

JULY, 2015



VOLUNTEER UPDATE

July Featured Volunteer—Sylvia’s and Estelle’s Houses



Evelyn Walker

Evelyn has been a volunteer for Hospice of Marion County since 1998.

She has been assisting primarily at Sylvia’s and Estelle’s Houses.

Becki Steiner, Team Assistant for Estelle’s House says, “Evelyn is a wonderful volunteer! She is a great help to the CNA’s when she’s here, (folding laundry, making up beds, etc.), and visits with the patients. I believe she originally volunteered on Saturdays, but has been coming on Thursdays for several years.”

For being so dedicated, faithful and diligent, we honor Evelyn as our Featured Volunteer for July. Great job and we hope you keep it up for many more years.

Snippets from Volunteer Programs:



THRIFT STORES: Mike West says the Thrift Stores are doing well, sales are up 7% from last year. We are continuing a direct mail campaign to encourage furniture donations. Look for a flyer

soon if you live in Oak Run or On Top of the World.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: If you have Christmas ornaments or décor for small (3 foot) Christmas trees, please send them to the “Christmas Tree Project” at Jasmine Store. They are collecting items for themed trees as a special fundraising project for Hospice of Marion County. No glass ornaments please.

NEW GREETERS AT SYLVIA’S: Daun has been training greeters, and we now have at least one on each weekday. There are still lots of openings, so if you are interested, call her at 873-7441, x1105.

MONARCH CENTER FOR HOPE AND HEALING TO OPEN SOON: Our new facility dedicated to bereavement services will be opening sometime in late July. When we get a firm date, we will send an announcement for the Open House so you can visit this beautiful facility which is near our main office building. It will have a children’s area, a room for adult group meetings, several individual counseling rooms and office space. Volunteers will be needed for help at the receptionist desk, either 10 to 1 or from 11 to 2 on weekdays. Let us know if you would like to volunteer for this new position.

TRANSITIONS CAREGIVER LUNCH: The next Transitions’ Caregiver Lunch will be on July 21 at Grace Episcopal Church in Ocala. **Door prizes are needed.** Contact Donna if you would like to attend or drop off a door prize at the main office building. Her phone is: (352) 874-5200.



The Volunteer Office will be closed on July 3rd. The Thrift Stores will be open regular hours on July 3rd and 4th.

Staff Vacations

John enjoyed an Alaskan cruise in May. Tami took a few days off in June and enjoyed some beach time. Nancy will be on vacation from July 3rd in the afternoon until noon on July 13.

Connie will be going to California on July 15 to 21. Daun will be flexing hours and taking a day off during the week of July 27th.



Hope you also enjoy special time this summer with friends or family as much as we enjoy our vacation time!

**Hospice of Marion County
Volunteer Dept.
(352)873-7441 or
Voicemail: (352)873-7419
E-mail: Volunteer
@hospiceofmarion.com**

July Volunteer Dept. Update

Severe Weather/Hurricane Volunteer Plan for Hospice of Marion County

Hospice of Marion County staff recently met to review our Hurricane Preparedness. Please review the guidelines below for volunteers if a Tropical Storm or Hurricane is anticipated. Our primary objective is to keep you safe and for all to engage in proper storm preparations.

Please stay tuned to local weather reports to see when a Tropical Storm or Hurricane Watch may be issued.

General Guidelines: Discontinuing assignments due to impending severe weather/hurricane.

- If you choose not to go to your assignment because of evacuation or personal storm preparations several days in advance, please contact your program supervisor or site coordinator to let them know.
- If you have assignments at any Hospice Houses, Thrift Stores, Patient Visits, or office assignments, do not go to your assignment once the storm is within 24 hours of affecting our area or winds are expected to be above 35 MPH sustained within that time period. You may NOT drive once winds reach 35 MPH sustained.
- If you are a respite patient volunteer, please contact your assigned patient and patient's family to let them know that because of the storm, you may not be able to come for several days. Ask them where they plan to shelter. If you can visit them, offer to run errands if need be to help them purchase extra groceries, water or supplies. Discontinue visits 24 hours before the storm is expected to affect our area or if winds are expected to be over 35 miles sustained within 12-24 hours of your visit.

Volunteer Voice Mail Line: We will update the Volunteer Voice Mail Line (352-873-7419) with regular updates about when to stop going to your assignment and when to resume volunteer service. This phone is not connected to the regular Hospice Phone System so it should continue to work 24/7 even if our main lines are forwarded to our answering service. **So call 873-7419, not 873-7441 for updates.**

Evacuation – The safest way to survive a hurricane is to evacuate to an area that is not expected to be affected by a hurricane. Please evacuate if the Emergency Management Authorities post evacuation orders. If there is a major storm, you do not need to tell us if you are evacuating. Please add the Volunteer Voice mail line to your cell phone contacts list so you can check in regularly after the storm.

Post-Storm Recovery

After a major storm, please do not show up at our Hospice Houses, Stores, or other locations to assist unless you are on our Emergency Volunteer Team and you are contacted to assist.

- If the storm damage is not severe, we will send you an ALL CLEAR e-mail or call when you should resume your volunteer service. We will post a message on our voicemail when volunteer assignments can be resumed. Call 352-873-7419 to listen to updates from the volunteer department.
- If there is a destructive hurricane with widespread damage, wait until 3-4 days after the hurricane passes to check in with the Volunteer Services office as we will probably be working on emergency response and restoration of vital services in the initial recovery phase. Only volunteers on the Emergency Response Team will be contacted to assist during the initial response phase. After the storm has passed, send us an email or call our voice mail: 352-873-7419 to let us know when you will be in the area and able to resume your volunteer

Volunteer Preparation/Emergency Response Team: Volunteers are needed who can help with phones and copying, help with boarding up our buildings, or have special skills in Emergency Response such as former Law Enforcement, Fire/Rescue, etc. Please reply to the Volunteer Office so we can add you to our Emergency Preparation/Response Team List. It would be ideal to have at least 3-6 office helpers, 3-6 for building preparation, and some volunteers to be our first/last mail couriers. Plus we may need Pet Peace of Mind Volunteers to take pets to shelters if patients evacuate mobile homes.