October 2021

Dear Volunteer,

Fall is officially on its way and that means we are starting to gear up for our Fall Yard Clean Up events! Grab a rake (once the leaves fall) and help us prepare clients’ yards for the winter.

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 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 any and all service activities.

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

Replace Toilet Seat: A client in Muskego is in need of a volunteer to replace a toilet seat.

Fix Doorbell: A client in Waukesha is in need of a volunteer to help fix their doorbell as it is not working.

Replace Door Knobs: A client in Menomonee Falls is in need of a volunteer to look at some door knobs and shower knob, go to ReStore in Germantown to find replacements, and install the new knobs.

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

Fall Yard Clean Up Volunteers Needed

The leaves will soon be falling, and the matches have begun for this year's Fall Yard Clean Up program. Volunteer to help clients prepare their yards for winter. Duties include: raking leaves, cleaning flower beds, pulling weeds, trimming bushes, cleaning gutters, removing lawn furniture, removing window screens, washing windows, etc.

Fall Yard Clean Up occurs during the months of October and November (ideally once the leaves have fallen). Let us know what size yard and community you prefer, and we’ll match you with a client in need.

For more information, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@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 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 Telephone Reassurance, please contact Shannon at (262) 522-2405 or Shannon.Fogle@Eras.org.
Specific Friendly Phone Call Needs

While we currently have enough volunteers to help with our Friendly Phone Call program, we have two clients with more specific needs. If you are able to help with either of these requests, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.

- A client is looking to be matched with a volunteer who is fluent in Spanish (check-in calls would take place in Spanish)
- A client who is in a wheelchair would like to be matched with a volunteer who is also in a wheelchair

Pen Pal Volunteers Needed

Do you like writing letters and want to volunteer from home? Help a 2nd-5th grade student with their penmanship and build an intergenerational relationship as you exchange correspondence over the school year. At the end of the school year Pen Pals will meet their students at a meet and greet party.

Volunteers are being recruited for our programs in both the Waukesha and Menomonee Falls School Districts.

Contact Corinn Marich for more information at (262) 522-2403 or Corinn.Marich@Eras.org.

Readers Cafe Volunteers Needed

The Readers Café is a fun volunteer opportunity for those who have a love for reading and working with elementary-aged students.

This program encourages the students’ interest in reading, while developing comprehension and social skills. Sign-up to read with students one-on-one or in groups of two during the students’ lunch and recess hour (about 1 hour). Students enjoy bringing their lunch to the library and reading with their volunteer.

This program typically runs for a 6-8 week session with multiple sessions in a year, sign up for as many as you’d like!

Right now we are only recruiting volunteers to help with our Waukesha School District programs.

Contact Corinn Marich for more information at (262) 522-2403 or Corinn.Marich@Eras.org.

Volunteer to Address and Mail Monthly Birthday Cards

We are looking for a volunteer to help address and mail monthly birthday cards to clients and volunteers using supplies provided by Eras. This opportunity could be done from home or in the Eras Waukesha Office. Volunteers would address, stamp, and mail the decorated cards to all clients and volunteers celebrating a birthday that month.

If you are interested in helping please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.
Requesting Program/Client Pictures!

We are looking for help with getting photos of Eras clients and volunteers. These photos will help share the story of Eras and the people we support and engage in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County.

**Important:** Please be sure that any person you take a photo of gives you verbal permission to take their photo before you start. Please also have them sign the attached Photo Release Form. Contact us if you would like some Photo Release Forms mailed to you. We will not be able to use the photos without this form completed.

Types of poses we are looking for:

- **Candid shots of volunteers helping clients Focusing on the Volunteer**
  - Example: Volunteer raking leaves with client standing in the background watching

- **Candid shots of volunteers helping clients Focusing on the Client**
  - Example: Client looking out car window as volunteer closes the car door

Other examples of photos you could take:

- Client looking at camera
- Volunteer looking at camera
- Client holding Thank You sign

Please send your photos, the names of the individuals in the photos, and the scanned photo consent forms to [Info@Eras.org](mailto:Info@Eras.org) by November 1, 2021. Thank you for helping us capture more moments of your work in action!
Santa 5K Run and Walk Registration Now Open!

Registration is open for our 13th Annual Santa 5K Run & Walk scheduled for December 5th, 2021. You can participate in this year’s event in-person in downtown Waukesha OR virtually with our Run-Your-Own-Route option.

Proceeds from the Santa 5K Run & Walk benefit Eras Senior Network’s programming for older adults in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County. Your participation is truly appreciated.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE 2021 SANTA 5K RUN & WALK

Registration Details

- Early Bird Registration for the in-person or virtual race is $20 for students and $25 for adults now through 11:59pm September 19th, 2021. Adult prices increase to $30 on September 20th.
- Sign up a team of five or more and receive an additional 10% off per person.
- Want more discounts? For every three friends who register through your referral link, we'll refund $10.00 of your registration fee.

Included with your registration is our 2021 limited edition Santa Run shirt

Race App: Runners who wish to participate virtually and run their own route will have access to the event through the app, RaceJoy. Using the app, you'll have the opportunity to time yourself, track yourself with GPS, provide your spectators an opportunity to track your progress, and hear audio cheer messages of encouragement.

Volunteering: This great event couldn't be possible without the wonderful support from our volunteers. We are just about to start recruiting volunteers to help with our Santa Run. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Marisa at (262) 522-2402 or Marisa.Strothenke@Eras.org.

Questions? Contact Becca Snow at (262) 522-2409 or Becca.Snow@Eras.org.
Holiday Giving Program 2021

Even amid a pandemic, last year's Holiday Giving Program was a huge success! With so many generous donations from partners throughout Milwaukee County and Waukesha County, we were able to provide 890 low-income seniors with self-sufficiency care packages valued at $60 each. These packages included gift cards to local grocery stores and pharmacies, a book of stamps, and a hand-decorated holiday card.

We hope to continue bringing a bit of holiday cheer to clients in need this year with the help of the community and our local partners. Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19, we will be mailing our gifts again this year and focusing on the most basic needs. Below is our wish list:

Books of Forever Stamps
$10 Walgreens Gift Cards
$10 Pick 'n Save Gift Cards
$10 Walmart Gift Cards

Unwrapped items and money 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 (Milwaukee) and St. Alphonsus Parish (Greendale) between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm. To drop off at the YWCA, please reach out to Vanessa.Harris@Eras.org to schedule a time. To drop off at St. Alphonsus in Greendale, please reach out to 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 with any questions or click here to learn more.
Community Needs

Join us for the 12th Annual Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books, Nov. 5 & 6

For the 22nd year, the festival will be presented virtually, bringing together a talented collection of authors that everyone will enjoy. Again this year, we are fortunate to have our programs streamed through our bookstore partner, Books & Company of Westown. This year’s theme “Pages, Passports, and Portals,” reflects the ability of books and literature to transport the reader beyond their lived experiences.

PRE-FESTIVAL PRESENTATIONS

Sept. 18, Saturday, 7:00 pm - Margaret Roga in conversation with Lisa Bauden
Free Registration via Zoom: https://www.booketc.com/event/margaret-rogza-virtual-author-event

Oct. 25, Monday, 6:30 pm - Waukesha Reads Scholars Panel
Nov. 5, Friday, 7:00 pm Keynote Presentation by Elizabeth Berg

Elizabeth Berg is the keynote speaker. She will make remarks and be in conversation with Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Book Editor Jim Higgins on her new book, “I’ll Be Seeing You.”

Nov. 6th, Saturday - Author Panels

From 10 am through 4:30 pm featuring novelists, poets, memoir writers and writers of non-fiction discussing how their genre of writing provides insights on the four topics.

ALLWRITERS Workplace & Workshop

Poetry: From Memories to Lynching... Press (Fiction & Nonfiction): How To Use Symbolism As A Source And Not A Filter... Memoir: Writing Honestly On Difficult Subjects... The Writing Life: Publication Knows No Age...

Festival Student Writing Contests

Century Fence High School and Middle School Student Essay and Poetry Contest
Duane Stein Short Story Contest sponsored Mars Construction. See entry details at www.centruinfoot.com

Post-Festival Presentation

Jan. 27, 2022 Saturday, 7 pm Waukesha Author Kathie Giorgio will present her new book, All Told.

Program, Authors Registration Information

REGISTRATION BEGINS OCT. 1

Nov. 6, 10:30 am GMT - Margaret Roga Virtual Poetry Reading and Conversation with Lisa Bauden
Free Registration via Zoom: https://www.booketc.com/event/margaret-rogza-virtual-author-event


Medicare Stories Needed

The history of Medicare in the United States dates to 1965 when President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the bill that created Medicare and Medicaid. Over the years, expansions have been made to Medicare to include people with disabilities and people with end-stage renal disease, and to offer more benefits such as prescription drugs. What started out as Part A and Part B is now known as “Original Medicare” and the prescription drug benefit is Part D.

Fifty-five years later, there are efforts in place to expand Medicare to include benefits for hearing, dental, and vision care. Senator Tammy Baldwin’s office is looking for stories from Medicare beneficiaries to help other lawmakers understand the urgency of this request. Have you had to go without hearing, dental, or vision care, or do you know someone who needs these services? Consider telling your story by calling the Senator’s office at (202) 224-5653 or visit the website at www.baldwin.senate.gov to send a message with your story.
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.**