#|FirstName#|,

Happy New Year! We hope everyone has a fantastic 2020!

**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.

- Janelle W.
- LaDonna G.
- Robert M.
- Bob P.
- Lynne L.

**Group Volunteer Spotlight - Holiday Card Decorating**

As a business, Penrod in Milwaukee’s Third Ward commits itself to providing the best product for its customers. But that’s not all – it also has instituted a “Pledge 1%” commitment to give back 1% to the community – in time, product, and profit.

That means each one of the company’s 60-some employees is offered 20 paid hours per
year to use in volunteer efforts. This year employees wanted to help the elderly in some way and Faith in Action, Milwaukee County seemed like a good fit. Employees created approximately 300 handmade holiday cards in October that will be mailed to clients during December.

“We’re a company that likes to give back and create relationships,” says Molly Farley, office assistant at Penrod. “Part of our mission is to create lasting relationships with people. We just feel this is a good way to do business and live life.”

Faith in Action, Milwaukee County provided the blank cards and 50 members of the Penrod team took part of an afternoon off work to decorate the cards using their own materials. Farley called the project a huge success. “Everyone had a giving heart and many of the cards are beautiful and personal because of it.”

Farley says the event was a perfect fit for Penrod’s outreach activities. “We look forward to knowing someone out there will smile because of the time we put into creating something meaningful for them during what can be a tough time of year for many seniors. We just want them to feel seen and loved.”

Volunteer Needs

Snow Removal
We are still in need of volunteers who are interested in being matched with a senior for the winter to help them with snow removal. This would be a season long commitment.

Drivers
Volunteer drivers are needed throughout Milwaukee County. We provide transportation to doctor appointments, grocery shopping, the bank and the pharmacy.

Data Entry
We are looking for individuals who would be interested in helping with data entry projects. We have office locations across Milwaukee county where these projects can be completed.

Assessments
All of our clients receive in-home assessments before they receive our services. We provide additional training to any volunteers who are interested in taking on this relationship building role.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please reach out to Becky Schwarz, Volunteer Coordinator at Becky.Schwarz@ErasWaukesha.org.

Clients Say, "Thank You!"

Eras partners with various groups and organizations county wide and we are very grateful for all their work. This Thanksgiving we had a group of volunteers cook and deliver meals to 117 of our clients all over Milwaukee County. Our seniors were very thankful and here is some of the feedback we received from them after the holiday.

"I'm so happy that the volunteers came to visit with me! There was enough food for three days and it was so good. They stayed and chatted with me. I am very appreciative! Thank you ERAS for your thoughtfulness!"
"The volunteer family came to my home, brought food, talked, and took pictures with me. They made me feel a sense of real family togetherness!"

"Thanksgiving dinner was wonderful! The volunteer who came to visit me gave me many little treats, and stayed and talked with me. I am so greatly appreciative of her. I would give my experience 20 gold stars."

**Reminders**

If you are with a client and they ask for the Eras phone number, please give them our main number (414) 488-6500. This number is specific for client use. The (414) 488-6930 phone number is only for volunteers.

**Have you Submitted your Hours?**

Submit your hours on our [website](#) OR [email](#) them to us! You can submit your hours after every event or monthly. It's one of the ways we stay funded!

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