



About Us

Salemtowne offers an engaging environment for older adults seeking healthy, active and independent lives. Our community lies in Northwest Winston-Salem, North Carolina, close to [Wake Forest University](#) and near historic Bethabara. After passing through our gate, you will drive up the hill winding through one of our three villages of cottages. The road opens to the community building capped with a simple cupola – the traditional Moravian designation for community. Within this community, residents cultivate their lives creating the spirit of family. Residents live life on their own terms – free from worry and supported by the presence and care of professional and capable staff.

Our Mission

Salemtowne is a non-profit continuing care retirement community that promotes the well-being of its residents by providing a caring environment. Salemtowne is an ecumenical community that reflects the Moravian values of individual respect, hospitality, life-long learning, and love of the arts.

Our Vision

Salemtowne is a retirement community of excellence that fosters independence, security, wellness, and the growth of its residents to their full potential. Salemtowne supports older people and caregivers in the broader community through educational and community activities.

Our Values

Salemtowne's primary values are respect, integrity, and caring. These values guide us in our decision making, program development, use of resources and operations.

We seek to live our values every day by:

- Treating each resident as a valued individual and with dignity, regardless of age or condition.
- Creating a homelike environment which is as non-institutional as possible and which promotes quality of life, security, and wellness.
- Engaging in continuing education and evaluation to develop associates, improve services, and live up to our mission.

- Striving to be a great place to work which gives associates a sense of achievement and recognition.
- Providing leadership in the field of care for the aging, thus contributing to improved services for seniors in our society.

Leadership

Joseph Lydon, joined Salemtowne in November of 2003, bringing with him a wealth of knowledge and experience in the field of aging services. A believer in consensus management Joe believes in utilizing everyone's unique skill set, which has helped Salemtowne earn the reputation of excellence in the community. Joe has a strong philosophy of aging; he believes that the later years can be a period of human development. This stage of life has opportunities for growth and development even if challenges or decrements may bring some loss of independence. Lydon also believes you "can't tell a book by its cover"; that is, society's view of aging must be broadened and enlightened by experiencing the wisdom, joy and courage of older men and women. We must strive for vision that looks past our culture's dismissive view of aging and older people. All people, no matter their age, are valued individuals. Joe also believes in the open door policy, everyone is welcome to share with him their joys, information or concerns.

Joe's early experiences as a lobbyist for the AARP and a staff member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging prepared him for a continued career in the field of Aging. He went on to be the Executive Director of California Association for Health Services at Home, the Massachusetts Association of Community Health Agencies, Kendal at Longwood (another CCRC), and St. Catherine's Nursing Center. Joe also has served as a Long-Term Care Consultant passing along his knowledge and ability to problem solve to others in the industry.

Joe has a Master of Science in Gerontology from the University of Southern California (1981), and a Master of Arts in American History from Temple University (1974) and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Science/Philosophy from Niagara University (1967). He is licensed by the States of North Carolina, Maryland, and Pennsylvania as a Nursing Home Administrator.

Joe currently serves on the Board for North Carolina Association of Non-Profit Homes and Services for the Aging (NCANPHA). He has been a member of the Mid-Atlantic Non-Profit Health and Housing Association (MANPHA) Board of Directors, Co-Chair of MANPHA's Legislative/Regulatory Steering Committee; member of the Catholic Health Association /Catholic Charities USA Assisted Living/Senior Housing Work Group; and member of the Elderly Housing Coalition.