



Waukesha County Volunteer Newsletter

November 2022

The end of year holiday season is almost here! Learn about how you can get in the holiday spirit with our volunteer opportunities below. The end of the year weather is almost here as well. During this transition to Winter remember to keep extra warm blankets in your car in case of emergency and stay safe on icy roads.

Welcome to the Eras Team, New Volunteers!

Thank you for giving your time to help support older adults and adults with disabilities in Waukesha County! The impact of your gift will be felt by all that you serve.





Haven't signed up yet? Join us for Fall Yard Cleanup!

We are still working to help over sixty clients who have requested Fall Yard Cleanup services. Helping older adults with these tasks allows them to stay safe in their home of choice. Do you have a couple of hours to lend a hand? Fall Yard Cleanup perks include:

- Flexible scheduling - arrange with client when you will be able to come
- Option to work alone or in a group
- You can take as many or as few client homes as you like!

When possible, it's helpful for volunteers to bring some basic tools as clients may not have enough to share. If you are interested, please reach out to us at ErasVolunteer@Eras.Org or (414) 488-6931 and a member of our volunteer team will get you set up to serve!

Love to Read? This May Be The Opportunity For You

We are currently looking for a few more volunteers to join our Readers Cafe in the Waukesha School District! Students have the opportunity to read with volunteers from the older adult community over lunch and recess breaks. This program is designed to encourage students' interest in reading, while developing comprehension and social skills.



Volunteers commit to reading to their assigned small group of students one day a week for the duration of the sessions. Helpful tips and suggestions will be given to volunteers before they begin. Below are the sessions available. If interested, please contact Corinn Marich at Corinn.Marich@eras.org or (262) 522-2403.

School/Grade	Day/Time	Session Dates
Banting Elementary 5 th Grade	Tuesdays 12:05-12:55pm	Session 1: Nov. 1 – Dec. 20 Session 2: Jan. 3 – Feb. 21 Session 3: Feb. 28 – April 25
Prairie Elementary 2 nd Grade	Mondays 12:40-1:25pm	Session 1: Oct. 31 – Dec. 19 Session 2: Jan. 2 – March 6 Session 3: March 13 – May 15

Tis The Season - Sign Up to Help With Snow Removal!



Each year Eras will receive requests from older adults for assistance with snow removal during the winter. Eras helps by matching a volunteer up with a client for the full season. We rely on volunteers like you to help with this vital task that keeps older adults safe from slipping to prevent injuries.

If you are interested in being matched to a client for the season, and helping to ease the challenges of a Wisconsin winter for an older adult, we'd love to hear from you! Please reach out to the volunteer team at ErasVolunteer@Eras.Org or (414) 488-6931.

Additional Volunteer Needs

Take a look at some other various needs Eras has for volunteers below! If you are interested in jumping in to one of these opportunities, please reach out to Shannon at Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org.

Assist with Mail/Bills

- A New Berlin client that is affected by visual impairment is in need of a volunteer to assist weekly with going through mail and paying bills that he cannot do online. Occasional online assistance needed. Client has a cat.

Minor Home Repairs

- Delafield client - sanding and staining 2 Adirondack chairs, 2 outdoor railings (1st floor: 10 ft railing, and 2nd floor: 20 ft. railing) in need of sanding and staining.
- Waukesha client - sanding deck (client does not have sander).
- Waukesha client- stain wheelchair ramp.
- Waukesha client - help with ordering Spectrum internet, setting up email, computer, and cable TV.
- Brookfield client- Assistance putting plastic on windows - 3 tall windows, 1 bay window and 1 patio door. Client has all supplies

Friendly Visiting

- **Our client is a 97 year old** located in Waukesha. She prefers a female volunteer to visit twice per month on weekday mornings. She describes herself as sometimes quiet and enjoys being with family. She loves reading happy stories and spending time outdoors watching the birds. Her current interests are following current events/news, older movies, listening to Ballroom and Christian music, and playing Rummikub/Kienasta. Past interests included crocheting, traveling, and dancing. In the past, she worked as a nurse in a hospital and assisted in the family bakery business.
- **Our client is a 74 year old woman that lives in Sussex.** She is interested in receiving friendly visits, and would prefer a female volunteer between the ages of 50 and 70. The ideal volunteer could provide weekly late morning visits, but she is open to a schedule based on the volunteer's availability. She recently moved to the area and is no longer driving. She is feeling isolated due to her visual impairment, which further impacts her ability to go out (especially in winter). Her spouse passed away within the past few years. She is alert and oriented and describes herself as a friendly person. She enjoys playing any

games or cards such as Scrabble and Sheepshhead. She enjoys TV and doing crossword puzzles. She came from a large family and enjoys talking about family. In the past, she liked to read, crochet, and do oil painting. She is a smoker.

- **Our client is a 76 year old from Waukesha.** A female volunteer age 30 or older is preferred. Thursday or Friday afternoon/evening visits are preferred, or a weekend in the afternoon. This client lives with her daughter and has a cat. She is pleasant and enjoys being with people. She is affected by frontal lobe dementia, but has no memory loss. At times she may have difficulty with communication, may mix up response of “yes” or “no”, but will correct herself if given the time. Client enjoys being around family, going up North with her daughter, and fishing. Interests include games (Yahtzee, Uno), having her fingernails painted, sitting outdoors or taking a wheelchair tour around the river (uses wheelchair rather than walker for longer distances), craft projects (they have craft kits), and brain function books. She can walk shorter household distances with a walker. Visits would be coordinated with the client’s daughter. Her daughter works from home so is available if needed to address questions while the volunteer is visiting. Her daughter can transfer the client into a wheelchair if the volunteer would like take her outdoors.
- **Our client is 60 year old woman who lives in an independent apartment in Mukwonago.** This client has supportive services in place throughout the week as she lives alone. Her family is attentive and involved. She would enjoy a volunteer between the ages 55 and 70 to visit weekly either weekdays or weekends, pending the availability of the volunteer. This client has forgetfulness and difficulty with word finding. She describes herself as friendly and active. This client used to be a mental health counselor and loves having conversations, although finding the right words are hard for her at times. She enjoys the outdoors and spending time with family. This client has a small dog named Simba that is mild mannered. She enjoys watching the show *Law and Order* and movies with Johnny Depp. Past interests were baking (if the volunteer did this we would need to check with the client’s daughter on supplies needed), current events, and reading the newspaper (short information may be good to share, but long stories could be hard for her to follow). She enjoys all music genres especially the oldies. This client moved to the area from Oshkosh earlier this year to be closer to daughter. She is very sad about her circumstance and is seeking a visitor to increase socialization. The volunteer should have an understanding of working with someone with impaired short-term memory and will need patience and understanding. The volunteer would coordinate visits with the client’s daughter who is responsible for coordinating the client’s care.

Eras Senior Network's Santa Run 2022

Registration is now open for our Annual Santa Run & Walk scheduled for Sunday, December 4th, 2022.

The 2022 Santa Run & Walk will use a new route designed to keep participants and volunteers on a pedestrian-only route. The route will loop twice around the Frame Park walkway, beginning and ending at the Rotary Building, located at 1150 Baxter Street. This results in a 3.5-mile route.

Registration is \$35 for Adults and \$25 for Students through November 30th. Pricing is



the same for in-person and virtual options.

For more information on running the race, [click here!](#)

Interested in Volunteering? We are still looking for route guides and Set up/Tear Down help. Check out these opportunities [here](#).

Holiday Giving Program 2022

Thank you very much to all who volunteered for and donated to our Holiday Giving Program in 2021. With so many generous donations from partners throughout Milwaukee County and Waukesha County, we provided 880 low-income older adults with self-sufficiency care packages valued at \$55 each. These packages included gift cards to local grocery stores and pharmacies, a book of stamps, and a hand-decorated holiday card.

We hope to continue bringing a bit of holiday cheer to clients in need this December with the help of the community and our local partners. Due to the uncertainties of COVID-19, we will be mailing our gifts again this year and focusing on the most basic needs. Below is our wish list:

- Books of Forever Postage Stamps
- \$10 Walgreens Gift Cards
- \$10 Pick 'n Save Gift Cards
- \$10 Walmart Gift Cards

Unwrapped items and funds collected to purchase gifts are due by December 12th, 2022. Checks can be made to Eras Senior Network – please include “Holiday Giving” in the memo line.

Mailing Your Donation: Donations of items or funds to purchase items can be mailed to:

Eras Senior Network (Attn: Deb Block)
2607 N Grandview Blvd Suite 150
Waukesha, WI 53188

Dropping Off Your Donation or Scheduling a Pick-Up:

Waukesha County: Donations may be dropped off at our Waukesha office (same address as above) Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. To schedule a drop-off at the Waukesha office, please reach out to Deb Block at Debra.Block@Eras.org.

Milwaukee County: Donations may be dropped off at our Milwaukee County office located at St. Alphonsus Parish in Greendale (5960 W Loomis Road, Greendale, WI 53129) between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday. To schedule a drop-off at St. Alphonsus in Greendale, please reach out to Vicki Henning at Vicki.Henning@Eras.org to schedule a time.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting our Holiday Giving Program! Please contact Deb Block at Debra.Block@eras.org or (262) 522-2409 with any questions or click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Have you submitted your hours?

Help us each month by reporting your hours. It's one of the ways we stay funded! Submit your hours on our [website](#) OR [email](#) them to us!

**Pen Pals and School Tutors do not need to submit hours. They are tracked by letters written and sign in sheets. If you have questions about submitting hours please [contact us](#).



Eras Senior Network

Milwaukee County Main Office: c/o YWCA, 1915 N Doctor MLK Jr Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212
Waukesha County Main Office: 2607 N Grandview Boulevard, Suite 150, Waukesha, WI 53188
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