August 17, 2021

Ms. Miriam Benitez-Nixon, Chair
Area Agency on Aging of Pinellas and Pasco Counties
9549 Koger Blvd. Suite, 100
Saint Petersburg, FL 33702

Dear Chairman Benitez-Nixon:

I just wanted to take a moment to share praise for your organization. My father-in-law moved from Pensacola to Pasco last October. He was 85 and in failing health but wanted to remain living independently. The transition was extremely difficult for him, especially during a pandemic. After several trips to the Emergency Room after falls, we were advised by the hospital social worker to contact the Area Agency for Aging for additional resources. Every single person we encountered from your organization was courteous, compassionate, and helpful. After his initial screening, we were contacted by one of your partner agencies for an assessment and coordinated prevention care (I believe the program was called Community Care for the Elderly). CARES of Pasco County was also extremely helpful and compassionate. Due to the severity of his rapidly declining health, they were able to provide immediate resources. There are not enough kind words to describe how helpful they were during a very difficult time.

Sadly, my father-in-law passed away last week. While we are still processing this loss, one thing stands out—our gratitude for your organization and partner agency. I've had the professional privilege of working with Ms. Ann Marie Winter on several occasions and have always been inspired by her passion for seniors, but to see that that passion and outstanding commitment is shared by every person we encountered in your organization was truly remarkable. They truly made a positive impact in our lives and we will be forever grateful for the work that you do. In a world where people are quick to share complaint, we wanted to take a moment to pass along praise for a job well done.

With gratitude,

Summer Blevins Paul Blevins

Summer and Paul Blevins

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