Dear Volunteer,

Happy New Year to all of our incredible volunteers! While 2020 did not go how any of us would have thought, we look onwards and upwards to this new year. Thank you for choosing to volunteer with Eras, we would not be here without you.

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.

Larry Meyers
Mary Konowalski
Maureen LaMarche
Danielle Cychosz

Sally Loper
Sally Balaam
Sue Pierman
Linda Brakel

Shelly Bliffert
Iris Ziolkowski
Bridget Johnson

Volunteer Needs

Clean Dryer Duct: A client in Oconomowoc is looking for a volunteer to clean the dryer duct on the outside of their house (ladder needed to complete the work).

Unbox and Assemble Rowing Machine: A client in Waukesha is looking for a volunteer to remove a rowing machine (exercise equipment) from the box and assemble it (machine weighs approximately 200 pounds).

Leaking Faucet: A client in Brookfield is looking for a volunteer to help fix their leaking shower/bath tub faucet.

Railing Painting: A client in Delafield is looking for a volunteer to help sand and stain their two outdoor railings (first story is 10 feet long, second story is 20 feet long).

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Shannon at (262) 522-2405 or Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org.
Telephone Reassurance Opportunities

We currently have one Eras Senior Network client looking to be matched with a Telephone Reassurance volunteer. Volunteers are asked to call these clients on a regular basis to increase socialization. See the attached document to read more about the client and their interests.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Shannon at (262) 522-2405 or Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org.

Snow Removal Volunteers Needed

Our first large snowfall has officially arrived! There are still clients in need of snow removal help this season. Right now we have needs in Waukesha (3), Sussex (3), Lannon (1), and Menomonee Falls (2).

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 Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.

Virtually Running Across America - A Santa Run Participant's Unique Story

This year’s Santa 5K Run & Walk looked a little different. Though COVID-19 made it difficult to participate all together as a community, 2020's virtual event still managed to bring out the holiday spirit in many. One participant made it his mission to not only complete Eras virtual run and walk, but also one in all 50 states!

Gary Clark, a retired Navy veteran from Jacksonville, North Carolina, was looking for a way to give back. With the impacts of COVID leaving the country fatigued and frustrated, the idea of doing something different to support organizations really appealed to Gary. When deciding which virtual run in Wisconsin to participate in, he chose Eras Senior Network's Santa Run & Walk because of our mission and dedication to the communities we serve.

"I was looking for a new goal for 2021 other than putting 2020, the year of crazy, behind me. It was something different," explained Gary. Gary ran multiple marathons in the past but took a break from running after having a knee replacement. The virtual races allowed him to walk at his own pace while still being active and promoting the missions of 50 different organizations around the country.

"I can walk and do it as I’m going through my day working at a clinic or doing yard work. The money goes to a good cause and with virtual races it does not take time out of my day like an all-day thing."

A special thank you to not only Gary, but all of our 2020 Santa 5K Run & Walk participants! Your efforts are greatly appreciated and make a difference in the lives of our clients and their families!
**Holiday Giving 2020 - Providing Gifts to 890 Older Adults**

This year’s Holiday Giving Program was a huge success - thanks to you! Our goal was to provide 890 older adults with a gift that included $50 in gift cards and stamps - and we exceeded that goal by providing each of our recipients with a gift valued at $60!

We distributed Holiday Giving gifts to 315 older adults last year. By nearly tripling our number of recipients this year, we feared we would not collect enough donations to support this number of recipients, but the community came through like never before! Packages included gift cards to local grocery stores and pharmacies and a book of stamps. Gifts were mailed in holiday cards decorated by community members.

Thank you very much for helping 890 older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County know they are important and remembered this holiday season.

**Details on the Annual Flu Vaccine**

Take control of your health and fight flu this season with an annual flu vaccination.

For more information about the flu or the vaccine please read the attached information sheet, call 1-800-CDC-INFO, or visit [http://www.cdc.gov/flu/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/).

**Read our December Client Newsletter**

Eras Senior Network mails a hard copy client newsletter to 4,000 older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County four times a year. We invite you to read our latest client newsletter.

Past newsletters can be found on our website.

**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.**