

MANAGEMENT TEAM: BETHANY NORTH SUBURBAN GROUP



Sunny Lopez
President/CEO

Sunny is President & CEO of Bethany Methodist Corporation and Bethany North Suburban Group, directly overseeing our three business lines of Chestnut Square at The Glen (an independent senior living community), Partners in Healthcare (private duty caregiver services), and Partners in Home Healthcare (Medicare-certified home health providers).

"I am thankful for our wonderful staff, our board of directors, and our residents, clients and families that we're proud to serve," says Sunny. She enjoys spending time with her husband, two adult sons and daughter-in-law—as well as supporting women's issues and various causes that foster justice and peace in our communities.



Vera Lampe
Executive Director, Chestnut Square at The Glen

"I truly love working with seniors, making a difference in their lives, and learning each of their unique stories," explains Vera. "It's the reason I look forward to coming to work every day...we have an incredible community at Chestnut Square and I'm lucky to be surrounded by such a great team that believes in teamwork, transparency and trust."

Vera has extensive experience in the senior living industry and prior to joining Chestnut Square in 2007, she worked in long term care and assisted living in the Chicago area. She enjoys yoga, traveling with her husband, exploring new cultures, visiting family and has recently taken up cooking.



Sharon Oidem
Director, Partners in Healthcare

"Our caregiver agency allows us to build special relationships with our clients by helping with activities of daily living, all from the comfort of their home," says Sharon. "It's super rewarding to know that we are enhancing someone's life in a tangible way. Our compassionate and experienced caregivers are the heartbeat of our mission and I'm thrilled to have recently joined the team at Bethany North Suburban Group!"

Sharon is a big dog lover and enjoys participating in various charitable causes including Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) and Hope for PAWS. She also enjoys traveling, being surrounded by family and friends, and riding her bike in local forest preserves.



Lynn Wellendorf
Director, Partners in Home Healthcare

A registered nurse with extensive experience, Lynn brings a deep appreciation for person-centered care to our Medicare-certified home health agency. In fact, she was interested in the medical field even as a child and would read medical manuals whenever she could! “I was also influenced when my grandfather developed Alzheimer’s disease and I participated in his care,” explains Lynn. “That made me realize that I wanted to be a nurse.”

Lynn adds, “I was impressed with Partners in Home Healthcare from my very first visit and think we have a great team. Getting to know the Chestnut Square residents has been wonderful and I look forward to meeting more and more people and helping whenever I can.”



Renee Bellew
Director of Sales & Marketing, Chestnut Square at The Glen

“My favorite thing about working at Chestnut Square for the past six years is getting to know prospective residents, their families and all their unique circumstances,” says Renee. “We become like a second family throughout the process, and after moving into their new home, I usually hear that it’s the best decision they’ve ever made. I think being a non-profit organization allows us to really focus on the well-being of every person.”

Renee has frequently volunteered in local school and community organizations, and also enjoys traveling, racquet sports, biking, hiking and cooking. Most of all, she loves spending time with her husband, two daughters and two grandchildren.



Ray Elster
Facilities Manager, Chestnut Square at The Glen

“Our maintenance and housekeeping team does such a great job at Chestnut Square, and I’m thankful that we’re able to provide that peace of mind for our residents,” says Ray. “I come from a family that loves and respects older adults...my wife, two sisters, two cousins and one of my sons all work in the senior living industry, and my other son is planning to join the field as well.”

Ray enjoys fishing, running, and watching his sons participate in football, wrestling, track and field, and orchestra. He also believes that pineapple has no place on a pizza and that *Die Hard* is a Christmas movie.



Megan Green

Manager of Resident Services, Chestnut Square at The Glen

“When people ask me about Chestnut Square, I like to compare it to a small, close-knit town where everyone knows and respects each other,” says Megan. “Our community creates special bonds not only between neighbors, but between residents and staff as well. I especially love it when residents try something new that they weren’t expecting, like learning to write poetry, petting an exotic animal, or playing judge and jury in a mock trial.”

Megan’s hobbies include crocheting, writing, coding, learning new languages, video games, volunteering at her local animal shelter and the Girl Scouts of America, and spending time with her family and two dogs.



Bob Carly

Dining Services Manager, Chestnut Square at The Glen

For the past nine years, Bob has been instrumental in providing our residents with delicious—and nutritious—dining options each day. He discovered his desire to work in the senior living industry while caring for his mother after she had hip surgery. “When the residents at Chestnut Square tell me how much they enjoyed a meal, it gives me incredible satisfaction,” he explains. “There’s nothing better than seeing them smile and knowing that I enhanced their day and also their well-being.”

Bob has worked for Meals on Wheels and is also passionate about photography, gardening, and his cats, Lucy and Ethel.



Belinda Chandler

Board Certified Chaplain, Chestnut Square at The Glen

Belinda oversees Chestnut Square’s vibrant spiritual life program and provides various religious and learning opportunities for residents of all faiths. An ordained priest in the Episcopal Church, she most recently served at Glenbrook Hospital as coordinator of the spiritual care and support department.

“Everyone at Chestnut has been so gracious, and I look forward to building relationships with our residents and helping them enhance their spiritual lives,” says Belinda. She and her husband live in Park Ridge and have three adult children, as well as three rescue dogs. She also enjoys gardening and has spent time in South Korea teaching art.



Michael Fisch

Corporate Manager of Marketing Communications

“I was incredibly close with my grandparents growing up and that had a really big impact on my decision to work at Bethany,” explains Michael. “Our residents and clients remind me of them every day, and it feels good knowing that the work we’re doing here is helping seniors find a safe, rewarding and healthy lifestyle. Plus, I’ve gotten to know most of our residents over the years so being able to use their own words and testimonials in our marketing efforts has been a lot of fun.”

Michael enjoys golfing, movies, visiting the Rockies and American Southwest, supporting charitable causes and being able to always make friends and family laugh.



Jackie Nieves

Director of Human Resources

Jackie is the enthusiastic leader of Bethany’s Human Resources office and is responsible for employee recruitment, screening, interviewing, hiring and retention. “I enjoy that the HR field is constantly changing because it allows me to learn something new on any given day,” she explains. “Being able to help Bethany reach its objectives, while also helping our staff advance their careers, is a very fulfilling part of my job.”

Jackie enjoys spending time with her family, traveling abroad and supporting local no-kill animal shelters. She and her husband have fostered and adopted multiple dogs over the years including a Pekingese named Darling and a Yorkie named Teddy.



Yona Bildner

Controller

Yona joined the Bethany corporate office in 2020 and works with our dedicated team as we keep our organization financially strong well into the future. Prior to joining Bethany, he served as an auditor for a national accounting firm and as the controller for a Chicago senior living community.

“I especially like working with non-profits, solving different sets of challenges, and helping them fulfill their missions. The Bethany organization has been wonderful and I’m very excited to be here,” says Yona. He and his wife have three young children and live in Skokie with their recently adopted shelter dog, Penny.



Elliot Jordan
Finance Department

Elliot is a longtime and trusted member of the Bethany corporate office and specializes in accounts receivable. “I really enjoy working closely with our great team at Chestnut Square, Partners in Healthcare, and Partners in Home Healthcare,” Elliot explains. “Each of our affiliates has its own unique set of moving parts, and I love being able to help everyone stay organized and on track with their respective billing and invoices.”

Originally from Panama, Elliot has lived in the Chicago area for many years and enjoys traveling and experiencing new cultures. “I’m a little biased, so tropical destinations are still my favorite for vacations!” he says.