

JENNIFER STEVENS

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What aspect of giving back gives you the biggest satisfaction?

As the leader of the healthcare team at John Knox Village—an award-winning Continuing Care Retirement Community in Pompano Beach serving more than 1,000 residents across independent living, skilled nursing, and assisted living—it’s my honor to connect with our amazing residents every day. Spending time with them fuels me to keep going. Listening to their life stories, learning about their careers, and appreciating their many contributions to the world is truly inspiring. I believe it’s essential that our healthcare staff not only care for our residents but also deeply know them as individuals.

What qualities do you strive for in trying to be a great leader?

I believe being open-minded and a good listener are at the heart of great leadership. I also see my role as extending beyond our campus—advocating for older adults on a broader scale. I’m proud to serve on the Board of Trustees for LeadingAge Southeast, representing CCRCs in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. This work allows me to participate in the annual legislative session in Tallahassee, engaging directly with Florida senators and representatives to help shape policies that impact older adult healthcare.

What’s a piece of advice you would have given to your younger self?

Trust yourself and give yourself more credit. In my younger years, I let self-doubt hold me back from recognizing my own achievements. Over time, I’ve learned to value my instincts and my worth—though it’s still a work in progress. My advice? Trust your gut. Strive to be your best, but know it’s okay not to have all the answers. Celebrate your wins—and celebrate the wins of others, too.

