Jane Monn and Betty Oldham have a friendship that’s lasted more than 41 years. And in its own way, PHFA has played an important role to help keep them together.

In 1970, the two met while working at the Messiah Home in Harrisburg, which housed older people. Jane was the head nurse, and Betty worked in the kitchen. Both ladies were single. Seeing that the head nurse had to watch the dietary requirements of the residents, Jane interacted frequently with Betty. Pretty soon, the two became friends.

Over the years, Jane and Betty have grown as close as family. They bought a home and lived together. They attended the same church. They traveled the country together. So when the time came for them to retire, it seemed only natural for them to share an apartment. Plus, it was a smart way for them to stretch their incomes. PHFA was there with multifamily housing that met their needs and was affordable.

First in Presbyterian Apartments in Harrisburg, and now at Shartner House at Carroll Village in Dillsburg, the two women have stayed together, like family should. Both of these facilities have received financial assistance from PHFA, which helps keep rents reasonable and ensures the availability of helpful senior services.

Today, the two women still maintain a busy schedule. One day, they’ll attend a potluck dinner. On another, they’ll exercise in the fitness center. Or they’ll celebrate the birthday of someone in their building. There’s always something happening, and these two stay involved, enjoying every minute.

“There’s just lots of fellowship.”

Regarding their current apartment, the two couldn’t be happier. Betty ticks down the list of amenities they appreciate, like the double sink in the kitchen and heating and cooling that is simple to control. Plus, don’t forget the very large oven in which Betty can now bake four pies at a time.

Yes, Betty is still cooking and baking. And the two still share a car to drive to church in Harrisburg every Sunday. Their friendship started long before PHFA got involved. But we’re happy we could help keep them close.