



Episcopal Retirement Homes

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Mount Notre Dame student teams with Episcopal Retirement Homes communities to gather pill bottles for those in need**

CINCINNATI, January 27, 2014 – A student from Mount Notre Dame High School and residents and employees of Episcopal Retirement Homes' (ERH) communities joined together recently for a good cause. Jordan Lamb, a senior at Mount Notre Dame launched an effort to gather prescription and over the counter pill bottles as part of her CAPSTONE project. But what Jordan didn't expect was the graciousness of so many good people to exceed her goal to help others.

In developing countries, medicines are often dispensed into hands, pockets, leaves or any other available container. Donations of clean, unlabeled pill bottles help in many ways but most importantly they provide clean sterile containers to store their medication.

Jordan chose this cause as part of her senior project at Mount Notre Dame. She knew immediately that she wanted to help those that live in poverty. As she researched issues regarding poverty she learned about the needs of people in less developed countries.

"What struck me the most was simply the need for empty pill bottles. When big medical corporations donate medicine and other medical supplies to people in need, often a lot of the medicine that could potentially save many peoples' lives goes to waste because there is no sanitary way to distribute it to the people in need," says Jordan, "I decided that incorporating both my passions for medicine and my passion for helping the poor into one project would enable me to get the most out of my experience."

In November, Jordan solicited the help of the staff and residents of the Marjorie P. Lee, Deupree House and St. Paul Village communities. Because the communities have an older population that regularly takes medication, she knew she would be successful in collecting a large number of bottles.

"Residents really embraced the program," said St. Paul Village Community Manager, Victoria Pagan. "It was simple for them to do and made them feel good about helping others in a meaningful way. The minute we'd put a box out for collections, it would get filled up."

"I was so impressed with Jordan's poise and ability to lead this project," said Kay Hauer, a resident at the Deupree House. "It is great to work with a young person who not only cares but can lead a large effort such as this as well."

After three months, she was surprised to discover she had collected over five thousand pill bottles - well over her two thousand bottle goal.

"What I learned most from this experience is how easy it can be to help others. I find it incredible that something we would normally just throw away or recycle can actually change the healthcare outcome for a person in a

developing country.” Jordan shared, “This (accomplishment) very much surpassed my initial goal and I am so thankful to everyone that was able to donate.”

***About Episcopal Retirement Homes***

*Since 1951, [Episcopal Retirement Homes \(ERH\)](#) has dedicated itself to improving the lives of older adults through innovative, quality living environments and in-home and community-based services delivered by experienced and compassionate professionals. ERH owns or manages ten senior living communities: two premier retirement communities, [Deupree House](#) and [Marjorie P. Lee](#), both in Hyde Park; and eight affordable living communities for limited-income seniors.*

*ERH also operates in-home services such as their geriatric care management service, [Living Well Senior Solutions](#); delivers 75,000 [Meals on Wheels](#) annually; and provides counsel and support to 80 churches to renew their role in healthcare through advocacy, education and wellness programs through [Parish Health Ministry](#). For more information, visit [www.episcopalretirement.com](http://www.episcopalretirement.com), or call 513.272.5555. ext. 4288*

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