

Living Waters

Renewal for our Second Century

ALL SOULS PARISH

Brenetta Fisher moved into Jordan Court on March 1. "What day is it today - March 11?" she asked me. "Well, these have been the best eleven days of my life." Ms. Fisher, 71, has lived in the Bay Area for decades, mostly in South Berkeley and Oakland. She became the first Jordan Court resident when her nephew moved her air mattress and folding chairs into her new studio apartment while she signed the lease. "I just could not wait to spend the first night in my own home."

Maintaining ties with family and friends is important to her, as is her independence. After working as a receptionist for a law firm for thirty years, she lived on her own in South Berkeley until her neighborhood felt too unstable. She moved in with children and grandchildren, helping to support them on her retirement savings until her funds ran low. The complexities of three generations under one roof weighed on her and she dreamed of a home of her own. Months and years of waiting for senior housing finally ended when she found her Jordan Court studio.

"Every day is like waking up in a dream. My friends have seen a lightness in me since I've moved in. This is the most magnificent place. Every single person has been warm, open. All the building staff, maintenance, everyone. Where I lived before, I never went outside at night. Now I can walk to the store. It's like they built this building specifically for my needs. I've got my air mattress, my folding chair, and my lawn chair. everything I need."

Ms. Fisher especially appreciates her deep bathtub, storage for her belongings, and a beautiful view of the labyrinth from her third-floor studio. She gets energy from walking the neighborhood and saying hello to everyone she meets, hoping to brighten their day. If you bump into her, say hello - she might share her amazing life stories with you.