

August 2017



# Volunteer Newsletter

## Volunteer Opportunities

### School Needs

#### **New School Program! (up to 30 volunteers needed)**

Horning Middle School introduces a new program that encourages their students to seek out the rich stories all around them through dialogue with an older generation. Volunteers over the age of 55 will be matched with one or two 8th grade students (per class hour) in this special project.

#### Dates (please attend all 6 dates):

- 1<sup>st</sup> semester 2017 dates: Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2018 dates: Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

#### Times (please attend each session):

- 8:45-9:20am (during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour)
- 9:25-10:00am (during 3<sup>rd</sup> hour)
- 1:00-1:35pm (during 6<sup>th</sup> hour)

Program details: Students will have the chance to interview volunteers about their life. They will then create a story or artifact that showcases or symbolizes the volunteer's story. The projects will be shared with volunteers on the last date of each semester. The first semester will focus on open-ended life stories while the second semester will focus on life stories that are connected to important historical events. Contact Corinn Marich for more information at (262) 522-2403 or [CorinnM@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:CorinnM@ERAsWaukesha.org).

**Readers Café (School District of Menomonee Falls):** Come and share your love of reading with an elementary school student over their lunch hour. This program will be held on Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays for 7 weeks during the school year. There will be an orientation and district wide training to help prepare volunteers to assist students. For more information, please contact Dawn Hinton, Program Coordinator at (262) 617-8061 or [DawnH@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:DawnH@ERAsWaukesha.org).

**Pen Pal (School District of Menomonee Falls):** Do you like writing letters and want to volunteer from home? Help a 2nd-5th grade student with their penmanship and build an intergenerational relationship as you exchange correspondence over the school year. At the end of the school year Pen Pals will meet their students face-to-face at the meet and greet party. Contact Dawn Hinton for more information at (262) 617-8061 or [DawnH@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:DawnH@ERAsWaukesha.org).

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### Faith in Action Needs

**Organizational Help:** A woman in Hartland could use a volunteer to help her once a week for an hour to organize her mail. She is able to fill out bills and write checks on her own, but sometimes gets confused as to what is junk mail and what she needs to address. She has a cancer social worker who has started the process of getting organized for this client and would like to stay in the loop to give advice on what works for her. Are you available for an hour a week?

**Gardener Wanted:** A woman in Oconomowoc could use a volunteer to clean up and maintain her flower beds. They have gotten a bit overgrown and are in need of some TLC. She already has a great ERAs volunteer who does her lawn mowing but he doesn't feel confident in his gardening skills so he asked if we could find a gardener to help her. This would ideally be an ongoing volunteer opportunity until Fall.

**All Hands on Deck:** A Waukesha woman has a large deck that needs a little repair and to be sanded and stained. This would be ideal for a larger volunteer group looking for a big project. She is able to provide all the needed supplies. She just needs the able hands to carry out the repairs.

**Driver in Brookfield-** A client living in Brookfield would like to get to the Adaptive Community Approach Program 2-3 times per week. The program is located at the First United Methodist Church, 121 Wisconsin Avenue, Waukesha. She is both a client and a volunteer of the program. ERAs is hoping to could coordinate a number of people willing to drive to and from the program on a consistent basis. It's about a 10 mile drive one way from her house to the church.

Contact Anna for more details on how to fill our urgent needs at (262) 522-2402 or [AnnaR@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:AnnaR@ERAsWaukesha.org).

## Visiting Needs

### Waukesha Needs

- Volunteer needed to sit with gentleman who had a stroke while his parents worship on Sunday mornings from 9am until noon.
- Caregiver for a nice gentleman would like someone to visit with her husband while she grocery shops twice per month.
- A client is requesting a female volunteer to visit weekly to talk about WWII, gardening, or whatever!

### Other Community Needs

- A Pewaukee caregiver would appreciate a volunteer sitting with her Dad on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday afternoons.
- A Brookfield client with dementia, still living in her home, would like someone to visit for an hour or so weekly. She's a former semi and dump truck driver and loves to garden.
- A New Berlin client with early stage vascular dementia would like someone to visit her regularly. She recently moved from the north side of Milwaukee and is missing the friendships she had with her neighbors.
- A Hartland client is requesting a volunteer to visit on a weekday at 3pm to do small art projects, view photos, and talk.
- A Pewaukee caregiver is requesting someone visit with her father-in-law on Fridays at noon for 1-2 hours and make sure he eats his prepared lunch.
- A New Berlin client, former employee of Miller Brewery, would like someone to visit him while his wife leaves to shop or go to the hairdresser.

Contact Barbra for more details on how to fill our urgent needs at (262) 522-2411 or [BarbL@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:BarbL@ERAsWaukesha.org).

### Support the Holiday Giving Program

While it might seem early to plan for the holidays, ERAs Senior Network is already preparing for our Holiday Giving Program. For 14 years, we have partnered with generous community donors to provide self-sufficiency care packages to up to 500 seniors and adults with disabilities living on a fixed income.

**We invite you to support the 2017 Holiday Giving Program any way you can:**

- Help collect items to fill the packages (Wish List located in our Tool Kit - link below)
- Raise funds to purchase gift cards and postage stamps
- Volunteer to organize donations, pack or distribute the packages

Thanks to our generous neighbors, 431 community members received a package last year. For most, this is the only gift they receive during the holidays.

Our complete Holiday Giving Tool Kit includes our Wish List and important dates and can be found [HERE](#). Please contact Heather at [HeatherS@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:HeatherS@ERAsWaukesha.org) or (262) 522-2404 with any questions.

### Introduce Us!

Do you know of a community group, congregation, or corporation that would be interested in learning more about ERAs Senior Network? This is a great way for our organization to connect with groups in Waukesha County who may want more information on services, volunteer opportunities, educational presentations, or how to support our mission through financial or in-kind donations. If you are involved with a community group, congregation, or corporation that you think might benefit from learning more about us, please contact Heather at [HeatherS@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:HeatherS@ERAsWaukesha.org) or call (262) 522-2404.

## Donate Your Car

Do you have a car that you can no longer drive and want to make a difference in the lives of others? ERAs is looking for used vehicles to expand our Volunteer Driver Program. ERAs will pick up your vehicle and donors will receive a tax deduction. By making a donation, ERAs will have another way of providing transportation access to seniors and adults with disabilities in Waukesha County. We are looking for 4-door sedan style vehicles that are less than 10 years old with title and in working condition. Please contact Sarah Harvey for more information at (262) 522-2408 or [SarahH@ERAsWaukesha.org](mailto:SarahH@ERAsWaukesha.org).

## Years of Service

ERAs is extremely fortunate to have a multitude of dedicated volunteers. Every year we recognize volunteers who have reached the incredible milestones of 10, 15, and 20 years of service. We would like to recognize and thank the following for their many years spent giving back to the community.



### 10 Years

Mark Beltran  
 Bob Navin  
 MaryAnn Wolfe  
 Marilyn Baus  
 Donna Clemons  
 Vicci Filandrinis  
 Janice Hector  
 Barbara Johnson  
 Gloria Kazmier  
 Carol Lombardi  
 Marianne Puls  
 Lynn Walter-Gibbs  
 Barbara O'Hara  
 Margarita Wisniewski  
 Sandra Zielinski

### 15 Years

Joanne Gerszewski  
 Candy Karlen  
 Tom Haasch  
 Nancy Kopfhammer  
 Tim Olson  
 Gregory Pollen  
 Diane Wolak  
 Doug Wolak  
 Mary Jo Burkemper  
 Bud Moertl  
 Carleen Ericksen  
 Ed Ericksen  
 Ethel Marshall  
 Bonnie Peterson  
 John Watta

## Submit Your Hours- Especially Spring Clean Up & Lawn Mowing!

We are so thankful for those who do multiple volunteer events. At this time please only enter your hours through the Portal for driving opportunities.

We recommend people submit their hours at least once a month. Reporting hours is important not only for the clients and the volunteers, but for numerous grants and agencies that we work with.

Submit your hours on our [website](#) OR [email](#) them to us!



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