

December 2020



# Milwaukee County Volunteer Newsletter

Dear Volunteer,

Every year on December 5th we celebrate International Volunteer Day. This day is an opportunity to promote volunteerism and recognize all of the work that volunteers do. Over the last number of months, Eras Senior Network has relied on our volunteers more than ever to step up and help support our clients and community. Thank you for everything that you do and continue to do.

## 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.

Taylor Douglas  
 Emily Mendyk  
 Sarah Edelen  
 Mary Koss  
 Monica Galvan  
 Zakeyah Rodgers  
 Jill Valuch  
 Donald Schaeffer  
 Amy Ali  
 Lydia Deutsch  
 Lacey Roche  
 Noah Borkenhagen  
 Katie Wickersheimer

Destiny Kennedy  
 Emmanuelle Sanchez  
 Brandon Skinkis  
 Alysia Leach  
 Stephanie Gutierrez  
 Greg Mann  
 Lisa Podkomorski  
 Shaquita Payne  
 Annie Werner  
 Samuel Wolff  
 Leah Gerlach  
 Paige Kowalewski  
 Martha Anderson

Chazala Chesir  
 Susan Koehne  
 Julie Burton  
 Peggy Taylor  
 Timothy Holmes  
 Helen Zealy  
 Paul Podkomorski  
 Sian Steffenhagen  
 Jason Sipiorski  
 Heidi Clovahn  
 Malcolm Duncan  
 Jala Johnson



## COVID-19 Reminder

Please contact us if you have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms, or have been advised to isolate due to possible exposure. We will notify any clients that you may have interacted with and will arrange for another volunteer to help any clients you are scheduled to help. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

## Volunteer Driving Reminder

Just a reminder to all of our volunteer drivers, if you are scheduled for a ride during a time that our offices will be closed, please call the client to confirm the details before the holiday. We want to make sure that we can help you clear up any issues that may arise.

Upcoming Dates that our offices will be closed:

- Thursday, December 24th
- Friday, December 25th
- Thursday, December 31st
- Friday, January 1st

## Thank You Fall Yard Clean Up Volunteers

Eras Senior Network wanted to send a great big thank you to all of the volunteers who were able to help with our Fall Yard Clean Up program. Below are some pictures from some of our volunteers from Dematic who partnered with us for the first time this season. Thank you so much for all of your help!



## Volunteer Needs

If you are interested in any of the following opportunities, please contact Vicki at (414) 488-6930 ext. 6502 or [Vicki.Henning@Eras.org](mailto:Vicki.Henning@Eras.org).

- **Painting Job:** A client in Greenfield is looking for a volunteer to help scrape and paint about 7 windows, 2 doors, and a garage door.
- **Cell Phone Assistance:** A client in Milwaukee is looking for a volunteer to help set up an Android cell phone.
- **Gutter Cleaning:** A client in West Allis is looking for a volunteer to help clean their gutters. Open availability is 9am to 12pm.

If you are interested in the following opportunity, please contact Suzy at (414) 488-6930 ext. 6504 or [Suzanne.Endres@Eras.org](mailto:Suzanne.Endres@Eras.org).

- **Curtain Rod Installation:** A client in Milwaukee is looking for a volunteer to help put up a curtain rod and brackets in the bathroom.

## Snow Removal Volunteers Needed

It's time to start planning for the snow! Volunteers will be matched with a senior or adult with a disability in their community to remove snow from their driveway and sidewalk. Details can be coordinated directly with the person you serve. Enjoy the crisp winter weather as you provide this needed service to an individual that is no longer able to shovel snow due to age or physical condition. Qualifications: dependable, responsible, and a positive attitude. Must be 15 years or older (children younger may be accompanied by an adult). Also consider teaming up with a few people for this project and alternate throughout the season.

For more information, please contact Betty at (414) 488-6500 ext. 6507 or [Betty.Smith@Eras.org](mailto:Betty.Smith@Eras.org).



## Friendly Phone Call Program

We are continuing to recruit volunteers to help with our Friendly Phone Calls program. We are looking for individuals 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 there are not any openings at the time when you apply, you will be placed on a waitlist and matched when a client becomes available.

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



## Senior Stockbox Delivery in Milwaukee County

Eras Senior Network will be partnering with Milwaukee County Department on Aging (MCDA) and Hunger Task Force to help deliver a monthly Stockbox to seniors in Milwaukee County during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. A Stockbox is a box of healthy foods that Hunger Task Force delivers to low-income seniors free of charge. Each box contains 16 nutritious items including rice, cereal, juice, beef stew, pasta, and vegetables. Each month, nearly 9,000 boxes are delivered to seniors in Southeastern Wisconsin.

Assist on an ongoing basis through the pandemic or one month at a time. Volunteers can choose how many seniors they would like to deliver for and from what locations. Pick up the Stockbox from one of the following Milwaukee County Senior Centers and deliver it to your assigned senior.

- **Wilson Park**, 2601 W Howard Avenue, Milwaukee. Third Tuesday of each month from 11:00am - 12:30pm
- **McGovern Park**, 4500 W Custer Avenue, Milwaukee. Fourth Monday of each month from 12:00pm – 1:00pm
- **Clinton Rose**, 3045 N Dr. MLK Drive, Milwaukee. First Thursday of each month from 10:00am – 11:00am

If you are interested in helping with this opportunity, please contact Melva at (414) 488-6931 or [Melva.Darrough@Eras.org](mailto:Melva.Darrough@Eras.org).

## 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. This year, Eras is excited to work with the community to provide gifts to up to 1,100 older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County. This is our highest number of recipients ever! Due to COVID-19, we are mailing all of our gifts in a holiday card and focusing on the most basic needs. While our wish list has fewer items, we aim to serve more than double the number of clients we served in 2019. Please help us give \$50 in gift cards and postage stamps to each of our recipients.

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 gift cards
- \$10 Pick 'n Save gift cards
- \$10 Walmart gift cards
- Books of Forever Stamps

**Donation Drop Off:** To include your contribution in this year's packages, please donate your unwrapped gifts by Monday, December 14th, 2020. Please also include receipts or value with each gift card.

**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 Or Scheduling a Pick-Up:

- **Waukesha County:** Donations may be dropped off at our Waukesha office (same address as above) Monday through Friday between 8:30am 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 pick-up if you would prefer to remain in your vehicle.
- **Milwaukee County:** We are happy to organize a drop off at one of our Milwaukee County offices, or a pick-up of donations in Milwaukee County. Please contact Becca Snow at (262) 522-2409 or [Becca.Snow@Eras.org](mailto:Becca.Snow@Eras.org) to schedule.

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

## 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](#).



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