

Life-Changing Encounter

Life had taken some sudden, twisting turns for this 60-year-old gentleman – including some physical distress – and now he was checking into Life Care Center of Reno, Nevada.

He was greeted – as she always does with new residents – by the executive director, Mabelle Harris. She welcomed him warmly, helped him get situated and more comfortable with his surroundings, and noted that he was in a state of depression.

She would do something about that, she thought.

Over the course of several days, Harris visited with the gentleman, engaged him in bright, uplifting conversation – the kind that comes naturally through her radiant, make-others-feel-better personality.

One day, she brought in a copy of the best-selling book *Jesus Calling*, written by Sarah Young. After years of writing her own words in her prayer journal, missionary Young decided to be more attentive to the Savior's voice and began listening for what He was saying. So, with pen in hand, she embarked on a journey in which Jesus laid on her heart words of reassurance, comfort and hope.

These daily devotional readings, Harris concluded, would be exactly what this resident in her facility needed, and she gave the book to him as her gift.

The reading on that first day the resident received the gift “really spoke to him,” related Marcella Cadez, the business office manager. “It went right along with this man's situation, and really uplifted his spirits. It meant so much to him.”

The rest of the man's stay at Life Care Center of Reno “was so much better,” Cadez said. “It put a whole new light on his rehab program and his recovery, and improved not only his physical health, but his emotional and spiritual health as well.”

Consider the life-changing impact of Mabelle Harris' care and concern for her resident.

This is Long-Term Care Administrator's Week, sponsored by the American College of Health Care Administrators. Harris is the symbol of the outstanding commitment and accomplishments – both professionally and personally – of Life Care executive directors and those of other companies around the nation who have dedicated their lives to serving others in this field.



Mabelle Harris, ED
Life Care Center of Reno, Nevada

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Administrators focus on maintaining excellent service for their patients and residents while achieving the facility's business objectives and adhering to government regulations. Their job is not easy because they are entrusted with the care of a vulnerable population. They are masters of multi-tasking, taking into account every aspect of a person's lifestyle, not just medical needs, on an hourly basis.

On this national week of honoring administrators, we salute our own and thank you for your devotion to quality of care and quality of life for those you serve.

Your touch, as Mabelle Harris proved in this incident with a 60-year-old man with depression, has eternal consequences.



Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others (Philippians 2:4 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter