

Bethany Life Communities -- Cedar Place

“I just *love* it here!” When we asked Manager Darlene Sweet how she liked working at Cedar Place, her answer was immediate and overflowing with enthusiasm, leaving no doubt about her true feelings. After visiting a few minutes, the sources of her pride and enthusiasm were clear.

Cedar Place is a very important part of the Bethany Life Communities (BLC) housing options. Located adjacent to the north end of Bethany Manor in Story City, Cedar Place has been serving this region since 1984. This housing option, which is Federally funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), provides affordable housing for qualified seniors and handicapped individuals.

The qualifications for residency include: 1. The head of the house or the spouse must be at least 62. 2. Handicapped persons must be 18. 3. Residents must be able to care for themselves. 4. Based on HUD income and expense guidelines, residents must qualify for housing assistance.

Cedar Place has a live-in caretaker, leaving 49 apartments available for residents. Five of these apartments are handicapped accessible. Two are efficiencies, and the other 47 are one-bedroom apartments, which also have a kitchen, living/dining room, and a bathroom. A government grant is enabling the conversion of several apartments into assisted living apartments, thus allowing more residents to live in their own home environment for a longer time.

Cedar Place has its own inside mailboxes, elevator service, laundry rooms, central air and heating, fire alarm system, security and emergency call lights. Each apartment has refrigerators, stoves/ovens, carpeting and drapes furnished. Other special features include a large activity room, a library, and a beautiful second floor rooftop patio. The residents have planted and are caring for a gorgeous array of plants and flowers in this relaxing area. It is apparent that Cedar Place residents belong to a family that is proud of their home.

For more information about Cedar Place or a tour, it is best to contact Darlene Sweet at 515-733-2904. Gilbert Lutheran Church members, along with other sponsoring congregations, should be very proud of the quality housing that Cedar Place provides.

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