



Our motto “flowers before bread” expresses our belief that the spirit must be nourished as well as the body. Elderly people should be treated with love, dignity, and respect. Our founder, Armand Marquiset, believed that cooking and sharing a meal together was an expression and symbol of love. We carry on that tradition today by preparing homemade meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas at eleven locations across five counties.

Please sign up to volunteer on Thanksgiving and/or Christmas Day. There are also opportunities to volunteer in the days and weeks leading up to the holidays. To sign-up, please return the enclosed volunteer response sheet, register online at register.littlebrothers.org, or please call 906-482-6944. If you provide your email address, you will receive an email confirmation of your assignment with all of the details.

We need volunteers to cook the meal, bake desserts and Christmas cookies, set-up the dining room, serve, clean-up after the meal, drive elders to and from the meal, deliver meals to people’s homes, and more.

Flowers Before Bread

Whether you have just one hour or the whole day, we need YOU! Volunteers are assigned in shifts. The sooner you sign up—the more likely you will be assigned to your preferred job and site.

Sit-Down Meal Sites and Time

Both Thanksgiving and Christmas Meals will be served at **2:00 pm**.

- St. Ann’s Church, BARAGA
- Sacred Heart Church, CALUMET
- Church of the Resurrection, HANCOCK
- St. Ignatius Church, HOUGHTON
- St. Christopher’s Catholic Church, MARQUETTE
- Horizons School, MOHAWK
- Holy Family Catholic Church, ONTONAGON
- Grace Lutheran Church, SOUTH RANGE
- Doelle Senior Center, TAPIOLA

Home Delivery Meal Sites and Time

Meals are ready to be delivered at **noon** on both holidays.

- Grace United Methodist Church, HOUGHTON
- CLK School, CALUMET

Home Visit with gift and flower

Gifts can be picked up from Little Brothers and delivered on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day between **9:00 am and 1:00 pm** to our friends at Canal View (formerly known as Houghton County Medical Care Facility) in Hancock.

New to volunteering on the holiday? Are you a long-time volunteer willing to share your experience?

Please join us at one of our 4 holiday informational meetings. In addition to discussing our philosophy, standards, volunteer roles, and expectations, we will review some vital logistical information.

Thursday, November 21st 6:00—7:00 pm

St. Ann’s - 318 Lyons St.

Baraga

~

Friday, November 22nd 6:00—7:00 pm

Holy Family Catholic Church - 515 Pine St.

Ontonagon

~

Monday, November 25th 6:00—7:00 pm

Little Brothers - 527 Hancock St.

Hancock

~

Monday, November 25th 6:00—7:00 pm

St. Christopher’s - 2353 Badger St.

Marquette

2019 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



David Wiitanen

No job is too big or too small for Dave Wiitanen, 2019 Volunteer of the Year. He is willing to help with anything ranging from grilling at picnics, cooking meals for events, picking up donations for the holidays, or making necessary building repairs. If he can't do it himself, he knows someone who can.

As a member of the property committee, he has been integral in maintaining the woodlot including the necessary repairs after the Father's Day flood of 2018. Now he is assisting with the development of our new woodlot, arranging for the ground to be cleared and the culverts to be installed.

No matter how busy he is, he always finds time to stop by the office to see how he can be of help with any projects or activities.

When he's not volunteering with Little Brothers, he's busy with his Superior Honey Farm beekeeping business where he also mentors other beekeepers and provides educational presentations throughout the community. His Pure Keweenaw® honey is available for purchase. Additionally he volunteers to restore the Quincy #6 Steam Engine and Tender for the Quincy Hoist Association. He's also a regular blood donor and will be donating his 100th pint locally on October 14th, his birthday.

Thank you Dave for your many years of service and dedication to the organization.



Dave Wiitanen and Carol Korpela at the 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic.

NOMINEES

BJ Curtis "Santa"

Abbey and Chris Green

Kathy Jarvenpaa

Linda Kantola

Dan Maki

Jim O'Brien

Cheryl Ruohonen

Judy Sellers

Alice Soldan

Lorraine Tomasi

David Wiitanen

Ambassador of Goodwill Award Winners



KATHY JARVENPAA (left)



ABBNEY & CHRIS GREEN



JUDY SELLERS

2019 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly is grateful for the support of the many volunteers who share their time and talents to provide friendship and services to the elderly. We recognize that your commitment to the organization is admirable and this year we inaugurated recognition of 5 year volunteers.

As a result of your volunteering, the organization serves over 1,200 elderly friends annually. You drive them to doctor appointments and social events, process and deliver firewood, help at events, deliver gifts and holiday meals to their home, and most importantly—provide them with friendship.

A key group of volunteers are our Volunteer Program Assistants (VPAs). These young men and women from France and Germany come to America for one year to serve the elderly. Primarily, they visit our elderly Forever Friends in their home to create a friendship and provide the elders with services such as grocery shopping. Turn to page 6 to learn more about our VPAs.

YEAR OF SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

35 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Susan Burack
Lou and Ron Helman
Joe Kirkish
Patty Lins and Larry Sutter

30 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Deb Fedewa and Jack Jobst
Sue Bagley and Gil Lewis
Lorraine Schmit

25 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Denny McKaig
Lee Parker

20 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Sharon Eklund

15 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Kathy Balog
Mary Jo Bodie
Joan Chadde
Kathy Chynoweth
Stefany and Les Cook
Debby Hart and Rich Featherly
Kimberly and James Fedie
Barry and Bill Fink
Deb and Chuck Gazvoda
Kathleen Harter

15 YEAR VOLUNTEERS, cont'd

David Kantola
Al Kempke
Dorothy Laajala
Michael Lorence
Cheryl Peters
Candy and Rolf Peterson
Carrie and Bob Richards
Debbie and Jim Siira
John Slivon
Sue Wiles
Joyce and Ron Winsor
Mary Lou and David Wisti

10 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Daryl Birely
Kelly Gast
Todd Gemelli
Michele and Rob Greenhoe
Lynn Greenhoe
Shelby Hamar
Debby and Don Hannula
Joel Keranen
Roland Mayer
Kathleen and Jeff Mell
Cheryl and Jim O'Brien
Melanie Walls
Chrisy Wisti

5 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Betty Aebli
Ann Archibald
Tom Argetisnger
Don Bausano
Nancy DeMarois
Lucia Dube
Len Emerick
Pat Frenn
Ray Jarvis
Adam Johnson
Kora Johnson
Mike Keating
Don Larson
Olivia and Chubby Loonsfoot
Mary Jane and David Loukus
Linda Matthews
Melissa Middleton
Mary Kay and Ken Olkkonen
Tom Penfold
Helen and Jim Riley
Steve Sabatini
Charles Schaefer
Ruth Robertson and Bill Sewell
Marge Shannette
Linda and Delbert Storms
Hillary Sundblad
Michael Ternus
Jennifer Worm

CREATING FRIENDSHIPS ACROSS COUNTIES

The Marquette Branch Office had a busy summer hosting events for our elderly Forever Friends.

We went to *Lake Angeline in Ishpeming for some fishing*. Even though the fish were not biting, it was a wonderful time as the rain held off.

We hosted a *picnic for our elderly Forever Friends and volunteers at Presque Isle Park in Marquette*. As a volunteer-based organization we could not serve the elderly without the generous spirit and the giving nature of our volunteers. You truly are the heart of our organization. Thank you all for what you do and the time you give.

It was quite the adventure to attend the *Buzz the Gut Car Show and Parade in Ishpeming*. Everyone really enjoyed reminiscing about the cars from their youth and seeing all the excitement.



Ann Beaudry at the Buzz the Gut car show in Ishpeming

Each month, our Forever Friends and Volunteers have the opportunity to come together and socialize at the Messiah Lutheran Church during our Marquette *Coffee Klatsch*. It is so fun

to visit and really get to know one another. Our Coffee Klatsch is held the last Friday of each month from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm.

Our Forever Friends are the reason we do what we do. Here in Marquette, Ishpeming and Harvey we visit 15 Forever Friends and we would love to see those numbers grow. In order to see those numbers grow *we need Visiting Volunteers to match with our Forever Friends!* The difference a Visiting Volunteer can make in a Forever Friends' life is astounding and can be life-changing.

Our elderly Forever Friend, Dolores, would send notes and prayers to her church regularly and our Visiting Volunteer, Helen would read them wondering who the wonderful writer was.

It was after Helen became a Visiting Volunteer that she learned Dolores was the writer of those beautiful hand-written notes.

Sometimes the world is smaller than it seems and paths are meant to be crossed. Dolores and Helen could have crossed paths many times but it took Little Brothers to bring them together and to help build a friendship that they both wanted and needed in their lives.

Dolores and Helen now get together a couple times a month. They go to Mass together, out to dinner, or just visit and enjoy each other's company.



Bill Polkinghorn

IN APPRECIATION

Bill Polkinghorn joined Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly in 2010 through *Experience Works* as the Property Caretaker. When his contract with Experience Works concluded, he was hired by Little Brothers in 2015.

He always arrived with the sunrise to fuel and maintain our small fleet of vehicles for the outreach staff and to plow the parking lot in the winter. He did so much more behind the scenes such as faithfully checking on the property over the weekend.

Anytime the building needed to be opened for early morning activities, he was always agreeable to be on hand to unlock the doors for volunteers.

In the spirit of Little Brothers, he put friendship in the work he did. He was always willing to deliver meals and gifts to our elderly friends during the holidays.

Bill had to retire in 2017 because of medical reasons. We miss Bill now that he is no longer coming in everyday but occasionally we get to see him at our weekly Coffee Klatsch.

Thank you Bill for your years of service!

THIS PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

Superior Health Foundation and the Michigan Health Endowment Fund

In Memoriam

Reino Tuominen

2/8/1929-5/29/2019

Visited by Ren Olson

Bertha Kosamo

3/6/1933-6/30/2019

Visited by Lee Parker

Ron Store

1/30/1946-7/8/2019

Visited by Ken Vervisch

Patti Coss

9/21/1950-7/15/2019

Visited by Tom-Marwin Pohl

Milton Anderson

4/13/1929-7/17/2019

Visited by Lorene Tonati

Dorit Stilling

9/16/1937-7/18/2019

Visited by Joyce Koski

Bertha Anderson

6/9/1935-7/27/2019

Visited by Lorene Tonati

Chuck Juntunen

8/1/1947-7/27/2019

Visited by Tom-Marwin Pohl

Isabelle "Izzy" Rule

6/26/1934-8/2/2019

Visited by Joyce Koski

Lila Lehto

1/29/1918-8/7/2019

Visited by Noelia Spranger



ANOTHER YEAR OF STUDENTS AND SENIORS



Beverly Jukkala and Hannah Oommen planting flowers.

Each year Ms. Christine Marttila's 6th grade class from the Houghton Middle School joins Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly in friendship and celebration of life.

Her students and our seniors meet five times per school year for socialization and fun activities.

Ms. Martilla has made this a tradition for many years. Her first class to participate in this program has long since graduated.

For some it was their introduction to volunteering and still today we occasionally hear from former students who remember their senior friend and want to continue to volunteer.

This year's activities include:

Activity 1: October 29th

Welcome! The students come to Little Brothers to be paired with an elderly friend for the year. The students

interview their new friend and when they return to school, they write a short biography of their elder.

Activity 2: December 11th

Back to School! Little Brothers brings our elders to the school to watch the students perform a holiday skit in the library. Afterward they enjoy a school lunch.

Activity 3: February 25th

Game Day! The students and seniors come to Little Brothers and bring games to play. They're all encouraged to bring games the other generation may not know about.

Activity 4: April 30th

Let's Bowl! Always a favorite, the students and seniors meet at the local bowling alley to socialize and enjoy pizza while bowling a few frames.

Activity 5: June 2nd

Goodbyes and Giving Back! At the end of the school year the students and seniors meet at Kestner Park to plant flowers for the city Houghton. When they're done planting flowers we celebrate with a picnic lunch.

All program dates subject to change.

THIS PROGRAM FUNDED BY:

Keweenaw Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council

VISITING INTERNS SHARE THEIR GAP YEAR WITH LITTLE BROTHERS



Please welcome our new Volunteer Program Assistants from France and Germany. They come to us during their “gap year” to serve and gain experience. Their primary focus at Little Brothers is to provide friendship to elders.

My name is **Fine Stella Keul** and I’m 18 years old and I come from Germany. The most important thing to know about me is that I’m a big bookworm and music lover. I just love sitting on the couch, cuddling with my dog, listening to Elton John’s vinyl playing and losing myself in a good storyline. I’m so excited to make music with the seniors and listening to their stories. The reason why I wanted to go to America is simple. I always loved the spirit. There is so much positive energy, so many welcoming people and all of the beautiful traditions. And don’t get me started on the tasty food... I can’t wait to experience all of that. I’m looking forward to meeting you all soon.



My name is **Gauthier Detaille**. I’m a French student of 21 years old. I have finished my Information and Communication degree and before beginning a master I need to take a break in my studies to discover the USA and improve my English. With Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly I can also be helpful to others and give my time for those who need it. I like music, spending time with my family, sports and laughing with my friends. I like to watch good movies, play video games, eat a big fat meal and sleep a long time in the morning. Succinctly I love life.

Hello everyone, my name is **Simon Reitz**, I am 18 years old and I come from Cologne, Germany. I want to meet interesting people and I want to gain experience for my whole life. In my free time I play soccer or basketball. But in Hancock I want to learn to ski. I will have fun with the elderly people and I want to be a good friend for them. At the end of the year I want to say that this was the best decision to come over to Hancock.



I’m **Louna Koch**, I am 19 years old and I’m from the north east of France. I like to hang out with my friends and pass time with my family. I love music and concerts. After my two years of studying for my technical degree while working as manager assistant for a telecommunication company, I’ve decided to engage myself to the Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly because I want to help elderly people. I know loneliness is not easy for our elderly, bringing happiness and fun to older people is a kind of personal accomplishment for me. For this year I look forward to improving my English but also acquire a new vision of the United States. I hope to meet new people too. Next year I aim to get a license in foreign languages in France, so I hope this experience in the United States will bring me a lot of skills for the future.

VOLUNTEER AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

MON OCTOBER 14 / MON NOVEMBER 11 / MON DECEMBER 09 – Friends without Borders 1:30pm - An intergenerational and multi-national event, we bring international MTU students together with our elderly Forever Friends at the Canterbury House on Campus. They have snacks and play games while discussing current affairs and topics of interest. Contact Louna Koch louna.koch@littlebrothers.org

WED OCTOBER 16 – Scott's Matinee 1:00-3:00pm (lunch at noon) - We show a movie at our office for our elderly Forever Friends. Our volunteer host, Kathy Jarvenpaa provides snacks and beverages. In October she'll be providing a lunch and volunteer drivers should arrive with their passengers between 11:30 and 11:45pm. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

WED OCTOBER 16 / WED NOVEMBER 20 – Food Bag Delivery - We prepare a personalized bag of food for elderly friends in need on the third Wednesday of each month. Bags are available to be picked up anytime in the following two weeks to be delivered to the recipients. Please note that the bags are reusable and must be returned to Little Brothers. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

THU OCTOBER 17 – Birthday Party 12:00pm - We honor elderly Forever Friends who have a birthday in October, November, or December. We host a lunch at our office. Volunteers are needed to help cook, bake a birthday cake or two, set-up the dining hall, serve, clean up, or drive our elders to and from the party. Contact Stella Keul stella.keul@littlebrothers.org

THU OCTOBER 17 - Game Day at Baraga Housing Commission 1:00pm - For our elderly Forever Friends in Baraga County, we have an interactive game day with snacks. Volunteers are needed to drive our Forever Friends to and from the event. Contact Gauthier Detaille gauthier.detaille@littlebrothers.org or Joyce Koski joyce.koski@littlebrothers.org This program is funded by the Baraga County Community Foundation and the Portage Health Auxiliary Foundation

WED OCTOBER 23 – Listening & Communication Training 1:00pm - Carol Grafford will facilitate an in-service on active listening and communication. We all want to be the best friend we can be for our elderly Forever Friends. Come to learn skills to know when to speak and when to listen. This training will enhance your communication techniques for all of your relationships. Contact Sarah Hoffman sarah.hoffman@littlebrothers.org

SAT OCTOBER 26 – Halloween Party at Gloria Dei Church 1:00pm - We host an annual Halloween party with lunch for our elderly Forever Friends at a local church. Volunteers are needed to help cook, bake desserts, set-up the dining hall, serve, clean up, deliver a small gift and flower to elders who cannot attend, or drive our elders to and from the party. Dressing in costume is encouraged. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

TUE OCTOBER 29 / – Students and Seniors 10:30am-12:15pm - Five times a school year we bring a local 6th grade class together with our elderly Forever Friends. This month the students come to LBFE to meet and interview the elderly. Lunch is provided. When the students return to school, they write a short biography of the elder. Volunteers are needed to help cook, set-up the dining hall, serve, clean up, or drive our elders to and from the activity. **WED DECEMBER 11 – Students and Seniors 10:15am-12:30pm** - This month the elders will go to the school for a holiday skit. Lunch is provided by the school. Volunteers are needed to help drive our elders to and from the activity. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org This program is funded by the Keweenaw Community Foundation Youth Advisory Council.

WED OCTOBER 30 – Food Safety Training 1:00pm - We strive to keep everyone food safe at our events. Our kitchens are licensed by the health department and we receive regular inspections. This training is not just for the cooks. Please attend if you will be serving the meal, washing the dishes, or just wish to learn more about healthy habits to keep yourself and others food safe. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

SAT NOVEMBER 02 – Food Drive 10:00am - 4:00pm - The Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity hosts a food drive each year for our benefit. While the brothers collect the food donations, volunteers are needed to sort the donations by food group and to answer phones. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

WED NOVEMBER 06 – Sensitivity Training 1:00pm - Amy Howard will be facilitating an in-service on diversity and inclusion. She is the Assistant Director of Campus Diversity Initiatives. Contact Sarah Hoffman sarah.hoffman@littlebrothers.org

THU NOVEMBER 07 / THU DECEMBER 05 - Coffee Klatsch at Cane Court Ontonagon 1:00pm - For our elderly Forever Friends in Ontonagon County, we host a coffee klatsch most months. Volunteers are needed to drive our Forever Friends to and from the event. Contact Simon Reitz simon.reitz@littlebrothers.org or Joyce Koski joyce.koski@littlebrothers.org This program is sponsored by the Portage Health Auxiliary Foundation.

THU DECEMBER 05 – Christmas Box Wrap 3:00am - 5:00pm - Each year we fill 200 boxes with non-perishable food items and a Christmas card to be wrapped in festive holiday paper. These boxes are distributed to our elderly friends with a visit throughout the month of December. Volunteers are needed to fill and wrap the food boxes. Contact Carol Korpela carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org

FRI DECEMBER 06 through December 24th – Christmas Box and Gift Delivery - Volunteers are needed to deliver the Christmas Food Boxes and Personalized Christmas gifts that have been donated by local churches are delivered to our elderly friends throughout the month of December. Contact Sarah Hoffman sarah.hoffman@littlebrothers.org

Phone: 906-482-6944

Fax: 906-482-6106

Email: michigan@littlebrothers.org

Website: houghton.littlebrothers.org

Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly

527 Hancock Street

Hancock, MI 49930

Address Service Requested

The Rose

Volunteer Newsletter

Fall 2019

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #61
Hancock, MI
49930

Mustang Sweepstakes supports Medical Transportation Program

The Medical Transportation program was busy this summer, thanks to the generous support of all who have contributed to our fundraising efforts. While the Mustang booth appeared at various events around the five-county area, your contributions allowed 75 elderly people get to over 200 important medical appointments and procedures in just the past three months. This was especially invaluable to those elderly who live in rural areas, and who, without your support, would have no way to reach their appointments.

One elder's caregiver called Little Brothers' office to express their thanks; with the help of the Medical Transportation program, she was no longer missing her scheduled appointments, and had reliable rides each week. Your continued support also allows us to reach elders in Baraga County, where we are looking to expand into rural communities. Oftentimes, few volunteers are available for long-distance trips to Baraga, and programs like the Mustang Sweepstakes ensure that Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly is able to send a vehicle and driver from our office for isolated elders. They would have no way to reach their appointments otherwise, as public transit is nonexistent in Baraga and taking a cab can be over \$50 one-way. Due to your many contributions to our Mustang Sweepstakes, Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly will be able to provide many more rides during the fall season, and long afterwards.

SWEEPSTAKES PRIZE WINNERS

Lila Drake-Flam of Hancock won 1st Prize - 2011 Ford Mustang

Raymond Laurich of Lake Linden won 2nd Prize - Door County, WI Weekend Get-Away

Mark Joyal of Hancock won 3rd Prize - \$250 VISA Gift Card

Chris Alquist of Hancock won 4th Prize - Two Cords of Firewood

Christine Coluccio of Negaunee won 5th Prize - A Dozen Assorted Keweenaw's Bounty Jams and Jellies

