

March 2022



Dear Volunteer,

While the snow continues to fall, we look ahead to warmer weather and longer days. The first day of spring is coming up and that means we are starting to gear up for our Spring Yard Clean Up events! Gather a team and help us prepare clients' yards for the summer.

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.



Do you Have a Volunteer Story to Share?

National Volunteer Week is coming up next month and to prepare, we are looking for your help. If you would be willing to answer a few questions about your time volunteering with Eras, or share a story with us, we would love to hear from you! Please reach out to us at VolunteerWaukesha@Eras.org if you would like to share something.

Do You Speak Another Language?

We are continuing to update our system and are wondering which of our volunteers speak another language. If you do and would feel comfortable utilizing those skills to help a client whose first language isn't English, please let us know. We will add this information to our system and contact you if there is an opportunity to help. Please reach out to us at VolunteerWaukesha@Eras.org if you speak another language.

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 - part of St. Alphonsus Parish campus, look for marker B6)
 - Vicki at (414) 488-6500 x6502 or Vicki.Henning@Eras.org

Driving Safety Tips Every Responsible Driver Should Know

Thank you to all our Eras Volunteer Drivers for driving safely! Here are some tips from Nationwide that we wanted to share with you.

Focus on Driving: Ignoring distractions while driving and maintaining focus on the road is key to driving safely. In order to keep focused while driving, you should follow these steps:

- Keep 100% of your attention on driving at all times – no multi-tasking.
- Don't use your phone or any other electronic device while driving.
- Slow down. Speeding gives you less time to react and increases the severity of an accident.

Friendly Visiting Opportunities (currently telephone calls)

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, but there may be an option for in-person visits in the future. 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.

Snow Removal

There are 30 clients throughout Waukesha County 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). If you are able to help any of these clients, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.

Volunteers Needed for Spring Yard Clean Up

It's hard to believe we are already talking about Spring Yard Clean Up but volunteer matching for this event will begin later this month. If you have never shown an interest in this program before and are able to help this season, please reach out and let us know. We will add you to the list of interested volunteers and reach out with more information when it is time to start matching.

Volunteers will help clients prepare their yards for summer. Duties include: raking leaves, cleaning flower beds, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, cleaning gutters, placing lawn furniture, installing window screens, washing windows, etc.

If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.



Volunteer for Festival of Flowers

While tickets for Festival of Flowers are sold-out, we are still looking for volunteer help. We invite you to volunteer at Eras Senior Network's 2022 Festival of Flowers Event scheduled for Thursday, March 24th, 2022. Volunteer opportunities include Set-Up, Dining Room Escorts, Servers, Lemonade Makers, and Photographer. This event will be held at Waukesha Floral and Greenhouse located at 319 S Prairie Avenue, Waukesha, WI 53186. To promote social distancing, the event will be held at 60% capacity.

Attendees of the Festival of Flowers fundraiser will enjoy a boxed lunch accompanied by floral demonstrations presented by Waukesha Floral and Greenhouse. Proceeds benefit the programs of Eras Senior Network.

If you are interested in volunteering, please [sign up here](#). Please note that all volunteers will be required to wear a mask during the entirety of their service. If you have any questions contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.



Tapestry Event 2022



Save the Date

Tapestry Event & Fundraiser

Please join us for our most significant fundraiser of the year that supports services and programs for older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County.

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Sonesta Milwaukee West | 5:30 - 8:30 PM

Formal invitation to follow | Please visit Eras.org for more detailed information

We cordially invite you to attend Eras Senior Network's annual Tapestry Event. This event is our largest fundraiser of the year, raising important funds to support local older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County. Our Tapestry Event is returning to an in-person format this year and will be held at the Sonesta Milwaukee West in Wauwatosa on April 28th, 2022, from 5:30 to 9:00pm.

New This Year: Reduced Ticket Prices

With the expansion of our organization over the last three years, we have gained many new partners and aim to make our event more accessible. In an effort to include as many guests as possible, we are offering a reduced Early Bird ticket price of \$75 per ticket now through March 31st. Ticket prices will increase to \$100 per ticket on April 1st. Tickets are available now through April 18th.

What Do Tickets Cover?

Tickets to the Tapestry Event provide each guest with their choice of plated dinner. A portion of each ticket supports the programs of Eras Senior Network – with many more donation opportunities available throughout the evening.

In-person/Online Auction: Can't attend in person? You can still participate in our silent auction using our mobile bidding option!

Click [HERE](#) to purchase your tickets today.

Tickets may be purchased individually or in tables of eight.

Please direct any questions to Becca Snow, Development Manager, at Becca.Snow@Eras.org or (262) 522-2409.

Seeking Auction Items for Tapestry 2022

We are so excited to host our 2022 Tapestry Event in person this year. With the help of the community, last year's virtual event was a huge success and helped us raise funds to support our programming.

Please help get us closer to our fundraising goal of \$75,000 during the Tapestry Event by donating items for the in-person/online auction. All funds raised at the event support older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County.

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

- Popular gadgets (Polaroid Camera, Apple Watch, Smart Security Camera)
- Gift certificates/cards for local restaurants, massages, car detailing
- Gift cards for future travel (Airbnb, Southwest Airlines)
- Gifts for kids (puzzles, collectibles, games)
- Workout equipment (dumbbells, yoga mat)
- High-quality handbags
- Experiences (nice restaurants, event tickets, theatre tickets, kid's events)
- Basket of local favorites (cheese, beer, wine, spices)
- Handmade artwork, photography, quilts

Silent Auction or Live Auction Item Ideas (Valued \$500+)

- One-of-a-kind items (autographed sports memorabilia, etc.)
- Patio sets for garden, deck, or porch
- Use of cabin or other vacation homes (local or national)
- Vacation experience in Chicago or Wisconsin Dells
- Tickets or box seats to a sporting event or show (Marquette tickets, Packer tickets)
- Culinary Experience (Chef-made meal for 8, exclusive tour of restaurant with dinner)
- Unique Experience (tour or behind the scenes experience, celebrity meet and greet, hunting or fishing with a pro)

If you have any questions or would like to donate, please contact Becca Snow, Development Manager, at Becca.Snow@Eras.org or (262) 522-2409.

WDBA Seeking Day of Healing Volunteers

The Waukesha Downtown Business Association is seeking volunteers 15 and older to support their Day of Healing. This event, scheduled for Saturday, March 26th from 2-6pm, raises funds to offset the costs of a permanent memorial for those affected by the Waukesha Christmas parade tragedy. Volunteers are needed to help with cookie sales, serving chili and hot chocolate, selling raffle tickets, and stamping cards. Volunteers will be stationed at either Martha Merrell's Books or Burlap and Lace located in downtown Waukesha. Volunteers will be supplied with a t-shirt pending availability. If you are interested in helping, please call Ethel Marshall at (262) 391-2052 to sign up.

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



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

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