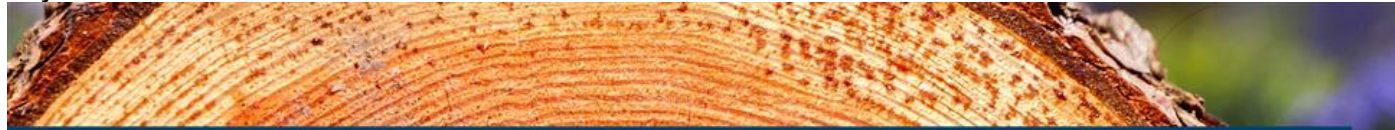


May 2021



# Milwaukee County Volunteer Newsletter

Dear Volunteer,

We hope you were able to enjoy the beautiful weather this past weekend. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers who have stepped up to help with our Spring Yard Clean Up program this season! If you are still interested in helping, we have more information on the opportunity listed below.

## 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.

Daniel Geigler  
Jasmine Tyler  
Katrina Kohal  
Alexis Nehmer  
Delando Rush

Josh Egede  
Danielle Naida  
Lidsy Chinos  
Jason Whitefeather  
Liat Mayer  
Sarah Kaiser

Darrylnetta Hurt  
Michael McDonald  
Jill Sheridan  
Sabrina Betz  
Susan Zimmer



## Eras Mask Policy

Eras Senior Network continues to adhere to the CDC recommendation that people wear masks in public settings, at events, and at gatherings. Masks continue to be required in our offices and during all volunteer activities.

## Liability Reminder

We know there are instances when volunteers are asked to provide extra help to clients, but before completing a request directly from a client, please reach out to Eras to make sure it is a service that we offer and that you will be covered by our liability insurance. When a service is not a good fit for a volunteer, our staff will assist the client in finding alternate arrangements. This keeps you safe and ensures that clients receive help from qualified services.

## Accepting Shopping With requests starting June 1st

Eras will begin accepting client requests for *Shopping With* assistance and *Shopping With Pickup/Drop Off* starting June 1st. You will start to see these requests appearing on the volunteer portal and through our emails. If a request fits within your schedule and you are comfortable assisting, please feel free to sign up!

Additionally, if you continue to help with *Shopping For* opportunities, please remember to talk with the client about payment. We never want volunteers to pay for groceries and work out repayment options. Talk with the client and see if they are planning on paying with cash, check, card, or another way. You will most likely need to pick up a method of payment before you go shopping.

## Disabled Parking Permit

If you are signed up as an Eras Volunteer Driver, you have the option to receive a Disabled Parking Permit to assist with the transportation of clients. These permits can be used when clients are in the car with you, and you need closer access to the building doors. If you are interested in receiving one of these to aid in your volunteer service, please contact Joey at (414) 488-6505 or [Joey.Jackson-Streeter@Eras.org](mailto:Joey.Jackson-Streeter@Eras.org).

## Volunteer Needs

**Hang Picture and Furniture Help:** A client in Franklin is in need of a volunteer to help hang a picture and put some screws into some furniture pieces.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Vicki at (414) 488-6500 ext. 6502 or [Vicki.Henning@Eras.org](mailto:Vicki.Henning@Eras.org).

**Lawn Mowing:** Clients throughout Milwaukee County are in need of lawn care this summer. Volunteer to be matched with a client and help them mow their lawn throughout the season. This opportunity is flexible around your schedule and dependent on how fast the grass grows! Below is a list of locations that clients are currently in need of help.

- Cudahy (1 client)
- Greendale (1 client)
- Greenfield (2 clients)
- Milwaukee (7 clients)
- Oak Creek (1 client)
- South Milwaukee (2 clients)

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sophia at (414) 488-6929 or [Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org](mailto:Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org).

## Spring Yard Clean Up

Volunteers are needed to provide seasonal yard services in Milwaukee County this May. Right now, we have just under 90 seniors waiting to be matched with a volunteer group to prepare their yard for summer. Tasks include leaf raking, clearing flower beds, and washing outdoor windows. Volunteers can serve in groups of four people or fewer and we ask all volunteers to wear a mask while serving.

We need the most help in the following areas:

- West Allis
- West Milwaukee
- Greenfield
- Sherman Park
- Granville

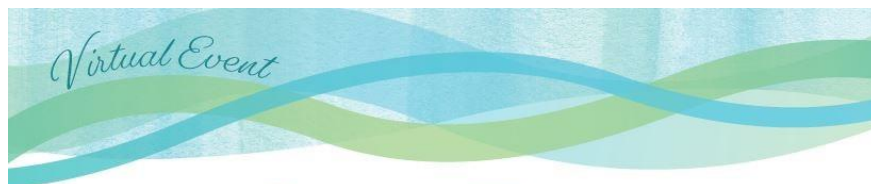
If you are able to help a local senior stay safe in their home this spring, please contact Suzy at (414) 488-6500 ext. 6504 or [Suzy.Endres@Eras.org](mailto:Suzy.Endres@Eras.org).

## Friendly Phone Call Reminders

Thank you so much to all our Friendly Phone Call Volunteers. Your dedication to this program and flexibility in reporting changes is very much acknowledged and appreciated. Below are a few reminders as you continue with this program.

1. Continue to submit surveys on the [volunteer portal](#). Below are some written instructions and video links for anyone who needs a refresher on how to access and use the portal.
  - [Written instructions](#) on how to submit surveys
  - Videos on [Accessing the Volunteer Portal](#), [Retrieving/Resetting Password](#), [Submitting Friendly Phone Call Survey](#)
2. Complete the surveys on a regular basis, within a week of the call or attempted call. These surveys help us assess client needs and helps keep this program funded.
3. If you are no longer able to make calls, please reach out and notify us so we can match your clients with a new volunteer.

## Annual Tapestry Event and Fundraiser



### Annual Tapestry Event and Fundraiser

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Live music starting at 5:30 PM | Program 6:00 - 7:00 PM



Our Annual Tapestry Event and Fundraiser will be going virtual again in 2021. We invite you to join us on September 30th for music, a short program, and two entertaining breakout sessions. Funds raised support the programs of Eras Senior Network, serving over 2,600 older adults and adults with disabilities in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County.

Online registration is free and available now! [Click HERE](#)

## Auction Items Needed for Tapestry Fundraising Event

The Tapestry Event is Eras Senior Network's biggest fundraiser each year. All funds raised at the event go towards supporting our important programming. The 2021 event will be held on Thursday, September 30th. Please consider donating items for this event.

### Silent Auction Item Ideas (Valued \$100 - \$200)

- Popular gadgets (air fryer, Fitbit, iPad, Dyson)
- Gift certificates/cards (restaurant, massage, car detailing, Door Dash)
- Gift cards for future travel (Airbnb, Southwest Airlines)
- Workout equipment (dumbbells, yoga mat)
- Basket of local favorites (cheese, beer, wine, spices)
- Jewelry
- Handmade quilts and artwork

### Live Auction Item Ideas (Valued \$500+)

- Use of cabin or other vacation property
- Patio sets for garden, deck, or porch
- Tickets or box seats to a future sporting event or show
- Culinary Experience (Chef-made meal for 8, exclusive tour of restaurant with dinner)
- Unique Experience (Hunting or fishing with a pro, backstage tour, celebrity meet and greet)

Thank you for your consideration. Every donation helps get us closer to our fundraising goal and continues to support our programs. If you have questions or would like to donate, please contact Development Manager Becca Snow at (262) 522-2409 or at [Becca.Snow@Eras.org](mailto:Becca.Snow@Eras.org).

## Community Needs

The Milwaukee County DHHS-Division on Aging is developing their Area Plan and is asking for help from residents. They would like to learn how well current community services are meeting community needs and how they can improve programs and services for older adults in Milwaukee County. There are two opportunities to provide input: the Area Plan survey and the virtual listening sessions.

### Area Plan Survey

The Area Plan survey is available online at [county.milwaukee.gov/aging/areaplan](https://county.milwaukee.gov/aging/areaplan) or a paper version can be requested by calling (414) 289-6010. The survey takes under 15 minutes to complete. **This survey is intended for older adults, age 55 years or older, who reside in Milwaukee County.** Although the survey can be completed anonymously, individuals completing the survey may enter a drawing for a \$50 gift card.

### Public Listening Sessions

There will be two virtual listening sessions: Friday, April 30 at 9:00-10:30am or Tuesday, May 11 at 5:30-7:00pm. Participants can join online or by phone. To register visit: [county.milwaukee.gov/aging/areaplan](https://county.milwaukee.gov/aging/areaplan)

## Milwaukee County Falls Prevention Toolkit Focus Group

The Milwaukee County Falls Prevention Coalition (MCFPC) is made up of local health systems, government agencies, community organizations, businesses, and community members with the common goal of reducing falls and fall risk. The Milwaukee County Faith in Action Director, Sophia Franklin, is a member of MCFPC, helping raise awareness to community members to reduce their fall risk and be connected with the necessary resources in the community. MCFPC has created falls prevention toolkits. These toolkits contain helpful resources and information on falls prevention.

In order to evaluate the toolkit's effectiveness, the coalition is seeking feedback on the toolkit contents from those that are interested in preventing falls, those at risk of falls or have had falls in the past, through a virtual focus group. The focus group will be held on **Wednesday, June 9th from 12pm - 1pm via Zoom.**

If you are interested in participating in the focus group, please sign up with Sophia Franklin at [Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org](mailto:Sophia.Franklin@Eras.org) or (414) 488-6929 **by Friday, May 14th.** Once registered, you will receive a toolkit by mail and the login information for the focus group. If you are not available for the focus group on June 9th but would still be willing provide feedback, please reach out to Sophia.

## 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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