

VOLUNTEER

DONATE

August 2020



Eras
SENIOR NETWORK

Milwaukee County Volunteer Newsletter

Dear Volunteer,

It's hard to believe that we are already in the month of August. Things are continuing to move smoothly at Eras, thanks to you. If you know anyone who is interested in getting involved, please feel free to send them our way. We are always excited to involve more volunteers in our programs. We hope you are enjoying your summer and taking some time to enjoy the nice weather and get outside.

Welcome to the Eras Team, New Volunteers!

Thank you for giving your time to help support seniors in Milwaukee County! The impact of your gift will be felt by all that you serve.

Myrna Hollander
Anne Craig
Anusha Bandarupalli
Brenna Kempf
Erick Ledesma
Steffon Dixon
Rob Knapp

Valley Hollins
Meredith Perks
Allisa Sikes
Michael Snowden
Julie Starks
Cristina Siqueira

Mary Gross
Bridgette McCarthy
Paul Ackerman
Rachel Payden
Sarah Benforado
Dasha Kelly Hamilton



Please Continue to Reach out about Client Needs

Eras continues to welcome new clients to our program even during these unprecedented times. Before the pandemic, new and existing clients (in need of a reassessment) were receiving in-home assessments and an overview of our programs.

However, during this pandemic these visits are not possible, and all assessments have to be done over the phone. The information that you provide about our clients' needs have always been beneficial to our programs, but during this time it has become crucial.

Our volunteers are truly the eyes and ears of our programming. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you are concerned about a client or hear/see a need that we may be able to assist with. We are often able to help and if it's beyond the scope of Eras, there are other resources in the community that we can connect clients to when needed.

Thank you for your continued efforts of making sure our clients and community members are taken care of during this time.

Phone Call Privacy Reminder

Just a reminder to all volunteers that if you are concerned about our clients seeing your number on caller ID you can block your phone number by dialing *67 before entering their phone number. If you do this, the words 'Private' or 'Anonymous' will appear on the receiving end instead of your number.

Driving Policy Reminder

Another reminder to all volunteer drivers that all rides (medical, grocery, or other) need to be organized through Eras. In order for volunteers to be covered under our agency insurance, Eras staff need to have documentation of your ride. We know many of you have developed a relationship with clients and they might call you directly to schedule rides. If you plan a ride on your own, we need either you or the client to call Eras and let a staff member know when and where that ride will be occurring.

Online Driving Portal

Eras Senior Network is preparing to launch the online driving portal in Milwaukee County. This online portal will allow volunteers to sign up for rides online. It will be a streamline way for you to see in real-time what rides are available, where clients are requesting to go, and provide you with their contact information.

We will be in touch with more information once this is ready to go, but wanted to provide you with the [portal instructions](#) in case you wanted to preview what the portal will look like. The portal continues to be updated to make things more user friendly so these instructions might be updated from time to time to reflect that. **Rides for Milwaukee County will not be entered until August 17th so please do not actually sign up for rides until you are instructed to do so.**

If you have any questions please reach out to Sophia at (414) 488-6930 or Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org.



Volunteer Login

LOGIN NOW



Portal Instructions

INSTRUCTIONS

*Please note that these instructions are only meant for the **volunteer driver program***

Volunteer Needs

Broken Broiler: A client in Milwaukee (53218) is looking for a volunteer to help fix a broken piece in her oven broiler. The client has the part but is unable to fix it on her own.

Lawn Mowing: We have 7 clients (5 in Milwaukee, 2 in Oak Creek) who are still in need of Lawn Mowing for the remainder of the season. Some clients have a lawn mower for volunteers to use and the some do not, so you would need to provide your own.

Yard Work Requests: Several clients are in need of some additional yard work help beyond what their volunteer could do during Spring Yard Clean Up. Below are the client locations and requests.

Greenfield	Trimming bushes
Milwaukee (53209)	Spring Yard Clean Up
Milwaukee (53215)	Cutting shrubs down on the side of house
Milwaukee (53216)	Trimming bushes/hedges
Milwaukee (53216)	Weeding
Milwaukee (53216)	Weeding
Milwaukee (53219)	Weeding
Milwaukee (53219)	Cutting down Peonies bushes
Milwaukee (53220)	Chopping down small tree trunks and throwing away wood
Milwaukee (53222)	Weeding
Milwaukee (53224)	Cleaning up the backyard
Milwaukee (53225)	Painting Fence Put together raised garden bed Transplant trees, prepare ground for planting berry bushes Plug hoses to prevent rats from entering the home (don't all have to be done at the same time or by the same person)

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Sophia at (414) 488-6930 or Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org.

Wellness Check-In Phone Calls

We have several openings for volunteers interested in placing calls to a current client of Eras to ensure they have what they need at home like food, medication, and other essentials. Not only does this call help someone meet their basic needs, but it is a way to help reduce loneliness for those who are isolated. For more information about this program please read the following [instruction sheet](#).

If you are interested in making calls, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.



TMJ4.COM

Volunteers check on isolated seniors during COVID-19 pandemic



Silent Auction Items Needed

We are gathering items for our silent auction to help raise funds during our Virtual Tapestry Event on September 24th. All funds raised will support our programs in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties. Will you consider making a donation? Items we are looking for include:

- Certificates for outdoor activities (Pumpkin picking, ice skating, ski hill passes, etc.)
- Gift cards for fast food pick up/delivery, restaurants, spas, etc.
- Virtual experiences (Zoom yoga, video chat with an author, etc.)
- Autographed sports memorabilia
- Condo and cabin vacation rentals
- One-of-a-kind craft and art items
- Power tools, electronic equipment, outdoor recreation equipment



Contact Becca Snow if you have any questions or an item to donate, (262) 522 2409, Becca.Snow@Eras.org. Thank you!

Support the Holiday Giving Program

Since 2004, Eras Senior Network has provided self-sufficiency care packages to isolated and low-income seniors and adults with disabilities. While the world is looking different this year, we will continue to distribute these important care packages to up to 550 older adults throughout Waukesha and Milwaukee counties. To help avoid the spread of illness, we will be mailing the packages instead of hand-delivering the gifts. In order to keep our packages flat for shipping, we will focus this year's donation drive on gift cards, postage stamps, puzzle books, and flat ornaments or bookmarks. We encourage you to help collect donations to make this year's Holiday Giving packages meaningful for our community's seniors.

Holiday Giving Wish List:

- \$10 Walgreens, Pick 'n Save or Walmart Gift Cards (please include receipt or card's value)
- Books of Forever Stamps
- Puzzle books (crossword or word search)
- Flat ornaments or bookmarks

Donation Drop Off: To include your contribution in this year's packages, please donate your unwrapped gifts by Monday, December 14th, 2020.

Mailing Your Donation: If you are able to mail your donation to us, please do so to help with social distancing. Donations of items or funds to purchase items can be mailed to:

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

Dropping Off Your Donation: Donations may be dropped off at our Waukesha office (same address as above) Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. Please note, during this time, all visitors entering the office building and Eras suite are required to wear a face covering. We are happy to coordinate a curbside donation pick-up if you would prefer to remain in your vehicle. If you would prefer to drop your donations at the Southwest office in Milwaukee County, please contact Tom.Rowe@Eras.org to coordinate a day/time. Face coverings are also required to enter the Southwest office.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting our Holiday Giving Program! Please contact Becca Snow at (262) 522-2409 or Becca.Snow@Eras.org with any questions.

Let's Talk Over Coffee

The Milwaukee County Department on Aging Dementia Care Specialists are facilitating a social group for those caregiving for a loved one with dementia. The purpose of this group is to provide social engagement for caregivers to have an opportunity to talk to other caregivers about lightheaded topics and focus on positives amongst all the challenges in our world right now.

The group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 9:00-10:00 am. The virtual platform they use is Microsoft Teams and there will be a call in feature available as well.

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

To register, email dcs@milwaukeecountywi.gov or call (414) 289-6259

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!

** If you have questions about submitting hours please [contact us](#).



2607 N Grandview Blvd, Suite 150 Waukesha, WI 53188

Eras.org • Waukesha: (262) 549-3348 • Milwaukee: (414) 488-6500



Attachments



[Lets Talk Over Coffee DCS MCDA Flyer.pdf](#)

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