

## The Vital Life Foundation's Transformative Community Service Program Recognized at LeadingAge Washington Annual Conference

Stevenson, Washington (June 20, 2017) – When communities come together, they can create lasting change. The Vital Life Foundation, a Marquis Companies and Consonus Healthcare Foundation, was the recipient of the 2017 LeadingAge Washington Community Service Award given at the annual LeadingAge Washington conference. The mission of The Vital Life Foundation is to support organizations and programs that provide meaning and vitality in the lives of seniors and staff members living and working in long term care.

LeadingAge Washington's Community Service Award recognizes organizations that have made an outstanding contribution in the fields of aging, health care, housing and community-based services. More specifically, the award recognizes the achievement of a LeadingAge member organization that has demonstrated exceptional social accountability and commitment by volunteers, leadership, youth and staff to the greater community.

"We are humbled and honored by this recognition from LeadingAge WA," commented Ann Adrian, executive director for the Vital Life Foundation. "Our goal is for others to experience the same joy that we experience when we work with seniors and staff working in long-term care."

The Vital Life Foundation's charitable partners include Friends of the Children, Ronald McDonald House Charities, Meals on Wheels, Alzheimer's Association, and Wish of a Lifetime, among others. Through these partnerships, programs connect employees, residents, charities and communities in the spirit of philanthropy and service. These programs include Backpack to School, Elevated New Chapters, Spirit Club, and Vital Volunteers. The Vital Life Foundation also supports creative programs that most closely align with their mission of creating meaning and purpose in the lives of seniors. The programs include Memories in the Making, Music & Memories and the Geezer Gallery's Capturing Time.

One of the best ways to show The Vital Life Foundation in action is through the Journey of Heroes program. Each year, WWII veterans are sent to Washington, D.C. to visit the memorials created in their honor. These senior veterans sacrificed so much and are proving that it is never too late to see your dreams fulfilled while leading a physically, spiritually, mentally and socially fulfilling life.

Giving back to the community has always been a significant part of the Marquis Companies and Consonus Healthcare philosophy.

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About The Vital Life Foundation –Vital Life believes that when you meet people where they are on their aging journey, miracles can happen. Vital Life supports organizations and programs that create opportunities for helping people live the best, rest of their lives. More about Vital Life Foundation <u>here</u>.

About LeadingAge Washington – LeadingAge WA represents non-profit and mission focused senior housing and care organizations for over 60,000 Washingtonians across the state through advocacy, education and innovation. More about LeadingAge Washington <u>here</u>.