History

The Ruth M. Smith Center was built in 1884 and purchased in 1901 by the C.H. Smith family. At the age of eight, their daughter, Ruth, died of rheumatic fever. In 1922, they gave their home to the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Erie Conference of the Methodist Church to serve as a children's orphanage in memory of their daughter.

In 1972 two dormitories were built to accommodate young people with behavioral, emotional, or psychological problems. In 1982 with a change in funding, we welcomed senior citizens and opened a daycare center. The Mansion was closed for repairs and reopened on May 20, 1989.

In 2012 we opened our doors and hearts to adults with disabilities. Today we continue our mission to assist the elderly and physically or intellectually challenged adults.



Ruth M. Smith Center



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Ruth M. Smith Center

Celebrating 100 Years (1922-2022)

A place to LEARN
A place to GATHER
A place to call HOME





A 501 c3 Corporation and a United Fund Member Agency



Personal Care Home



Ruth M. Smith Center seeks to provide a home for residents in which quality of life is emphasized while promoting independence and involvement in the community.

Our personal care facility, licensed by the PA Department of Human Services, provides an economical, safe, comfortable, residential setting for elderly or physically or mentally challenged adults. We provide assistance to those who need care beyond the basic necessities of food and shelter, but who do not require intermediate or skilled nursing care. This includes assistance with medication administration and personal hygiene and grooming. Meals are served family style and activities are scheduled throughout the day. We also offer respite care.

Private rooms are available in the renovated Smith family mansion. Double occupancy is also available in our newest units.

Private pay and SSI w/boarding home supplement are accepted as payment.

Get Involved!

There are numerous ways to support the Ruth M. Smith Center.

- Support financially with a monetary donation.
- Contact the Center to volunteer for projects.
- Donate items from our wish list, located on our webpage.
- Spread the word about the Center! Share our Facebook posts, tell your friends and family about the Center, or launch an informational campaign at your local church.

For more information about how to volunteer or donate, scan the QR code or visit ruthmsmithcenter.org/support.



Our Mission

The purpose of the Ruth M Smith Center, a National Mission Institution related to the United Women in Faith, is to minister to the needs of dependent children, youth, adults, and families regardless of race, religion, or national origin.

