



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mary's Place by the Sea Welcomes New Senior Fund Development Manager, Two New Board Members

OCEAN GROVE, N.J., MARCH 19, 2025 – [Mary's Place by the Sea](#), which offers wellness retreats and services for women with cancer, is pleased to announce that it has expanded its team and Board of Trustees, adding a development manager and two new Board members. Lisa Cole joined Mary's Place as the senior fund development manager, reporting to Michele Gannon, executive director and founder. The new trustees are Linda Roma, program director – Adult Basic Skills Program at Brookdale Community College in Middletown Township, N.J., and Mark Wolfe, principal of Wolfgang Consulting, LLC.

"We are thrilled to welcome Lisa, Linda and Mark to our team and Board as they share our vision of providing women with cancer a place to feel whole," said Gannon. "Each of them provides an area of expertise that will strengthen the reach of Mary's Place by the Sea, helping to fulfil our mission of supporting women with cancer in healing at no cost to them."

Founded in 2009, Mary's Place by the Sea has served over 16,000 women with cancer, offering complimentary overnight stays and day visits that include personalized services for the mind, body and soul, including oncology massage, health coaching and reiki at its custom-built home in Ocean Grove, N.J. Virtual services are also available before and after cancer treatment.

As senior fund development manager, Cole oversees fundraising, events and donor engagement at Mary's Place by the Sea. Previously, she served as business manager for St. Catharine-St. Margaret Parish in Spring Lake, N.J. where she spearheaded fundraising for the parish and the school, including an Annual Appeal, Capital Campaign, Annual Gala and an Endowment Campaign that raised \$1.825 million. Cole has a long history of non-profit work and volunteering, serving on the executive board of Colleges Against Cancer and president of the Student Volunteer Association while at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, N.J. She was honored with the Maddy Award for the Most Philanthropic Student for the 2009-2010 school year.

"It is important to me that my work makes an impact on the greater good," said Cole. "Mary's Place by the Sea provides a much-needed respite for women with cancer, advocating for their overall wellbeing. What they have done for the community is truly honorable and I'm excited to help the organization grow in its ability to serve more women."

Roma has been a public servant leader for 50 years. For the past 14 years, Roma has worked at the Pathways and Partnership Unit at Brookdale Community in Middletown Township, N.J., where she has held various leadership positions including the director of the healthcare unit, generating \$1.2 million in training revenue. As the current director of educational pathways & literacy, Roma oversees the Adult and Youth Literacy Programs, which serves 600+ students each year who are seeking to earn their high school diploma or are learning to speak English, and the Displaced Homemakers Program which provides

valuable resources to people who are looking to reenter the workforce after years of being financially dependent on their spouses.

Roma previously worked for the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disability for 21 years, holding various leadership positions and helping to open three group homes for people with disabilities in Manhattan. Roma has a Master of Public Administration from Long Island University and a Bachelor of Arts from Ramapo College of New Jersey. Additionally, she is a Certified Life Coach and a Level Three Reiki Practitioner, which she uses to provide Reiki services to guests at Mary's Place.

Wolfe retired from Johnson & Johnson in 2022 where he served as vice president of Global Public Affairs, working with a multi-national team and overseeing the co-creation and implementation of a global enterprise public affairs strategy that drove the company's business objectives and reputation with key policy makers, government agencies and advocacy organizations around the world. He has more than 38 years of health care communications experience across pharmaceutical, MedTech, advocacy, insurance and consulting.

Wolfe is an adjunct professor in the graduate program at Rutgers University School of Communication & Information where he teaches social impact communications. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications from Boston University and a Master of Science in Health Policy from the Thomas Jefferson University School of Population Health.

About Mary's Place by the Sea

Mary's Place by the Sea provides wellness retreats for women with a cancer diagnosis. Guests of Mary's Place are provided with unconditional care during their time of need at NO COST. During day retreats and two-night retreats, guests experience integrative services, such as oncology massage, nutritional counseling, guided meditation, yoga, expressive writing, and much more. Mary's Place by the Sea operates out of a state-of-the-art, custom-built, ten-bedroom home, located at 22 Main Avenue in Ocean Grove, New Jersey. In addition to its in-person program, virtual services are also offered. Since its founding in 2009, Mary's Place has served over 16,000 women with cancer. Mary's Place by the Sea is a nonprofit 501(c) 3 organization. To watch a video to learn more about Mary's Place, please go to: <https://youtu.be/JXTtz07ZoC0>.

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