class graduated with much pomp and ORANGE-stance. It was a very fitting tribute for future Mather LifeWays leaders!
Creating a Culture of Wellness

Mather LifeWays employees work well. That is, the organization offers a culture that values and promotes employee wellness, as befits our mission. Mather LifeWays offers employees many Ways to Age Well, including:

• free annual wellness fairs that enable employees to receive an in-depth health assessment and screening
• our unique learning to Age Well program, which reimburses up to $120 annually for learning something new or trying a new healthy behavior, whether you take Zumba classes, learn Italian, or join Weight Watchers
• our “Eliminating my Impossibilities” (EMI) philosophical and operational approach, which supports both employees (and older adults) in discovering their own dreams and passions, eliminating barriers to happiness and fulfillment

We strive to be an employer of choice, which helps us attract and select the best talent.

TRY A NEW KIND OF EXERCISE.

Senior Living

A t Mather LifeWays, we’re constantly striving to explore new ideas, expand our thinking, and grow our programs and initiatives. Our 2014–2018 five-year strategic plan focuses on growth—including increasing the number of Mather LifeWays senior living residences. In 2015, we concentrated on this goal and actively pursued several strong opportunities for developing new Life Plan Communities. As of March 2016, these are currently in various stages of research, application, and review.

Create Memorable Moments

Creating memorable moments supports our mission to help older adults Age Well.

One of those memorable moments occurred in September 2015. The Chicago Cubs were wrapping up a tremendous season, the weather and Wrigley Field were gorgeous, and the fans were happy and excited. Among them was longtime Mather Place of Wilmette resident Ruth Bower. Mrs. Bower, 100 years young, attended her first Cubs game in 1927 and was delighted to attend her most recent, on September 22, as the guest of Mather Place of Wilmette. Staff showered her with VIP treatment, including transportation, accessible seating, photo opps with Mather LifeWays team members, and a gift bag from the Cubs.

Mrs. Bower told Mather Place of Wilmette Experience Director Drew Kowalski that her 100th birthday party was a special event, but that going to the game “took the cake.”

Senior Living by the Numbers

As of December 2015:

The Mather is 100% sold and occupied
Splendido is 99% sold and 96% occupied
Mather Place of Wilmette is 100% leased and occupied

As of summer 2016,
51 one- and two-bedroom apartment homes are being added to Mather Place of Wilmette

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LAUGH OFTEN.

Snack on a superfruit. Start a new chapter.

Nourish your soul. Discover your inner fish.

Transformation Complete!
At Mather Place of Wilmette, we completed a spectacular renovation of first-floor amenity areas, including:

• the Fairfield Room, a delightful gathering space where residents can meet up with friends
• the Gateway Gallery, a glass-enclosed corridor with cozy seating areas and views of our gardens
• the all-new Alonzo’s restaurant, serving hearty, healthy, and fresh fare
• a library with a cozy fireplace, lots of reading materials, computer stations, and inviting places to recharge and relax
• the Reel Room, a movie theater with comfortable seating and a theater-quality sound system
• a fitness center with cardiovascular and strength training equipment, as well as a group exercise studio
• Cotton Spa & Salon, offering day spa services
• Possibilities, a meeting space for group presentations, meetings, parties, and other get-togethers
• Palettes, an art studio where residents can pursue painting, drawing, and other creative arts

Still to come: An expansion of the community will be complete in summer 2016. This will add new apartment homes and additional amenity areas, including a second restaurant, an indoor swimming pool, and an all-season gazebo.

Senior Living
Mather Place of Wilmette

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Setting the Pace for Fitness
Eight weeks of training paid off for 17 residents of The Mather in September 2015 as they took part in The Mather’s first mini-triathlon. While participants followed the traditional triathlon framework—exercising on foot, on bikes, and in the water—times and mechanics were adjusted for these 60-, 70-, and 80-year-olds.

The triathletes performed 10 minutes each of swimming in The Mather’s pool, power walking, and biking on stationary bikes.

The Mather is so proud of these winning athletes for their hard work, determination, and willingness to go the extra mile in focusing on their fitness.

Resident of The Mather Honored
The Illinois Art Therapy Association honored Dr. Harriet Wadeson, a resident of The Mather, with the Myra Levick Award for Excellence in Art Therapy. The Mather hosted the celebration, and Dr. Wadeson’s family, friends, professionals, and former students were in attendance to honor her.
Put Possibilities into Action

The staff and residents of this unique and socially responsible community are committed to enhancing the lives of people in Oro Valley and Tucson through Splendido’s “Possibilities in Action” program.

Possibilities in Action takes on a wide range of outreach, sponsorship, and volunteer initiatives—from food donation and clothes collection drives, to the American Heart Association’s Heart and Stroke Walk, to hosting a meet-and-greet with the musical director of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra.
At Mather LifeWays, creative expression is at the heart of everything we do. Here are just a few of the ways the arts are coming to life in our communities.

**Portrait of an Artist-Resident**

Palettes, the art studio at Mather Place of Wilmette, is extremely popular with artists at all levels of talent and experience. Creativity is encouraged in a variety of media, from painting, to sculpting, to fiber arts. Some residents stick to one medium—others, like Leah Rossin, like to dabble. Mrs. Rossin moved to Mather Place of Wilmette one year ago and started exploring some of the art workshops. She tried her hand at paper-making, art for mindfulness, fiber art painting, and ceramics. Under the guidance of our art guru, Mrs. Rossin fell in love with painting. In fact, she has created more than 40 hand-painted silk scarves to give as gifts to everyone in her family!

Mrs. Rossin is a picture-perfect example of Repriorment™—exploring and discovering new passions.

**Adding Technology to Art Therapy**

Mather LifeWays received a silver award in Dignity through Technology from McKnight’s Excellence in Technology Awards for its innovative use of stop-motion animated videos in resident art therapy programs. Our art therapist discovered that residents enjoy making short movies—and that these projects are quite effective for residents living with cognitive or physical limitations. Our therapist works with residents to incorporate their personal objects, artifacts, or artwork as subjects or characters within the movie and adds relevant music, poetry, or recorded conversation for the soundtrack. The end result: residents are able to participate in art and share their individual stories and strengths in a creative and dignified way.

**Combining Creativity and Philanthropy**

Two prominent characteristics of Splendido residents are their commitment to art and their spirit of philanthropy. These two qualities sometimes come together, such as when a small group of talented artists agreed to show their work at a December 2015 benefit for the Southern Arizona Arts & Cultural Alliance (SAACA) and donate all proceeds from sales to the organization’s creative arts therapy program.

On another occasion, 10 Splendido residents—including artists, as well as willing volunteers with undiscovered talents—devoted their time to hand-painting unique beads to be used on Ben’s Bells. Ben’s Bells Project is a Tucson-based nonprofit dedicated to inspiring, educating, and motivating people to realize the impact of intentional kindness. It works primarily through coordinating an army of local volunteers to create beautiful, hand-crafted, ceramic wind chimes (or bells) and placing them randomly around the community for people to find and take home as a reminder to practice intentional kindness.

**Splendido Resident Artwork Featured at Mather Place of Wilmette**

One of the stunning new works of art incorporated into the transformation of Mather Place of Wilmette is an original photograph by Splendido resident Irving Olson, 102, who invented a proprietary method for photographing water droplets (photo shown at right). Mr. Olson was featured on the Smithsonian website for his invention.

**Explore new interests.**

Testing the Waters for Nighttime Programming

What do older adults in neighborhoods want? What do they need? What can we add to our programming? These are the questions Mather LifeWays frequently asks about the Chicago neighborhoods and suburbs we serve. And, recently, we found some answers that will change the way we operate. Or, rather, they will change the hours we operate.

Throughout 2015, each of the Mather’s—More Than a Café locations began experimenting with evening and after-hours programming—typically live entertainment with or without a meal. The response was positive across the board. For example, more than 100 customers danced for hours at each of the monthly evening steppers’ and line dance parties at Mather’s in Chatham.

Our customers have spoken (some with their tapping feet), and, in 2016, all Café locations will be expanding their hours to meet the needs of older adults who are hungry for evening entertainment and dining.

Community Initiatives

For the community-based initiatives of Mather LifeWays, 2015 was a year of planning for growth and expansion of our portfolio of offerings. This growth will come to fruition in 2016 and will include:

- Two of the Mather’s—More Than a Café locations undergoing renovations to update and refresh the interiors
- Hours at the Cafés being extended
- A new dining program starting up in Skokie, Illinois. This program will offer a low-cost lunch to older adults.
Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging

Staffed by nationally recognized researchers, the Institute is an award-winning resource for research and information about wellness, aging, trends in senior living, and successful aging services innovations. From conducting new research to sharing the latest studies for professionals who serve older adults, the Institute is dedicated to supporting ways for older adults to Age Well.

Research at Work

During 2015, researchers at the Institute were busy with a number of projects:

• completing the initial phase of a Savoring Intervention study to determine if older adults can increase their ability to savor positive experiences and, thus, potentially improve their physical and emotional health (the answer is yes!)
• conducting workshops at The Mather and Mather Edgewater on storytelling to monitor its positive effects on resilience
• presenting on a wide range of topics at industry conferences, including brain health and positive aging

Collaborating with University Partners

Researchers at the Institute partner with colleagues at various universities on Visiting Scholar research projects, which are funded by Mather LifeWays. This strategic initiative expands the Institute’s portfolio of wellness research in the areas of positive aging, resilience, and motivators of healthy behaviors. Current and recent Visiting Scholar partners and projects include:

• University of California, Berkeley—research on implementing Mather LifeWays’ Boost Your Brain & Memory program among Village members in Illinois and California, and research on the continued development of the Village model in the United States, including coalition and partnership-building
• University of Arkansas—research on the psychosocial impact of older adults’ participation in the virtual community, Second Life (use of avatars)
• Loyola University of Chicago—research on changing older adults’ perceptions of aging by savoring positive experiences

Recognizing Innovation in the Aging Services Industry

Mather LifeWays values innovation. As part of our efforts to share innovative ideas and help create “next practices,” we created the Promising Practices Awards. Each year, these awards recognize organizations that are serving older adults in original and exciting ways. There are four categories: innovation, outcomes, replication, and impact. Read about the latest recipients at www.matherlifewaysinstituteonaging.com/promising.

Spreading the Word on the Power of Savoring

In 2015, the Institute released a consumer-friendly document that summarized recent research on savoring and resilience in older adults. This research shows that happier people tend to report having better physical health, greater psychological well-being, more fulfilling relationships, and a deeper sense of purpose. Fortunately, you can increase your happiness by savoring positive experiences. The act of savoring enhances your ability to find joy. That’s because it increases your mindfulness and appreciation of positive experiences.

Here are some savoring strategies you can start using today to boost your happiness and Age Well:

1. Say “thank you.” Choose someone who has had a positive impact on your life, and write him or her a note expressing your gratitude.
2. Treat yourself to learning something new. Regularly schedule uninterrupted time to focus on a hobby or learn a new skill.
3. Increase your appreciation. You can avoid taking good things for granted by imagining what it would be like if you lost them. Try skipping your afternoon coffee or sweets for a week—you’ll savor them more after the break.

You can download the complete document at www.matherlifewaysinstituteonaging.com/savoring.

SHOW YOUR DIMPLES

Savor positive experiences.
A lonzo Mather was a descendent of Richard Mather, a Puritan who came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1635. In the New World, Richard became an influential minister and helped establish the Congregational Church. Richard had six sons; among them was Increase, president of Harvard College from 1681 to 1701. Increase was the father of Cotton Mather, the fiery minister now best remembered for the brief theological support he gave (and soon regretted giving) to the Salem Witch Trials. Cotton also published over 400 sermons, essays, and other works, and was instrumental in the founding of Yale University.

Alonzo Mather was directly descended from Timothy Mather, the only son of Richard who did not enter the clergy, electing rather to tend to family business. Subsequent generations of Mathers in America produced prominent leaders in various fields, including Stephen Mather, the founder of the National Park Service.

Mather LifeWays traces its history back to 1941, when Alonzo Mather, an entrepreneur, humanitarian, and philanthropist, bequeathed his fortune to create a home for “ladies of refinement” who lost their incomes when their husbands passed away. He funded one of the earliest Continuing Care Retirement Communities (now known as Life Plan Communities) in Evanston, Illinois.

Alonzo was truly an innovator, constantly thinking of new ways to do or improve things. At the age of 31, he had an experience that set the direction for the rest of his life. During an all-night train journey, Alonzo witnessed a bull killing weaker animals in the same freight car. The shocking sight inspired his fortune-motivating invention of a more humane animal stock car, for which he earned a gold medal from the American Humane Society.

Alonzo went on to secure a total of 31 patents for a variety of inventions, from a ladies’ glove fastener to an automatic coupling mechanism for train cars. One of his most ambitious ideas was to build a bridge over the Niagara River that would incorporate power-producing water wheels. In 1927, the Peace Bridge connecting Buffalo, New York, with Fort Erie, Ontario, was constructed on almost the exact spot he had in mind. Alonzo donated the land on the Canadian approach to the bridge, which is now known as Mather Park.

In 1927, Alonzo built the Mather Tower at 75 E. Wacker Drive in Chicago. At the time, this 43-story structure was Chicago’s tallest building.

Alonzo was the epitome of Aging Well. At age 93, he was working on a plan to produce a personal flying machine that would sell for less than $1,000; he thought everyone should have one. In fact, he’d taken out a patent to mass-produce metallic wings.

Alonzo’s past fuels our future. Today, Mather LifeWays remains committed to innovating and creating best practices to serve older adults.
1941  Alonzo Mather passes away in Los Angeles, California, at age 93, leaving a $6.2 million charitable trust to establish The Mather Home (now known as Mather LifeWays) in Evanston, Illinois.

1952  The Mather Home for Aged Ladies officially opens in Evanston.

1987  The mission of The Mather Foundation broadens to include other communities and services to benefit older adults.

1990  The Mather Foundation assumes sponsorship of The Georgian in Evanston.

1999  Two new areas of service are established—Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging and Community Initiatives.

2000  First Mather’s—More Than a Café opens in Chicago’s Galewood-Montclare neighborhood.

2001  First national awards are received, recognizing the Mather’s—More Than a Café concept and LEAP.

2004  Mather’s—More Than a Café opens in Chicago’s Chatham neighborhood.

2005  Café Plus—a café replication model for communities nationwide—is implemented.

2008  Sonora, a health center at Splendido, opens.

2010  Mather LifeWays is named one of the Chicago Tribune’s “Top 100 Workplaces” for the first time.

2013  Mather LifeWays achieves the milestone of directly serving more than 40,000 older adults per year.

2015  Mather LifeWays plays an instrumental role in renaming the senior living category, “Continuing Care Retirement Community,” as “Life Plan Community.”

Here are some significant milestones along our 75-year journey to eliminate impossibilities for the older adults we serve.

75 Years of Aging Well
Life Begins at 75.

We hope you have enjoyed our 75 Ways to Age Well, and we look forward to sharing many more innovative ideas over the next 75 years. We’re proud of our long history of serving older adults, and of our founder who made our organization possible. Like Alonzo, our organization’s leadership puts purposeful thought into finding ways to enhance people’s lives. Instead of patenting flying machines, we are inventing new approaches and avenues to help older adults soar to new heights. Through our strategic initiatives, Mather LifeWays will continue to expand and to offer our residents and customers fresh possibilities for personal growth, creative outlets, and exploration.

Mather Possibilities

Inspired by our history of philanthropy and acts of generosity from residents, businesses, foundations, and community members, we created Mather Possibilities to welcome contributions in support of our mission.

For more information, please contact us at possibilities@matherlifeways.com. To make a donation, make your check payable to Mather Possibilities and mail to:

Mather Possibilities

c/o Mather LifeWays
1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 1800
Evanston, IL 60201
To learn more about our senior living residences, community-based initiatives, and Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging, call (847) 492.7500, or find your way to www.matherlifeways.com.

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**Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging**
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**The Mather**
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Evanston, IL 60201  
(847) 492.7400

**Splendido**
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Tucson, AZ 85755  
(888) 381.8889

**Mather Place of Wilmette**
2801 Old Glenview Road  
Wilmette, IL 60091  
(847) 256.9300

**Mather’s—More Than a Café**
7134 W. Higgins Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60656  
(773) 774.4804

**3235 N. Central Avenue**
Chicago, IL 60634  
(773) 205.3300

**33 E. 83rd Street**
Chicago, IL 60619  
(773) 488.2801

**Mather Edgewater**
1020 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60660  
(773) 769.0299

**MOREways**
6140 Dempster Street  
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