

Rewarding Gifts of Friendship

Forever Friends! You may have heard this term while volunteering for Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly. But what does it really mean?

For our Forever Friends - it means commitment.

When we add an elderly friend to our signature Friendly Visiting Program, we do it with thoughtful consideration because once someone is added to the program, they are added for their lifetime. It is a guarantee to the elder that we want to create a meaningful friendship over the years.

When an elder is added as a Forever Friend, we commit to visiting that person at least twice a month. Until that Forever Friend is matched with a volunteer visitor, they receive visits from one of our two Outreach Specialists on staff or from one of our four Volunteer Program Assistants who each visit about 20 to 25 Forever Friends.

Our Forever Friends not only receive in-home visits, but they are also invited to small group activities to provide them with the opportunity to get out of the house, visit with their peers, and remain connected to their community.

WE NEED YOU! Volunteer visitors are needed to visit our lonely elderly Forever Friends. Although we ask a commitment of at least twice a month, you schedule your visits based on your availability.



Walter Tuomi, Simon Reitz, and Carlene Morningstar at a monthly Klatsch in Ontonagon.

FUNDING & PROGRAM UPDATES

Medical Transportation Program Support:

The Clare Foundation (\$20,000)
 The Superior Health Foundation in cooperation with the Michigan Transportation Connection, Inc (\$64,000) to purchase a new wheelchair accessible van.

Marquette County Outreach Support:

The Henry Niles Foundation (\$2,500)
 The West End Health Foundation (\$4,000)

Friendly Visiting Program Support

The Mary Thompson Foundation (\$10,000)

Food Assistance Program Support

The Wal-Mart Foundation (\$2,500)

Baraga and Ontonagon Outreach Support:

The Rollin Gerstacker Foundation (\$15,000)

General Operating Support:

Clannad Foundation (\$2,500)



Elaine Wirtanen and Louna Koch at Friends Without Borders in Houghton.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS Sunday, April 12, 2020

This Easter we are pleased to announce that we are opening a second site in Marquette dedicated to delivering meals to the homes of our elderly friends. Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly hosted our first meal in Marquette on Christmas Day of 2013. We served 35 elderly guests that very first holiday. We are now serving over 100 elders. Opening a second meal site gives us the opportunity to serve more elderly people since we don't have enough space at our current location to meet the demand for home-meal deliveries.



Offering home meal delivery is important to us because we want to reach those people who cannot attend the sit-down meal. Because the holidays are so much more than just a shared meal, we encourage our volunteers to stay a short while and visit the person to whom they are delivering a meal. Please join us by celebrating Easter with your elderly friends and neighbors in your community.

Sit-Down Meal Sites and Times

The Easter meals will be served at **2:00pm**.

St. Ann's Church, BARAGA

Sacred Heart Church, CALUMET

Church of the Resurrection, HANCOCK

St. Ignatius Church, HOUGHTON

St. Michael's Church, MARQUETTE (Dunleavy Hall)

Horizons School, MOHAWK

Holy Family Catholic Church, ONTONAGON

Grace Lutheran Church, SOUTH RANGE

Doelle Senior Center, TAPIOLA

Home Delivery Meal Sites and Times

The Easter meals are ready to be delivered at **noon**.

Grace United Methodist Church, HOUGHTON

CLK School, CALUMET

Messiah Lutheran Church, MARQUETTE

Home Visit with Gift and Flower

The gifts and flowers are available to be picked up from Little Brothers **between 9am and 1:00pm**.

Canal View, HANCOCK

Volunteer Opportunities

To volunteer on Easter Day or to help with the planning in the weeks before the holiday, please go to **register.littlebrothers.org** to sign-up. You can also return the enclosed response sheet or call 906-482-6944. Hurry so your favorite job doesn't fill up without you. If you provide an email address, you will receive an email confirmation of your assignment. You will not receive a confirmation phone call. If you have any questions, please call Carol Korpela at 906-482-6944 or email carol.korpela@littlebrothers.org.

Volunteer jobs include but are not limited to the following:

Cook: Prepare the food. The menu is traditional and there is a lead cook to provide direction.

Set-Up & Greet: Create a festive atmosphere by decorating, setting the tables, and greeting the elderly guests upon arrival.

Serve: The meal is served restaurant style.

Clean: Tables need to be cleared, dishes washed, supplies packed, and floors swept and mopped.

Drive: Pick up 2 or 3 elderly guests and drive them to and from the party. We're also in need of volunteers willing to drive our wheelchair accessible vans - No CDL required and we will provide training.

Deliver Meals: Pick up a fresh, hot meal from a site and deliver it to the home of an elderly friend. Stay for a short visit.

Holiday Volunteer Informational Meetings

Both new and long-time volunteers are encouraged to attend these informative meetings. It's an opportunity for new volunteers to prepare for their first holiday experience. Long-term volunteers can share their best practices and refresh their knowledge. There will be an opportunity to meet with other volunteers at your site and ask questions. To sign-up or request more information, please call Carol Korpela, Program Director at 906-482-6944.

Scheduled Trainings

Monday, April 6th 6-7pm

St. Ann's - 318 Lyons St, Baraga

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Monday, April 6th 6-7pm

Little Brothers Office- 1716 Presque Isle, Marquette

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Tuesday, April 7th 6-7pm

Little Brothers Office - 527 Hancock St., Hancock

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Wednesday, April 8th 6-7pm

Holy Family - 515 Pine St, Ontonagon



HOLIDAY FAQ

How does an elder get invited to the holiday meal?

We send over 1,000 invitations each holiday to elderly friends who have participated in our holiday meal program in the past. When they don't respond to their invitation by the RSVP date, we call them with a verbal invitation.

Our holiday meals are not by invitation only though. They are for any senior age 60 and older in the community who will be alone on the holiday. They just need to call our office to make a reservation. When an elderly friend joins us for the first time, he or she is then added to an invitation list for future holidays.

In Memoriam

FOREVER FRIENDS

Muriel Stimac

4/19/1923-9/22/2019

Visited by Lorene Tonati

Sharon Gross

7/5/1947-10/2/2019

Visited by Joyce Koski

Harlowe Gougeon

5/21/1938-10/31/2019

Visited by Ian Terry

Gerald "Jerry" Virtanen

11/18/1949-11/3/2019

Visited by Joyce Koski

Melba Marx

4/6/1927-11/21/2019

Visited by Stella Keul

Ann Beaudry

4/19/1943-12/26/2019

Visited by April Cote

Rose Aho

12/21/1936-1/15/2020

Visited by Andrea Harvey

Steve Perala

7/28/1945-1/25/2020

Visited by Louna Koch



VOLUNTEERS

Valerie Lind

3/14/1950-4/18/2019

Barbara Lewis

11/17/1932-6/24/2019

Rita Moilanen

10/14/1933-11/14/2019

Alison Spencer

09/04/1970-12/26/2019

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

Spring 2020

Non-Profit Org.
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Hancock, MI
49930



Alysha Narhi, Activities Coordinator



My name is Alysha Narhi and I am 21 years old. I have a beautiful one year old daughter named Isabella River. I would describe myself as outgoing, friendly, a good listener, and overall friend to anyone I'm around. I have been born and raised here in the Keweenaw so it's to be expected that I love four-wheeling, snowmobiling, skiing, and side-by-side riding. In my spare time I do enjoy being creative with my painting/drawing, and I also enjoy playing video games. I'm very passionate about everything I do and tend to think of others before myself. I love being able to help anyone I can and hope to continue to do so.