

Morningstar Living President & CEO, Susan Cooper Drabic, Receives Distinguished Achievement Award



Susan Cooper Drabic
President & CEO/Morningstar Living

LeadingAge PA announced this week Susan (Sue) Cooper Drabic is the recipient of their highest recognition and award, the Paul P. Haas Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award. LeadingAge PA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization focused on education, advocacy, and applied research for senior service providers. The organization is the leader in advocacy and innovation in aging services and part of the national LeadingAge organization.

The Paul P. Haas Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award is presented to a distinguished individual who has demonstrated exemplary leadership and service commitment to the LeadingAge association throughout the state of Pennsylvania to positively impact and advance aging services for older adults.

Adam Marles, President & CEO of LeadingAge PA was on site at Moravian Hall Square in Nazareth, PA on Thursday, May 20th to present the award to Sue Drabic. Moravian Hall Square is one of Morningstar Living's premier Life Plan Communities that opened in 1988. Morningstar Living also owns and operates Heritage Village, an Active Adult Community that opened in 2018, and Senior Solutions, a Home Care & Care Management business that provides supportive services and assistance to older adults living throughout the Lehigh Valley. Morningstar Living and its three affiliate organizations are not-for-profit organizations committed to helping people "live life well."

During her 33-year tenure at the organization, Sue's vision and outstanding leadership has led the organization through tremendous land

development and redevelopment initiatives... all aimed at building high quality housing, campus amenities and health care services for older adults. A short list of achievements includes:

- **Initial development of the Moravian Hall Square Retirement Living Community which includes residential housing, assisted living, memory support care and a nursing home.**
- **Transformation of a conventional nursing home into a modern home-like environment for people who need long term care.**
- **Acquisition and reorganization of a home care business, Senior Solutions, to support Lehigh Valley's growing population of seniors who want to "age in place" at home.**
- **Construction of an innovative, state-of-the-art memory care household where specialized dementia care and secure housing is provided for people who are living with dementia-related illnesses.**
- **Development of a fifty-acre active adult community, Heritage Village, which combines luxury residential housing with hospitality services and lifetime access to the full continuum of health care services and accommodations at Moravian Hall Square.**
- **Formation of partnerships with local educators and community-based organizations to provide experiential learning opportunities for college students and interns, lifelong learning opportunities for older adults, and resources for people who need training and support to manage the care of a family member or friend living at home.**

The Morningstar Living organization is highly regarded within the Lehigh Valley and throughout the state of Pennsylvania. It has also earned national recognition for superior quality health care services from the Alzheimer's Foundation of America and U.S. News & World Report's Best Nursing Homes ratings. These achievements have positively impacted the way people think about older adults, nursing homes, assisted living facilities and retirement communities.

Chris Hunt, Chief Financial Officer at Morningstar Living commented, "Sue has dedicated her entire professional career to improving the quality of life for older adults. She is a role model and inspiration within our organization and is acknowledged throughout the professional community as someone whose achievements, outstanding service and dedication have made significant contributions to the Lehigh Valley community and the state of Pennsylvania. She is a visionary who is constantly researching and acquiring information and knowledge about the changing needs and desires of the people we serve."

Sue is a licensed Nursing Home Administrator in two states, Pennsylvania and Florida. She is a member of the American College of Health Care Administrators and was certified by LeadingAge National as a Retirement Housing Professional Fellow. Sue served as a member of the Board of LeadingAge PA from June 2014 and then in 2017 became Chair of LeadingAge PA's Board of Directors until 2019. She served on numerous board committees in service and support of LeadingAge PA. Sue currently serves as a trustee on various regional boards, including the Northampton Community College Foundation Board of Directors, the Saucon Insurance Company Board of Directors, and the Moravian Open Door Advisory Board in New York, NY. In 2019, Sue was named "Take the Lead Lehigh Valley" honoree by Girl Scouts of Eastern PA.

