

February 2022



Dear Volunteer,

Although it's hard to believe, Eras is already starting to prepare for Spring opportunities and programs. With warmer temperatures in the forecast, it's exciting to think about the sunny days ahead. Until then, we hope you are all staying safe and please let us know if we can answer any questions you may have.

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.



Eras Has N95 Masks Available

Are you in need of a mask? Eras Senior Network has a number of N95 masks available for both clients and volunteers. A reminder that both clients and volunteers should be wearing a mask during all service activities. You can help us out by picking up masks at one of our three offices.

If you have any questions or are in need of a mask, please contact the Eras staff member in charge of pick-ups at the office location of your choice.

- **Waukesha Office** (2607 N Grandview Boulevard, Suite 150 Waukesha, WI 53188)
 - Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org
- **Milwaukee Office** (1915 N Doctor MLK Jr Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212)
 - Sarah at (414) 488-6931 or Sarah.Kiefer@Eras.org
- **Greendale Office** (5960 W Loomis Road Greendale, WI 53129)
 - Vicki at (414) 488-6500 x6502 or Vicki.Henning@Eras.org

Share your Employee Resource Group/Retired Professional Organization with us!

Help our volunteer management team recruit new volunteers! We are gathering details for Employee Resource Groups and Retired Professionals Organizations to reach out and share about volunteer driving opportunities. If you belong to one of these groups, please reach out with the name and any contact information you may have. Email Gabby Huff at Gabby.Huff@Eras.org or call (414) 488-6781.

Black History Program

February is Black History Month and Eras is partnering with the Clinton Rose Senior Center for their Black History Program. There will be music, performances from three dance groups, and two speakers. Volunteers will greet attendees and be placed where help is needed throughout the event. The program will take place at the Clinton Rose Senior Center (3045 N Dr Martin Luther King Jr Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212) on February 23rd from 12pm - 2pm.

If anyone is interested in helping with the program please contact Freda at (414) 488-6927 or Freda.Wright@Eras.org. Additionally, we have attached some Black History Trivia for everyone to learn something they might not know.

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.

Big Bend	(1) client has snow blower
Brookfield	(2) client has shovel (1) does not have equipment (1) unsure if they have equipment
Menomonee Falls	(1) client has shovel and snowblower
Muskego	(1) client has snowblower
New Berlin	(1) client has shovel and snowblower
Oconomowoc	(1) client has shovel
Pewaukee	(2) client has shovel (1) unsure if they have equipment
Waukesha	(3) client has shovel (9) client has shovel and snowblower (4) unsure if they have equipment



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 an Eras client with a volunteer to have regular conversations by phone. The Friendly Phone Call program is a longer-term commitment (12+ weeks) and seeks to decrease social isolation and reduce the feelings of loneliness in our clients.

How does it work?

- The volunteer will complete an application, be screened, and matched with a client(s).
- The volunteer calls the client to introduce themselves and, along with the client, decides when and how often they should connect (usually between 2-4 times a month, with calls typically lasting 20 minutes or less- but may be longer if time permits).
- After each call, the volunteer lets Eras know whether they were able to connect with the client (through a quick email, phone call, or online survey).
- If a client asks for a ride, assistance, resources, or has questions or concerns, volunteers should refer them to our main line. Eras staff will follow up on any additional needs that the client has.
- 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.

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.

A Big Thank You To Everyone Who Made Holiday Giving 2021 A Success



Thank you to all who supported our 2021 Holiday Giving Program! Because of you, we were able to mail **880 recipients a holiday gift including more than \$50 in gift cards and stamps** in a handmade holiday card. But more than that, older adults living in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County were reminded that they are important to the community.

Thank you so much!

Save the Date - Upcoming 2022 Events

We have much planned for the upcoming year and would love for you to be involved! Mark your calendars for some of our biggest events of the year and look out for more information as we get closer to the dates:

Festival of Flowers

Thursday, March 24th, 2022

Eras Senior Network in Waukesha County has hosted the Festival of Flowers event in partnership with Waukesha Floral and Greenhouse for 10 years. The event, located at Waukesha Floral and Greenhouse, includes a luncheon featuring entertaining floral demonstrations.

Tapestry Event

Thursday, April 28th, 2022

Our annual Tapestry Event is our largest fundraising event of the year! The proceeds go towards supporting our programs which serve over 4,700 older adults and adults with disabilities in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County.

Mum Sale

Sunday, September 11th, 2022 (Grandparents' Day Weekend)

Join us and participating Milwaukee County congregations for the 2022 Mum Sale! Purchase a mum for your grandparents or any special person in your life. Proceeds go towards Eras programming which supports older adults in our community

Service Opportunities

Spring and Fall Yard Clean Up 2022

Are you looking for a way to get out and assist seniors in need? Grab a friend or family member and help prepare yards for the changing seasons. We are always looking for volunteer groups for our spring clean-up starting around March/April and our fall clean-up beginning in late September/early October.

Holiday Giving 2022

It's never too late to start purchasing gift cards or books of stamps for the Holiday Giving Program. With the help of the community, we've been able to provide hundreds of older adults and adults with disabilities with holiday gifts!

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



Attachments

[04022022111513 Black History Trivia.pdf](#)

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[04022022111529 Friendly Visiting Opportunities \(February 2022\).pdf](#)

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