

REFLECTIONS

VOLUME 47 NUMBER 2 | AUTUMN 2025 | TEAM WILLOW BROOK



LIVE
WORK
THRIVE



WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

“The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.”—Phil Jackson

Do you know the old adage, “There’s no I in team?” Well, that is not altogether true. As a teammate, what you bring to the table matters. You have skills, experiences, perspectives, and gifts to contribute that are uniquely yours. And yet, these abilities and talents, even when combined with others’ unique abilities and talents, are not what makes a team. A team is created when all its members are acting for the greater good, united by a larger purpose, shared values, or a common goal. That is the spirit we have been nurturing at Willow Brook. We are now 510 teammates strong, united in our mission, vision, and CHRIST-led values as we move forward together. Thank you, teammates, for making Willow Brook such a special place to live and work. This one is for you!

Reflections is published by Willow Brook Christian Communities
Cathy Courtice, Editor
Christina Dresdow, Designer

Cover Photo: Collage of photos from the Willow Brook Teammate & Family Picnic
Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer | stacermedia.com



WILLOW BROOK
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES

Our Mission: Guided by Christ’s love, Willow Brook creates joy-filled community for residents and teammates to live, work, and thrive.



WILLOW BROOK HOME
A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

55 Lazelle Road
Columbus, OH 43235
614-885-3300



WILLOW BROOK VILLAGE
A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

100 Willow Brook Way South
Delaware, OH 43015
740-369-0048



WILLOW BROOK RUN
A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

100 Delaware Crossing West
Delaware, OH 43015
740-201-5640

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willow-brook.org





FIRESIDE CHATS WITH CEO TROY MCKNIGHT




Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer

TEAMMATE SPIRIT

Teammate. It's a specific and intentional term we use at Willow Brook to define our employees. Our teammate culture is the heartbeat of everything we do. Guided by Christ's love, our mission and vision call us to create joy-filled communities where residents and teammates can truly live, work, and thrive. You can see that joy in the way teammates work together, lifting each other up, and serving with one spirit; and this spirit is evident the moment you step through our doors.

Walk down any hallway and you'll be met with smiles, warm greetings, and the kind of genuine care that can only come from teammates who see their work as a calling. They embody compassion in the way they serve, harmony in how they connect, and integrity in every interaction. It's more than a workplace, it's a community bound together by shared values and a commitment to doing good at every opportunity.

This summer, we celebrated that spirit during our 1st annual Willow Brook Teammate Appreciation Week. The laughter, fellowship, and joy-filled moments were a reflection of the dedication our teammates pour into their work every single day. Whether caring for residents, supporting families, or encouraging one another, their love and commitment shine through.

At Willow Brook, we believe culture is lived, not spoken. Our teammates nurture joy, honor dignity, and foster connection in countless small ways that make a big difference. Their energy and warmth ripple through our community, ensuring that every resident feels cared for and every family feels welcome. Together, we continue to build a future rooted in faith, love, and joy. 



THE WILLOW BROOK TEAMMATE & FAMILY PICNIC: A HISTORIC GATHERING

Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer

As the capstone to Teammate Appreciation Week, Willow Brook hosted a vibrant teammate and family picnic, bringing together colleagues, friends, and loved ones in a nature-infused atmosphere of gratitude and camaraderie.

For the first time in its 53-year history, Willow Brook teammates and their families from all three campuses came together for a laid-back and fun afternoon on the sprawling grounds of Recreation Unlimited in Ashley, Ohio. The weather cooperated with warm temperatures and teammates and families spent time strolling the grounds, cooling off at the splash pad, fishing in the lake, playing games, enjoying hearty picnic fare, and spending time with

colleagues and family. Willow Brook teammate t-shirts were also distributed.

The picnic marked a new chapter in Willow Brook's commitment to fostering a sense of community across its campuses and to truly living its mission to create "joy-filled community for residents and teammates to live, work, and thrive." The event provided a meaningful opportunity to celebrate not only the dedication and hard work of Willow Brook's team, but also the families who support them every day.

This inaugural all-campus gathering set a powerful precedent for future events at Willow Brook. The success of the

picnic demonstrated the value of bringing teammates together as members of a unified Willow Brook family.

Chief Executive Officer Troy McKnight sees the picnic becoming the central teammate event of the year. "The summer teammate and family picnic is a fun, low-stress event. Our teammates can bring their whole family, and those with children or grandchildren do not have to worry about childcare or an evening event, which can be limiting. The Recreation



Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer

Unlimited venue lends itself to relaxation and fun with room to grow. I am excited to make this an annual event that pulls out all the stops!"

As Willow Brook looks forward to many more years of service and growth, the teammate and family picnic gives teammates the opportunity for cross-campus interaction and getting to know one another outside the four walls of the workplace.

Thank you to everyone who participated, organized, and made this historic picnic possible. Here's to celebrating each other—today and every day at Willow Brook! 🍷



Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer



Photo Credit: Dominic Stacer



THE WILLOW BROOK WARRIORS

The Willow Brook Warriors represented at The 2025 Delaware Walk to End Alzheimer's! It is a cause that is near and dear to our hearts. It was meaningful to be so closely involved this year as a premier local sponsor, as well as having teammates, residents, and board members participate in the ceremony and walk.


If you would like to help our cause, you can donate by scanning this QR code. Donations can be submitted until the end of the year and are tax deductible! 



Photo Credit: Christina Dresdow




Photo Credit: Christina Dresdow

THANK YOU FOR 26 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR TEAM!



Photo Credit: Cathy Courtice

John Lindeboom (3rd from the right) with his team, as they wish him well on his retirement.

Over 100 residents, friends, family, and teammates gathered at Willow Brook Village to celebrate Chef John Lindeboom and his 26 years of service to Willow Brook. October 10th was John's last day with us, but his presence will remain in the culinary program he has built and nurtured, his high expectations for both food quality and customer service, and the guidance, leadership, and mentorship he has provided to his team and countless teammates over the years. If ever there was an example of the "Willow Brook Way," it is John Lindeboom. He leaves more than a culinary legacy—he leaves a legacy of Love. Thank you, John, for being such an important part of the Willow Brook story. We will miss you, and we wish you all the best in your next chapter. 

GIFT OF LOVE

The Gift of Love Award is presented to volunteers who have actively invested generous time and effort for the benefit of our Willow Brook residents during the past year. We are delighted to share the 2025 recipients with you!



WILLOW BROOK HOME

A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Recipient Jonna Smith (R)
with director of activities
Christy Turner (L).



WILLOW BROOK VILLAGE

A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY



Recipient Beth Schwartzmueller (M) with
executive director Nicole Ketron (L) and life
enrichment coordinator Julie Bardelang-Wolf (R).



WILLOW BROOK RUN

A WILLOW BROOK CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Recipient Judy Corley (M)
with executive director
John Regalsky (L) and life
enrichment coordinator
Cassie Call (R).



Photo Credits: Willow Brook Teammates



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Willow Brook Christian Communities
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Delaware, OH 43015

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Fall leaves beginning to turn along the
fountain path at Willow Brook Run.
Photo Credit: Christina Dresdow

