



For Immediate Release
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UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation Welcomes New Members to its Board of Directors

***Three New Members Bring Depth of Expertise
and Nonprofit Acumen to Serve Older Adults***

Chelsea/Grand Rapids, MI, Jul. 14, 2026 – The UMRC (United Methodist Retirement Communities)-Porter Hills Foundation, the fundraising arm of nonprofit senior living organization Brio Living Services, is delighted to announce three new members to its Board of Directors, effective July 1, 2026. These include Melinda Booth of Rochester Hills, and David Bellamy and Lisa Knight of Grand Rapids.



Melinda Booth is an experienced communication and marketing leader with expertise in developing and executing strategic branding, public relations, and marketing initiatives to drive organizational growth, enhance visibility, and support fundraising efforts across diverse stakeholders. In 2025, Booth joined Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester Hills as its Director of Marketing and Communications. Prior to this position, she held progressively responsible positions at Alma College, her alma mater, within its communications, marketing and advancement teams, most recently as Vice President for Communication and Marketing. She also served for three years as President of the Board of Directors for the Women’s Resource Center of Mid-Michigan in Alma.

“I am honored to join the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation Board of Directors and support an organization whose mission so closely reflects my own values,” said Booth. “Throughout my career, I’ve been inspired by organizations that empower people to live with greater independence, dignity, and purpose, and Brio Living Services’ commitment to helping every older adult age well is one I deeply admire. I’m grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside such dedicated leaders and help advance the Foundation’s important work on behalf of older adults throughout Michigan.”

David Bellamy brings decades of healthcare and finance experience to the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation Board. Since 2020, Bellamy has served as Chief Executive Officer for Catholic Charities West Michigan, a community-based social service agency providing programs centered around family preservation and child welfare, behavior health services, and a variety of outreach programs which help West Michigan families and individuals to flourish. Previously, Bellamy held positions as Executive Director for Northern Health Plan and Chief Financial Officer for McLaren Northern Michigan, as well as healthcare regulatory consulting related roles at Deloitte and Ernst & Young. Throughout his career, Bellamy has been an active member of the community, including board service for the Michigan Federation for Children and Families.



Lisa Knight is an energetic professional with a proven track record of managing and promoting long-term partnerships within the nonprofit sector. Since 2022, she has served as Chief Executive Officer for the Girls Choral Academy in Grand Rapids, where she has been instrumental in promoting diversity in recruitment, fostering a culture of excellence, and collaborating with the board and staff to fulfill the nonprofit's mission through strategic planning, fiscal integrity, and community outreach. Knight's additional leadership experience in the nonprofit sector includes Chief Operating Officer at Public Thread; and Vice President and

Chief Program Officer at the Grand Rapids Urban League. Throughout her career, Knight has been an active member of the community, demonstrating her ability to develop leadership improvement plans, organize and facilitate community program development, and influence positive change.

"I am eager to both learn from and contribute to this extraordinary organization—one that uplifts our communities by sharing the wisdom, experience, and insights of a lifetime with older adults," said Knight about the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation. "I look forward to playing a meaningful role in advancing this important mission and helping to strengthen the future we are building together."

Will Epps IV, the Foundation's new Board Chair effective July 1, 2026, said, "I am pleased to welcome Melinda, David, and Lisa to our Board. As we continue our efforts to ensure a world in which older adults of all walks of life have the ability to age well, the knowledge, skills, and commitment of our new members offer an added dimension and a fresh perspective to the Board, and I look forward to working with them in support of our mission."

In May, the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation publicly announced the launch of its \$28 million **Live Life with Brio** comprehensive campaign. This campaign supports Capital Improvements at Brio's flagship campuses in Chelsea and Grand Rapids, Benevolent Care, Program Investment, and Team Member Investment. To date, the Foundation has received more than \$21 million in gifts, grants, and pledges, or 75%, toward its campaign goal.

“As the Foundation works diligently to support the mission and vision of Brio Living Services, I am honored to welcome these three new board members who are so highly regarded in their communities to our incredibly talented and respected Foundation Board of Directors,” said UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation President & CEO Kelli Smith, CFRE. “I could not be prouder to work alongside this Board. Each member is dedicated to being a difference maker for the older adults and team members of Brio Living Services.”

Learn more about Brio Living Services and the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation at MyBrio.org and Foundation.UMRCPH.org.

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*The **UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation**, in support of Brio Living Services, is the charitable arm for the organization, with headquarters in Chelsea and Grand Rapids, Michigan. The mission of the UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation is: As faithful, philanthropic stewards and steadfast advocates for vibrant aging, we support the mission of Brio Living Services. The UMRC-Porter Hills Foundation’s fundraising initiatives focus on the health and well-being of older adults, and the education and retention of our outstanding team members. These include the Foundation’s cornerstone—Benevolent Care—as well as Team Member Investment, Capital Improvements, and Program Investment.
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*Building on a foundation of serving older adults since 1906, **Brio Living Services**, formerly UMRC & Porter Hills, is a faith-based, nonprofit organization whose mission is: Welcoming all, partnering together, enriching lives. Its vision is: A world in which all are empowered to age well. Brio Living Services represents the second largest nonprofit senior living organization in Michigan and serves the most economically diverse population of older adults. With a tradition of exceptional quality and a commitment to cutting-edge care, Brio Living Services and its affiliates serve approximately 9,000 older adults each year, from 23 locations and service lines, across 22 counties in Michigan’s lower peninsula.
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