



## *Newsletter – August 2010*

*Dear Residents, Families, and Staff:*

*July has been a month of transitions here at Maristhill. We said goodbye to Sr. Joan O'Neil, our previous Pastoral Care Director, who has moved to the Mother House of her order, the Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Trinity, located in Philadelphia. Sr. Joan has been part of our community for close to 20 years, when she first came from her mission in the South to support her mother, who was a patient here those many years ago. Ever since then, Sr. Joan has been with us in one capacity or another and she has enriched all of us with her faith, determination, and courage. We will miss her but we understand she is embarking on a new chapter of life with her fellow sisters. I know she would welcome visitors to the Philadelphia area!*

*I am happy to announce the arrival of our new Director of Social Services, Laura Cecere. Laura comes to us from Sancta Maria Nursing Facility and brings great experience, background, and energy to the position. She has already rearranged her office and is starting to meet residents and their families. We look forward to Laura's contributions to the team. Please join me in welcoming her!*

*On a practical note, the Maintenance Department has asked me to request that family members call before bringing in any electrical device or equipment. There are very strict regulations about what is permissible in the resident rooms. All items using electricity must be inspected, tagged, and logged by the Maintenance Department to ensure safety. In addition, the use of unauthorized plugs or extension cords is extremely dangerous and any such items will be removed as noted during rounds. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding as we try to be diligent about fire safety in this environment.*

*Maristhill has recently agreed to partner with the Hebrew Rehabilitation Center's Institute for Aging Research. We will be participating in a study of Pathogen Resistance and Exposure to Antimicrobials in Dementia sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. We are very excited about the opportunity to be involved in research that will result in new understandings and practice in the care of late stage dementia patients. Families of patients who are appropriate to participate in the study will receive a phone call from the research staff to obtain permission and learn more about what is involved.*

*We have been very gratified to see a number of family members at our summer barbecues and encourage you to join us for the August cook-outs, which hopefully will not be "cook-in's"!*

*Sincerely,  
Carolyn Fenn, Administrator*