

December 2021



Dear Volunteer,

Every year, on December 5th we celebrate International Volunteer Day. This day is an opportunity to promote volunteerism and recognize all the work that volunteers do. Over the past two years, 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 and adults with disabilities in Waukesha County! The impact of your gift will be felt by all that you serve.



## Volunteer Reminders

**Eras Mask Policy:** Eras Senior Network continues to require masks in our offices and during all volunteer activities. Both clients and volunteers should be wearing a mask during all service activities.

**Driving Policy Reminder:** A reminder to all volunteer drivers that all rides (medical, grocery, or other) need to be organized through Eras. For volunteers to be covered under our agency insurance, Eras staff needs documentation of your rides. 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.

## Volunteer Needs

**Paint Front Railing:** A client in Waukesha needs a volunteer to touch up paint on their front railing.

**Replace Toilet Seat:** A client in Muskego needs a volunteer to replace a toilet seat. The bolts on the old toilet seat are rusted on and will need to be removed from the ceramic.

**Tighten Fence Boards:** A client in Menomonee Falls needs a volunteer to help secure some loose boards in her fence.

**Painting and Clean Up:** A client in Waukesha needs a volunteer to help with a couple different projects. 1) Paint board on the 2nd floor from when gutters were replaced. 2) Clean up foam from animal prevention spray.

**Loose Stairs and Window Caulking:** A client in New Berlin needs a volunteer to assist with two stairs that are loose going down to the lower level of her home. The client needs to access the shower downstairs and cannot use the bathtub on the main level. If these stairs end up being a bigger project than just adding some additional nails, please let us know. This client is also looking for someone to look at her kitchen window as it may need to be caulked.

**Cell Phone Set Up:** A client in New Berlin needs a volunteer to help set up a MiniVision2 cell phone and show the client how it works. This is a cell phone for a visually impaired client. There is an online manual, but the client is not able to see or access it.

**Battery Replacement:** A client in Waukesha needs a volunteer to help change the batteries in their solar lights.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Shannon at (262) 522-2405 or [Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org](mailto:Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org).

## Fall Yard Clean Up

There are 11 clients who are still looking to be matched with a volunteer to help with their yard work this season. The current needs are listed below, if you are able to help any of these clients before the snow falls, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or [Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org](mailto:Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org).

We also have several clients who request assistance with removing brush and leaves from their property. If this is something that you would be able to help with, please let us know and we will add you to our list and contact you when these requests come through.

<b>Dousman</b>	cleaning flower beds, cleaning gutters, pulling weeds, removing lawn furniture, trimming bushes, washing v
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	raking leaves, cleaning flower beds, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, removing screens on windows, washi
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	pulling weeds, trimming bushes
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	cleaning gutters, pulling weeds
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	cleaning gutters
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	raking leaves
<b>Sussex</b>	raking leaves, cleaning flower beds, pulling weeds, removing lawn furniture
<b>Sussex</b>	raking leaves, cleaning gutters, trimming bushes
<b>Waukesha</b>	trimming bushes, pulling weeds
<b>Waukesha</b>	raking leaves
<b>Waukesha</b>	raking leaves



## Snow Removal

There are almost 30 clients in need of snow removal help this winter. Volunteers will be matched with a senior or adult with a disability in their community to remove snow from their driveway and sidewalk. Volunteers can help individually, with their family, or with a group of friends (rotating throughout the season). The current needs are listed below, if you are able to help any of these clients, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or [Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org](mailto:Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org).

<b>Big Bend</b>	(1) has snow blower
<b>Brookfield</b>	(3) has shovel (2) has shovel and snowblower (1) does not have equipment
<b>Butler</b>	(1) has shovel and snowblower (1) unsure if they have equipment
<b>Menomonee Falls</b>	(1) has shovel and snowblower
<b>Muskego</b>	(1) unsure if they have equipment
<b>New Berlin</b>	(1) has shovel and snowblower
<b>Oconomowoc</b>	(1) has shovel
<b>Pewaukee</b>	(2) has shovel (1) unsure if they have equipment
<b>Waukesha</b>	(1) has shovel (7) has shovel and snowblower (5) unsure if they have equipment



## Readers Café Programs – Waukesha School District

We are currently recruiting volunteers for a Readers Café program starting up at Hawthorne Elementary School in January. Please consider signing up to read with students during their lunch and recess time. Volunteers commit to reading with their assigned 1 or 2 students one day a week for the duration of the session. You can sign up for multiple sessions or just one if that works better for you.

- **Hawthorne Elementary School**
  - **Tuesdays, 11:45am – 12:25pm (2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade)**
  - Session 1: January 11<sup>th</sup> – February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022
  - Session 2: March 1<sup>st</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 (no café on 3/22)

Please contact Corinn Marich for more information at (262) 522-2403 or [Corinn.Marich@Eras.org](mailto:Corinn.Marich@Eras.org).

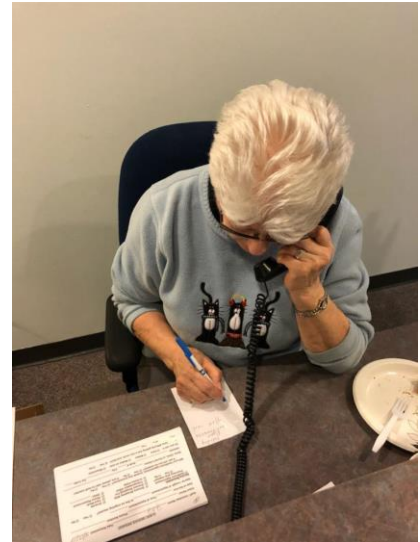
## Volunteers Needed for Friendly Phone Call Program

We are putting out a call for volunteers to join the Friendly Phone Call program! This program pairs a client and a volunteer up to have regular conversations by phone. This program seeks to decrease social isolation and reduce the feelings of loneliness in our senior clients.

### How does it work?

- The volunteer will complete an application then be screened and matched with a senior client.
- The volunteer calls the client to introduce themselves and, along with the client, decides how often they should connect and when.
- After each call, the volunteer lets Eras know whether they were able to connect with the client (by a quick email, phone call, or online survey).
- Repeat!

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a volunteer, or you have questions about the program, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or [Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org](mailto:Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org).



## Friendly Visiting Opportunities

The Friendly Visiting program aims to match clients and volunteers through a more strategic method. Clients may request volunteers who are similar in age or have had similar life experiences, and staff work to fill those requests with interested volunteers. Currently all Friendly Visiting matches are taking place over the phone, rather than in-person. Volunteers are asked to call these clients on a regular basis to increase socialization. Please see the attached document to read more about the clients and their interests.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities or would like to learn more about any of the clients seeking a Friendly Visitor, please contact Shannon at (262) 522-2405 or [Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org](mailto:Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org).

## An Update on Eras Senior Network's 2021 Santa 5K Run & Walk

Out of respect to everyone effected by the tragic events during the Waukesha Parade, **this year's event will now be a virtual only event, and we will no longer need volunteers to help.** By changing to a virtual event, we will not require the Waukesha police department personnel to devote resources to our run, at a time when they are needed for investigations and dealing with their own trauma from the events of November 21.

All registrants will be converted to a virtual registration and able to complete their run or walk between December 5, 2021 – December 13, 2021. Information on how to download the RaceJoy app and participate in the virtual race will be sent in the days prior to December 5th.

T-shirt pickup will still be on Friday, December 3rd and Saturday, December 4th.

- Friday, December 3rd, 2021, 3pm to 6pm within Eras Senior Network's Community Room: Eras Senior Network located at 2607 N Grandview Blvd, Suite 150, Waukesha WI 53188. Please come to Door A on the south side of the office building, take the elevator to Floor 1, turn left off the elevator and follow the signs to Eras Senior Network Community Room.
- Saturday December 4th, 2021, 10am to 1pm Drive Up T-shirt Pickup outside Eras Senior Network: Packet Pickup outside Eras Senior Network located at 2607 N Grandview Blvd, Suite 150, Waukesha WI 53188. Please come to Door A on the south side of the building and follow the signs.

If you have any questions, please email Becca Snow at [Becca.Snow@Eras.org](mailto:Becca.Snow@Eras.org) or (262) 522-2409. Thank you for your support of our mission and your flexibility with this year's event.

## Holiday Giving Donations

We are less than one week away from our Holiday Giving Program donation due date.

We are providing 881 older adults with a self-sufficiency holiday gift this year. Each gift will be mailed in a hand-decorated holiday card and will include stamps and gift cards to purchase groceries and medication. Our goal is to provide each recipient with \$60 in gift cards – but we'll need more donations to reach that goal.

We ask you to please consider making a donation to support the Holiday Giving Program.

To support the program, you can either:

- Make a financial donation online
- Mail in or drop off a donation of gift cards and stamps

### Wish List

- Books of Forever 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 13th, 2021.**

**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 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. 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:** Donations may be dropped off at our Milwaukee County offices located in the YWCA and St. Alphonsus Parish in Greendale between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. To drop off at the YWCA, please reach out to [Vanessa.Harris@Eras.org](mailto:Vanessa.Harris@Eras.org) to schedule a time. To drop off at St. Alphonsus in Greendale, please reach out to [Vicki.Henning@Eras.org](mailto:Vicki.Henning@Eras.org) to schedule a time. Please note, all guests entering our offices are asked to wear a mask at this time. We are happy to accommodate a curbside pick-up if you would prefer to stay in your vehicle.

Eras Senior Network c/o YWCA  
Attn: Vanessa Harris  
1915 N Doctor MLK Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Eras Senior Network  
Attn: Vicki Henning  
5960 W Loomis Road  
Greendale, WI 53129

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.

## Community Needs

The FOOD Pantry Serving Waukesha County is seeking volunteers on weekday afternoons to assist clients during service hours. Volunteers will either help clients shop at The Pantry or pack food for a to-go style pick up. Volunteers are needed Monday through Friday from 12:30-3:15pm preferably on a once a week or every other week schedule. Volunteers must be able to stand for the whole length of the shift and lift up to 30lbs. Anyone interested is encouraged to apply online at [waukeshafoodpantry.org](http://waukeshafoodpantry.org) on the volunteer page. Any questions, please reach out to Jess Olp at [jessica@waukeshafoodpantry.org](mailto:jessica@waukeshafoodpantry.org) or (262) 362-0631.

## 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

(414) 488-6500 • (262) 549-3348 • [Eras.org](http://Eras.org)



## Attachments



[Friendly Visiting Opportunities \(December 2021\).pdf](#)

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