

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

The beginning of the beautiful fall season in Upper Michigan means that it is time for us to start planning for our holiday meals. It has been very heartwarming to have the elders eager to venture out and join us at our sit-down meal celebrations once again. With our attendance going up, our need for volunteers at each of the sites has grown as well. We will be hosting our traditional home cooked holiday meals at 10 different sit-down and delivery sites throughout the U.P.

Volunteers are encouraged to join the elders in conversation and enjoy the holiday meal.

To learn more about the holiday volunteer job opportunities and to sign-up, go to register.littlebrothers.org. We are also available to answer any questions that you may have and assist you with registering by calling our Hancock office at 906-482-6944 or our Marquette office at 906-273-2575. If you provide us with your email, an email confirmation will be sent to you with your job assignment.



Volunteers and elders enjoying the holiday meal celebration

SIT-DOWN Meal Sites and Times

- BARAGA**, St. Ann's Church—1pm
- CALUMET**, Sacred Heart Church—1pm
- HANCOCK**, Church of the Resurrection—1pm
- HOUGHTON**, St. Ignatius—1pm
- ONTONAGON**, Holy Family Catholic—1pm
- TAPIOLA**, Doelle— (TENTATIVE) *
- MARQUETTE**, Elks Lodge—2pm

DELIVERY Meal Sites and Times

- BARAGA**, St. Ann's Church—12:45pm
(PICKUP INSIDE)
- CALUMET**, CLK School—12:45pm
(PICKUP INSIDE)
- HANCOCK**, Salvation Army—12:45pm
(CURBSIDE PICKUP)
- SOUTH RANGE**, Grace Lutheran Church—12:45pm
(CURBSIDE PICKUP)
- ONTONAGON**, Holy Family Catholic—12:45pm
(PICKUP INSIDE)
- TAPIOLA**, Doelle – (TENTATIVE) *
- MARQUETTE**, Elks Lodge—12:45pm
(CURBSIDE PICKUP)

*We are hoping to add Tapiola back as a Holiday meal site and we are currently in the process of working out the details to see if it is possible. We will need volunteers to sign up for both holidays at the site, if the plans go through. We will keep you updated through our website and social media. If you have any questions, you can call us at 906-482-6944.

HOME Visit with gift and flower

The gifts and flowers can be picked up from Little Brothers between **9:00 am and 12:00 pm** and delivered on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day to our friends at the local nursing homes and assisted living centers where our Forever Friends reside.



Kathy delivering holiday meals



Holiday meal prep in Marquette

HOLIDAY VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer holiday jobs:

Sign up is available at: register.littlebrothers.org

KITCHEN: A lead cook will provide direction during meal prep and clean up in the kitchen as you help to prepare the traditional holiday meal. You must be 13 years or older to work in kitchen.

DINING ROOM: A dining room lead will provide direction for a variety of jobs. Set up the dining room in a festive manor, cut and wrap flowers, set up the dessert table, pack and prepare individual meal bags for delivery.

SERVE: Serve meals to seated guests. Eat with elders, and enjoy conversations with them. Bus tables, clean and sanitize.

CLEAN UP: Wash and put away dishes, pots and pans. Sweep, mop, and vacuum. Clean and sanitize kitchen and dining room.

TRANSPORT ELDERS: Pick up elderly guests at their home and drive them to and from the meal site. Volunteers are encouraged to stay to eat and visit.

MEAL DELIVERY: Pick up meals at the site and deliver to the elders at home. Volunteers are encouraged to stay for a short visit if the elder is receptive to company.

ENTERTAINMENT: Provide musical entertainment at our sit-down meal sites.



Preparing the Holiday meal delivery bags

In Memoriam

Mary Jane Johnson
1/25/1939 - 03/04/2023
Visited by Ren Olson

Karen Oja
3/14/1942 - 04/16/2023
Visited by Ren Olson

Patricia Altenburg
2/27/1941 - 9/1/2023
Visited by Joyce Koski/
Doug Dernberger

Mary Stahl
7/26/1959 - 9/4/2023
Visited by Roseann Terry

Gudrun MacDonald
2/28/1924 - 9/23/2023
Visited by Tim Williams/
Doug Dernberger

Barbara Kuntz
2/9/1954 - 9/28/2023
Visited by Lars Eschweiler

Eugenia "Heppy" Koski
8/27/1932 - 10/2/2023
Visited by Bob Wenc

CHRISTMAS BOXES AND GIFTS FOR OUR ELDERS A LBFE Tradition!

Each year during the month of December, volunteer elves are needed to deliver Christmas cheer to our Forever Friends.

We have 200 festively wrapped Christmas boxes filled to the brim with non-perishable food and personalized Christmas that are delivered with a home visit and a smile!

We also give personalized gifts to the elders that need to be wrapped and delivered.



If you would like to help wrap or deliver the boxes and/or the personalized Christmas gifts, please call us at our Marquette or Hancock offices.



2023 VOLUNTEER PICNIC



Volunteer picnic at the Ray Kestner Waterfront Park

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

Doug Wyble and Chuck Schaefer



Doug Wyble and Chuck Schaefer with Mike Aten receiving their Volunteer of the Year awards.

We had a team win the Volunteer of the Year award this year. Doug Wyble and Chuck Schaefer have dedicated many hours of hard work as lead volunteers in our firewood program. You can find them in every kind of weather cutting, stacking and hauling firewood. Working together, they are available to make last minute deliveries of firewood to help ensure that our elders have a warm house during our long Copper Country winters. As a testament to the years of dedication both Doug and Chuck have given to Little Brothers, they both have also won the Ambassador of Goodwill Award in previous years.

NOMINATED FOR THE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Evelyn Massaro

Gail Kauppila

Otto Bloom

Chuck Schaefer

Joyce Koski

Judy Sellers

Glenn Ierley

Doug Wyble

Mary Chamberlain

David Crowley

The Dream Team: Abby Green, Janice Henkel, and Gail North



Volunteers, staff and board members at the Volunteer picnic



VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

40 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Julie Beck

35 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Matt Bramble
Donna Cole

30 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Judy Schaefer

25 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Jennifer and Scott Pugh

20 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

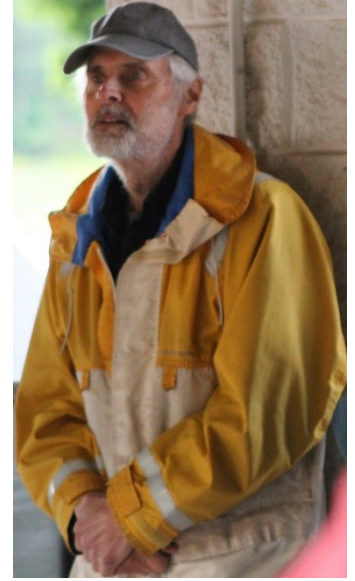
Clark Koski

15 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Marjorie and John Amos
Joanne Edwards
Jeff Veum

10 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Tom Curski
Mark Englund
Tim Williams



5 YEAR VOLUNTEERS

Nicole Adams
Judy Burl
Eric Byykkonen
(Sue) Susan Dekeyser
Bill Duston
Keith Johnson
Joann Kriege
Yvette Lander
James Robertson
Maureen Ronquist
Glenn Sarka
Bill Tucker
Abby Woodford

Pictures from the 2023 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic



HELPING OUR ELDERLY FRIENDS MAINTAIN THEIR INDEPENDENCE

Our Forever Friend Gordon was recovering from arm surgery followed by lengthy hospital and rehabilitation stays. With his limited income he purchased a 1995 Buick so he could travel to and from his health care appointments. While his car provided him with independence, it also came with trouble of its own. Since he couldn't afford to have it repaired at a garage, he stopped by O'Reilly Auto Parts for help with diagnostics and parts. Even the cost of the parts created a financial burden.

While the O'Reilly employee was able to help Gordon with some of the mechanical work, Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly was able to help Gordon by paying for the parts he needed to ease his financial burden. Together, we helped Gordon get his car back on the road.

This was made possible by the **John and Cookie Johnson Needs Fund**. John and Cookie established an endowed fund at the LBFE Foundation to assist our Forever Friends who have unique needs and financial limitations.

Volunteers are needed to help implement the projects. Please call us at 906-482-6944 for more information.



WELCOMING OUR NEW VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

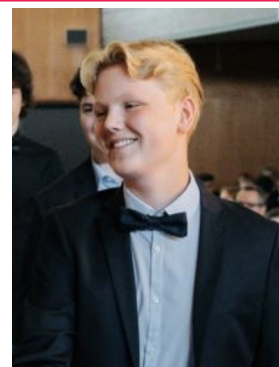


Marie Goetz—Hey hey I'm Marie. I arrived in Hancock on September 9, and I am already amazed by all the outdoor opportunities the UP provides. As a Heidelberg city girl, I am used to busy crowds running around minding their own business however over here everyone is so welcoming which I love.

I am looking forward to learning how to ski and get out there in the nature. My favorite memory I've made so far was watching Lake Superior's sunset at Calumet Waterworks. Moreover, I cannot wait to visit the lovely elderly people of the area, hear their stories, and enjoy our time together. Back in Germany I spent my free time playing soccer, driving my motorcycle, and hanging out with my friends. Furthermore, I like learning about history and politics, hence I enjoy discussions and keeping up to date. It's going to be legend...wait for it...dary!

Lars Eschweiler — Hello there, my name is Lars, I'm 18 years old and just graduated from high school in Germany. Back in my hometown, Cologne, I loved to go out with my friends, go hiking, skiing, and playing soccer. During my time in the US, I want to meet many new great people, make new experiences, and especially have a lot of fun while working at LBFE and visiting my elders.

When I'm coming back to Germany, I want to tell everyone that during my time in the USA I was able to make many elders laugh and having a great time.



Ella Grabinger — Hello there, I'm Ella. I am 18 years old and I just graduated from high school a couple months ago. I arrived here in September from Stuttgart, Germany. Actually, I was born in the US in North Carolina, but I only lived there for about 3 years, so I kind of found my way back here for my volunteer service.

In my spare time I love to hang out with my friends, to play tennis and to be creative. I'm interested in photography, music and nature. I'm really excited to go skiing and I'm looking forward to meeting new people, traveling and improving my English.

I'm very happy to be a part of LBFE and I'd love to make friends with the elders and to hear their stories. I hope I can brighten their days and bring some joy in their lives.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STAFF MEMEBER

Christie Serotzke — I am so happy and so excited to be working for this amazing organization. I live in the Bootjack area of Lake Linden with my husband. We have 2 grown sons who have blessed us with a beautiful granddaughter and 2 wonderful step-sons all whom also live in Bootjack. We have 3 grand-dogs and just recently lost our beloved dog, Ryder. We all belong to the Bootjack Volunteer Fire and Rescue and participate in many volunteer endeavors through-out our communities.

I came to Little Brothers after our local Hospice Agency closed. I was the Business Office Manager and handled the daily coordination of our nurses and patients. I am truly inspired and deeply satisfied when I can be of serve to those in our communities. I have a natural tendency to create, plan and execute events so it seemed like the perfect fit to be the Donor Relations Manager for LBFE.



UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

To help combat loneliness for our elderly friends in the upcoming fall and winter months, we have a variety of fun events and activities planned. Volunteer job opportunities include cooking, baking, driving elders, and assisting at the events. If you are interested in learning about or helping out at any of our upcoming monthly events or activities, you can contact our office in Hancock. ***ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.***

Baraga

October 26th - Halloween Party Luncheon

November 8th - Thanksgiving Coffee Social

December 14th - Christmas Cookie Party

January 18th - Fun and Game Day/ Coffee Social

February 15th - Valentine's Day Party



Picnic at Ontonagon Park



Bowling and Pizza party at the Rock House with the 4th graders

Houghton/Keweenaw

October 2nd - International Day of the Older Person

Celebration with a home visit, gift and carnation

October 18th - Local Birthday Party Luncheon

at LBFE in Hancock (October - December FF Birthdays)

October 28th - Halloween Costume Party Luncheon

At Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Hancock

November 16th - Meet and Greet with 4th graders

At LBFE in Hancock

December (TBA) - Christmas Concert with the 4th graders

At EB Holman school

January 17th - Birthday Party Luncheon

at LBFE in Hancock (January - March FF Birthdays)

February 10th - Valentines Day Party Luncheon

At Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Hancock



Having Strawberry shortcake at the Chassell Strawberry Festival Parade

Ontonagon

October 19th - Halloween Party Luncheon

November 9th - Thanksgiving Coffee Social

December 7th - Christmas Cookie Party

January 4th - Fun and Game Day/ Coffee Social

February 1st - Valentine's Day Party



Dancing to the Band and having ice cream in Houghton

All Counties

November 23rd - Thanksgiving Holiday Meals and Celebrations

November 30th - Christmas food box wrap/Christmas present delivery

December 25th - Christmas Holiday Meals and Celebrations

-Information and Online volunteer registration at:

register.littlebrothers.org



Valentine's Day party luncheon

NEWS AND EVENTS FROM MARQUETTE

Ambassador of Goodwill Award

Evelyn Massaro of Marquette received the Ambassador of Goodwill award this year. She has helped in every way possible during the Holidays and at small events from beginning to end with a big smile on her face. She is a very passionate volunteer and has made many meaningful friendships with the elders though-out the years.



The Marquette Branch Office has moved!

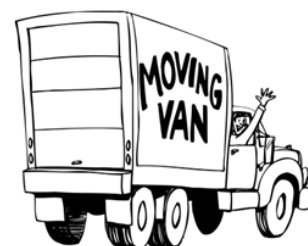
The new location will provide increased capacity for our organization to serve volunteers and elderly friends. Once the dust settles, an Open House will be announced.

Please update the address:

131 W. Washington St. STE C
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 273-2575

Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 am – 5:00 pm



houghton.littlebrothers.org



Marquette Area

Here's What's Happening

Choose Your Volunteer Role:
Driver, Baker, Chef, Master of Fun, or Friend

October 31st

Halloween Party

November 23rd

Thanksgiving Meal
Dine-in or Delivery

December 7th

Birthday Party & Christmas Boxes

December 25th

Christmas Meal
Dine-in or Delivery

January 18th

Game Day

February 14th

Valentine's Day

All activities include lunch
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Locations To Be Determined



Birthday Party at the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum in Marquette



NEW INTERN IN MARQUETTE

The Marquette office welcomes **April Heckman**.

April is serving as a social work intern until Spring 2024. She is a senior at Northern Michigan University with a projected graduation in May. April will be involved in all programs as well as initiating special projects. In her spare time she enjoys video games and reading.



APRIL HECKMAN

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 2023

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Hancock, MI
49930

STIPENDS NOW AVAILABLE FOR LBFE MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION DRIVERS

Your LBFE volunteerism can take you to new places!

Become a Drive to Care Friend and Driver.

- Drive elders to medical appointments.
- Volunteer on your schedule.
- Training provided.
- Make a difference one ride at a time.



Thanks in part to:

