The Campaign to Rebuild, Expand, Preserve and Operate

The Lillian Booth Home
A Legacy of Care for Seniors in Performing Arts and Entertainment

Since 1882, The Actors Fund has been helping performing arts and entertainment professionals. In 1902, we opened our first retirement home in Staten Island, New York which moved to Englewood, New Jersey in 1928. Today, The Lillian Booth Home continues this tradition of care through our 124-bed assisted living and skilled care facility. The Home is a gold standard for senior care and a recipient of both U.S. News and World Report’s coveted “Best Nursing Homes in America” as well as the highest rating of 5 Stars from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Increasing Demand
Over the next 20 years, the numbers of older Americans will increase by almost 50 percent. Because of economic insecurity and the changing landscape of health care and health insurance, communities are working to improve the quality of life for today’s seniors as well as for seniors to come. The need for long-term care facilities is increasing. Specialized care is in greater demand especially for adults suffering from dementia or needing sub-acute care. The Actors Fund continues to see a steady increase in demand for The Home. More than 20 prospective residents are turned away every month due to a lack of beds.

Facility Upgrades
The Home’s current assisted living facility was built in 1959 as a retirement home. Its existing wood-frame structure is outdated and must be rebuilt, expanded and modernized to improve the resident experience, embrace technology and meet current building codes. In addition, cooling and heating systems must be upgraded, asbestos removed and an underground fuel tank closed.

Financial Self-Sufficiency
To ensure that performing arts professionals and their families always have a residence which provides the highest quality care regardless of their ability to pay, The Actors Fund subsidizes the care of those residents who are Medicaid qualified. In 2014, The Actors Fund spent $900,000 to subsidize the care of the 71 percent of residents receiving Medicaid. With the addition of 45 new beds, increasing capacity from 124 to 169 residents, The Home will become financially self-sufficient, eliminating the need for subsidies from The Actors Fund within five years. This will allow us to allocate future contributions towards a reserve, as well as enhance beautification projects and expand programming.

The Case for Rebuilding, Expanding, Preserving and Operating The Lillian Booth Home
Our new modernized assisted living facility will create a resident-centered, home-like setting uniquely poised to transform care. It will help us enhance independence, encourage participation and respect and preserve dignity, all in a beautiful, supportive environment. The building is designed to maximize natural lighting through expansive windows with views of the six-acre campus, gardens and the great lawn. This project will add 25,000 square feet of new space that includes new bedrooms, resident amenities and infrastructure. The project will also incorporate the renovation of over 30,000 square feet of existing resident space including reconstructed bedrooms and resident amenity space.

In the new building, we will increase capacity in the two areas with the highest level of demand: assisted living memory care and sub-acute nursing care.

The memory care wing includes sixteen individual “studio apartments” and two larger studios for couples. It will be designed specifically for seniors with dementia who are in relatively good physical health but need enhanced programming and 24-hour supervised care and security. The wing will be designed to allow maximum independence for residents, with spacious corridors, a private and secure sensory memory garden and other amenities that allow residents to thrive in a safe setting.

A new sub-acute nursing care unit will include 25 beds for people who are recovering from illness or surgery. There will be a state-of-the-art rehabilitation center with a fully equipped gym for physical, occupational and speech therapies. To prepare residents for a safe return to their private homes, the rehabilitation center is outfitted with a full kitchen, bathroom and laundry facilities. Accessible gardens will provide places for outdoor respite, therapy and rehabilitation.

Improvement of resident care requires tomorrow’s technology, today. This is inclusive of a state-of-the-art integrated network, nurse call system, unified communications system with wired and wireless phones, card access, video surveillance and electronic medical record system. These systems will provide our team with the tools needed to provide exceptional resident care.

Modern cooling and heating systems will improve energy efficiency and reduce annual operating costs. These upgrades will create a more “green” facility and a healthier environment for residents.

A Home for the Next Generation of Arts and Entertainment Professionals

The Shubert Pavilion
This new three-story building will house a rehabilitation center, a 25 bed sub-acute center and 14 assisted living beds.

The Friedman Pavilion
This new two-story building will house a 20 bed memory care unit and 7 assisted living beds, as well as a new medical suite, an arts studio, a dining room, a bistro and a memory care garden.
The Financial Plan to Rebuild, Expand, Preserve and Operate The Lillian Booth Home

The total cost for the project is $34 million: $31 million for construction and $3 million for operating subsidy over three years. Funding will come from philanthropy ($14 million) and debt financing ($20 million).

Once the project is completed, it’s expected to help more than 7,500 people in the next 20 years.

How You Can Help

We need the support of everyone in our community to ensure the success of the Campaign to Rebuild, Expand, Preserve and Operate The Lillian Booth Home.

Please consider a financial contribution, either a one-time gift or a pledged gift paid over time, to support the campaign. You might also consider one of our many naming opportunities.

Donations to the campaign are fully tax-deductible and can be paid by cash, check, credit card or through stock transfers. Pledges can be paid in monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments of up to five years.

For more information on the campaign, please contact Thomas M. Exton at The Actors Fund at 917.281.3929 or texton@actorsfund.org.

Thank you on behalf of our past, current and future residents of The Lillian Booth Home.

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About The Actors Fund

The Actors Fund is a national human services organization that helps everyone—performers and those behind the scenes—who works in performing arts and entertainment. Serving professionals in film, theatre, television, music, opera, radio and dance, The Fund’s programs include social services and emergency financial assistance, health care and insurance counseling, housing, and employment and training services. With offices in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, The Actors Fund is a safety net for those in need, crisis or transition.

Visit actorsfund.org.