

## A Matter of Unity

A key ingredient in the success of any organization is unity. It is particularly true in the centers of Life Care and American Lifestyles, and in the work of Life Care at Home. We cannot deliver the best care to our residents if we don't care about one another, and if we are not unified in our approach to serving. Long-term health care requires many disciplines, and so unity is urgent.

Author Rick Warren, in his book, *40 Days of Purpose*, and related teaching materials, identifies two elements of unity:

- The first element is unity of purpose, not unity of personality. “You can have unity without uniformity. Does God want us all to be alike? No. Does God want us to be unified? Yes.” We all need to be committed to our mission and values, but we are a diverse group with many abilities, and our diversity makes us strong and effective in service to our residents.
- The second element of unity identified by Warren is humility. “We need to understand that we don't understand everything. Humility is being willing to admit when we've made a mistake because we all do. Humility enables us to say:
  - “The four most difficult words, ‘I need your help.’
  - “The three most difficult words, ‘I was wrong.’
  - “The two most difficult words, ‘Forgive me.’”

If we could learn to develop the kind of unity that is portrayed here, our relationships with one another and the achievements of the collective team would be astronomical. Let's do it!

--Beecher Hunter