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## Madonna Manor keeps focus, plans to modernize

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There could be changes, including construction, in the next year at the 44-year-old Madonna Manor, a Catholic healthcare facility for senior adults in Villa Hills.

"The future looks bright for the manor," said director Sue McConn.

It was founded in 1964 by Sister Benedict Bunning and the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery. Today it celebrates the one-year anniversary of the transfer of its sponsorship to the Sisters of St. Francis of Sylvania and the Franciscan Services Corp., the sister's health and human services ministry.

Employees and residents will celebrate with cake this afternoon.

Last year, the Benedictine Sisters chose to make the change in sponsorship to preserve Madonna Manor's vision of providing faith-based care for aging adults.

"Our residents haven't seen a significant change in the way we're managed - it's still a celebration of life in a Christian atmosphere," McConn said.

Employees, she said, have seen improvements including a better pension plan.

Madonna Manor was built for adults who could no longer care for themselves. The Manor has 47 independent-living apartments, 25 personal-care rooms and 35 nursing-care beds.

McConn said the anniversary also begins a year-long commitment to honoring the core values of the organization.

There could be some new construction, she said. Though plans aren't firm, talks are under way for projects that could expand the size and services of Madonna Manor.

"We need a new nursing building - ours is very old, and we're really hoping to move from an institutional type of setting into a family center type of arrangement," she said. "There would be more private rooms, nicer dining facilities and residents would have more control over their environment. (The current facility) has worked well for many years, but the trend is for more resident-centered type buildings where residents can still feel like they're at home."

For more information, visit [www.madonnamanor.org](http://www.madonnamanor.org).

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