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Mission Statement:

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly is a national network of non-profit, volunteer-based organizations committed to relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly.

We offer to people of good will the opportunity to join the elderly in friendship and celebration of life.

The Rose is published three times annually by the office of the Program Director

Easter Preparations and Volunteer Needs

No April Fools'! Easter will be celebrated on Sunday, April 1st and we are looking forward to providing our elderly friends with a traditional meal in a friendly atmosphere. We could not do it without you, the 400-plus volunteers who selflessly share your holiday with Little Brothers. Thank You!

There are many jobs available to choose from including cooking, baking, dining room set-up and cleanup, serving, driving, and more. To sign up to volunteer, please call 906-482-6944, return the enclosed volunteer response sheet, or register online at **register.littlebrothers.org**.

The new online registration includes details of the volunteer jobs as well as times and locations. If you register online or provide your email on the enclosed response sheet, you'll receive an email confirmation of your assignment.

Holiday Volunteer Informational Meetings

We host volunteer informational meetings to share our holiday party standards and best practices. Both new and long-time volunteers are invited to attend, as well as site managers. **If you have ever left a party with ideas of how to improve it, then these meetings are for YOU!** Most sites are volunteer-run and we rely on you to take ownership to create the best possible environment for elders and volunteers alike! But we recognize it can be a challenge to provide direction. The meetings are a great forum to brainstorm ways to develop YOUR party site.

Tuesday, March 20th 6-7pm

Little Brothers - 527 Hancock St, Hancock

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Tuesday, March 27th 6-7pm

St. Michael's Dunleavy Hall - 401 W. Kaye St, Marquette

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Tuesday, March 27th 6-7pm

Holy Family - 515 Pine St, Ontonagon

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Thursday, March 29th 6-7pm

St. Ann's - 318 Lyons St, Baraga



In Memoriam



Ruth MacFarlane

5/26/1920-9/22/2017

Visited by Joyce Koski

Eileen Satushek

9/2/1916-9/27/2017

Visited by Lee Parker

Mary Gregorich

7/2/1921-10/5/2017

Visited by Barbara Laurie

Michael Kastamo

9/15/1953-10/8/2017

Visited by Alice Slusarzyk

Janice Olli

3/26/1938-11/8/2017

Visited by Hailee Johnson

Betty Pollard

3/12/1925-12/20/2017

Visited by Joyce Koski

Ralph "Ed" Van Wert

10/3/1923-12/25/2017

Visited by Marion Salaun

Martha Schuck

11/28/1948-1/7/2018

Visited by Joyce Koski

Sandra Smith

7/12/1944-1/12/2018

Visited by Rebekka

Pearl Herstrom

12/5/1924-1/17/2018

Visited by Lee Parker



"Hi Everyone—We just wanted to drop you a note to say thank you for the turkey dinners.

Everything was delicious and there was such a variety—we were very impressed.

We know there are a lot of people involved in putting on a dinner like that, so Thank You to each and every person!

Even the flowers were beautiful."

Thanks again,

Dale and Donna



Board and Committee Members Needed

We are currently seeking at least two new board members and can have up to four more. Terms are three years and begin in March. We are looking for **skills in finance and/or marketing** for two of the positions. The Board meets the 2nd Tuesday of every other month for regular board meetings and all board members are on at least one committee which meet during the months in between.

We have seven committees that can all use more volunteers – ESPECIALLY our *Volunteer* and *Development* Committees. The Volunteer Committee looks at all management aspects of our Volunteer Program including recruitment, training, recognition, and retention. They are currently working on our process for vetting new volunteers by researching criminal background check options.

The Development Committee plans the fundraising calendar for the year, helps with monthly donor engagement, direct mail, processing donations, and special projects. **One key project we need volunteer help with is our holiday solicitation.** We need a couple volunteers to join our team to garner in-kind solicitations for the three major holidays of Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Other committees include Marketing, Vision, Leadership, Finance and Property. If you are interested in becoming a Board member or serve on one of our committees, please contact Cathy at 906-482-6944.

Funding Updates

River Valley Bank \$5,000 for our Food Pantry. This is the first of two pledges for \$10,000 total.

Portage Health Foundation donated \$23,546 through their Giving Tuesday match. Thank you to all of the individuals who donated to make the match possible.

Mary Thompson Foundation \$3,000 for the Medical Transportation Program.

Clare Foundation \$20,000 for Outreach.

Talbert & Leota Abrams Foundation \$3,500 for our Firewood Program.

Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund \$2,500 for our Firewood Program.

James Ruppe Foundation \$6,500 for General Operating.

Ken Steiner Memorial Concert

We thank everyone who attended the Ken Steiner Memorial Concert at the Rozsa in January. The concert brought in just over \$5,000 for Little Brothers-all in memory of Ken! Ken would be so humbled and so honored at the outpouring of support in his memory.

Special thanks goes out to Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts and the MTU Auxiliary Services who planned everything and donated the food.

Thanks also to the bands who donated their time including Steve Jones and the Garden City Hot Club, Uncle Pete's All-Star Barbecue Blues Band, and Outlaw'd.

Urgent Volunteer Needs

Volunteer Receptionist

We are in need of volunteer receptionists to answer phones and greet visitors. Do you have time during the day to spend a morning, afternoon, or full day once or twice a week?

If you can't commit to a weekly schedule, would you be willing to fill in when a volunteer calls in sick?

Data Entry

We are looking for skilled volunteers with computer experience who can assist us with data entry once a week.

Phone Calling

Before the holidays we need assistance making a lot of phone calls to both volunteers and elderly friends.

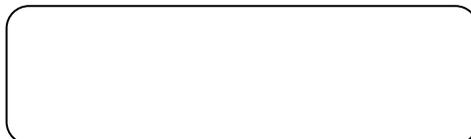
If you are interested in any of these roles, please call Carol at 906-482-6944 for more information.

Open House Fundraiser

We'll be hosting a new fundraiser this spring on Saturday, June 2nd from 10am to 2pm. This is an opportunity for us to showcase our work with the elderly and invite you to our offices to see first-hand the programs and services provided thanks to faithful volunteers and donors.

More details to come as the event draws near. We hope you can join us in friendship and celebration of life.

Address Service Requested



Volunteer Spotlight—Grace United Methodist Church

The Grace United Methodist Church plays a unique role in the Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly holiday meal celebrations. It is the only site where the congregation manages the volunteer recruitment, meal prep, and distribution.

In the early 90's Little Brothers approached Grace United about using their church to distribute our holiday meals. Soon after, parishioners **Mark and Carol Plichta** agreed to take charge. Combining their volunteer work with Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly and their ministry to the church, they created a successful holiday meal site that continues to this day. Carol's youthful enthusiasm paired with Mark's leadership, they bring together their family and parishioners of their church to share in their ministry.

In the past 20 years Mark and Carol are still refining the process. With pride, they declare the filling of the food bags for delivery is completed in 21 minutes 15 seconds.

Their advice to new volunteers is to "have fun" says Carol. Mark says "Do it! It's very rewarding. We have so much fun, we listen to music and it's a time for us to grow together as a church."

If you are interested in getting your church more involved in the leadership of these holiday celebrations, please call Carol Korpela, Program Director at 906-482-6944.



Photo courtesy of Mark and Carol Plichta

Grace United Methodist Church volunteers packaging meals for home delivery.

EASTER 2018 VOLUNTEER RESPONSE SHEET

Volunteers over the age of 12:

NAME _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

NAME _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

NAME _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

NAME _____ Birthdate ____/____/____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

If you provide your email, we will send you an email confirmation of your volunteer assignment.

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Volunteered Before? Yes No Would you like to receive the volunteer Newsletter? Yes No

I/WE WILL VOLUNTEER ON: Easter Day at the following site....

SIT-DOWN Sites and Volunteer Times:

HANCOCK CALUMET HOUGHTON
 TAPIOLA SOUTH RANGE MOHAWK
 ONTONAGON BARAGA MARQUETTE

cook (10am)
 dining room set up & greeting (12pm)
 serve (1:30pm)
 clean up (2pm)
 transport guests
 meal delivery (1:45pm) # Cars _____
 musical entertainment (1:30pm)

NURSING HOME:

HCMCF Home Visit
No meal will be provided.
Instead we will deliver a gift
and flower with a visit.
**Gifts can be picked up from
Little Brothers between 9am
and 1pm Easter Day**

DELIVERY Sites and Volunteer Times:

GRACE UNITED METHODIST, Houghton
 LAURIUM APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN
 cook (8am)
 dining room set up & distribution (10am)
 meal delivery (11:45am) # Cars _____

I/WE CAN VOLUNTEER FOR OTHER HOLIDAY NEEDS:

Deliver supplies to a site March 31st between 7am and 1pm
 Decorate Grocery Bags: _____ Total # of bags (need by March 21st)
 Make Easter Baskets: _____ Total # of baskets (need by March 21st)
 Make/Answer Phone Calls Join the team to coordinate in-kind donations
 Office Cleanup April 2nd 10am—noon
 Bake **Dessert**: _____ Total # of servings delivered to: [] Hancock office by March 30th or delivered to: [] _____ meal site on Easter Day

I/WE CAN ATTEND A HOLIDAY MEETING: (details on page 1) YES NO MAYBE

March 20 in Hancock 6-7pm March 27 in Marquette 6-7pm March 27 in Ontonagon 6-7pm March 29 in Baraga 6-7pm
At Little Brothers At St. Michael's Dunleavy Hall At Holy Family Catholic At St. Ann's

For Office Use Only (do not fill out)

Date Received: _____

By: _____

[] Totals Board [] Registration Completed

[] Manual [] Master List [] Called into site