



VOLUNTEER VIBES

MAY NEWSLETTER 2025

Hello Wonderful Volunteers!

Can you believe we're already in May? Spring is in full bloom, and so is our gratitude for each and every one of you. As the days get longer and sunnier, we're excited to share what's happening this month at Staying Connected— and take a moment to honor some very special occasions.

May Day - May 1st

A European festival of ancient origins marking the beginning of summer, usually celebrated on 1 May, around halfway between the Northern Hemisphere's Spring equinox and June solstice. Festivities may also be held the night before, known as **May Eve**. Traditions often include gathering wildflowers and green branches ("bringing in the May"), weaving floral garlands, crowning a May Queen (sometimes with a male companion), and setting up a Maypole, May Tree or May Bush, around which people dance and sing. Bonfires are also a major part of the festival in some regions. Regional varieties and related traditions include Walpurgis Night in central and northern Europe, the Gaelic festival Beltane, the Welsh festival Calan Mai, and May devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It has also been associated with the ancient Roman festival Floralia.

Celebrating Moms Everywhere – May 12

Whether she's your mom, a mother figure, a friend, or you (shoutout to all our volunteer moms!), Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the love, care, and strength that make a house a home — and a community thrive. We hope you take time to connect with those special women in your life and maybe even treat yourself to some well-deserved rest and relaxation.

HAPPY
Mother's
DAY

Honoring Heroes – Memorial Day, May 27

At the end of the month, we pause to remember and honor the brave individuals who gave their lives in service to our country. As a volunteer-driven organization, we know how powerful selfless service can be. Let's take a moment to reflect, give thanks, and carry forward their legacy of dedication and courage.



Service Corner

- We added 15 new volunteers in May and at least another 13 in April
- We have 316 volunteers, However, only 45% of our volunteers posted time in March
- A total of 144 volunteers completed 332 service requests.
- With so many of our volunteers heading north for the summer, we need to be especially vigilant in filling all types of requests. If you are looking for something to do, there are plenty of opportunities

THANK YOU WOMEN OF WHITEBARK



A heartfelt thank you to the WOMEN OF WHITEBARK for their generous donation of \$1,000.00

Pictured are:

Mary O'Brien, Vice President (left), Joan Leitner and Marcia Schroeder (center), Lucia Crosby, Marketing Manager (right).

Also in the picture is "Miss Piggy" held by Marcia.

Miss Piggy collects donations throughout the year. We are truly honored to be the beneficiary of this year's collection.



Hands that Help

Lori Anthony Coordinator Of Home Visits and Intakes

Lori Joined Staying Connected Volunteers in January of 2016, two months after moving here

I grew up in rural Pennsylvania. Went to Thiel College for BS in Bio/Chem. Interned in Medical Technology at The Cleveland Clinic.

My First job was at the Children's Hospital in Akron, Ohio. "Putting hubby through grad school" When he finished we relocated to So. California.

I went back to a hospital lab. We welcomed our first daughter there and very shortly thereafter we moved to Chicago where we welcomed another daughter. This move gave us a rare treat when we were sent to Tokyo for a year. Little did I know that moving would be a trend! We subsequently moved to NJ, NY, back to NJ and finally retired to Hilton Head in 2001.

In each location I worked for labs or found my teaching passion in being a substitute teacher. While on hiatus from a Drug Rep position with J&J I landed back in my field as a Technical Trainer and Troubleshooter for Abbott Labs Automated Blood Analyzers, territory NY, NJ, PA and where needed. Constant travel. As a volunteer I became associated with Welkind/Kessler Rehab Hospitals in NJ and became the Volunteer Director for 6 years. I added an Associates degree in Volunteer Management from Rutgers University. Served two terms on the school board and several town boards.

On retiring to HHI I became a docent for Honey Horn and Island History and volunteered with Deep Well and the Self Theater. Both of us were marshals or walking scorers for the Heritage Golf Tournament. I served two terms as president of Sea Pines Woman's club. We traveled the world for the next 11 years!

After moving to Sun City, Staying Connected has kept me busy but I do sing with the SC Singers, Head of the make up for the SC Theater, and enjoy serving on boards and taking part in many clubs sports and neighborhood activities.

**THANK
YOU
FOR ALL
THAT
YOU DO**

VOLUNTEER TESTIMONIALS



I have lived here 8 years and have met so many amazing people. I am a home visitor and caregiver relief visitor. Everyone is so welcoming, and I can honestly say they are my inspiration!

Jeanne F



Volunteering means having an off day turn into a good day by assisting one of our residents. I am a member and volunteer, so I have the best of both worlds. It is truly the neighborly thing to do with no limits to the gratification.

Candice R



After living in this wonderful community and feeling very fortunate, I wanted to “give something back”. I am a Liaison. I make monthly calls to check in with our members and make sure they are managing ok. Each phone encounter is unique, interesting, and informative. We chat a bit, laugh a bit, and share thoughts about our lives. When we hang up, I realize that my small contribution makes a big difference in the member’s life.

Kathi C



Thank to Staying Connected for the opportunities to connect not only with my neighbors, but also my high school German. I have an even bigger appreciation for the poignant realization that we all share our lives wherever, whenever, and however we are.

Janis S



The best things about volunteering for Staying Connected is I enjoy meeting new and interesting people, seeing all the different areas of Sun City and most of all seeing the smiles on the faces of our members.

Jeffrey P



Volunteering has given me purpose and allowed me to help others. I just can’t believe how many interesting and talented people live here! Someone may need a walker, however, in their former life danced with the Philadelphia Ballet Company.

Anne M



Everyone is so appreciative, thankful, and grateful when you pick them up and get them home safely home, BUT, I feel like I am the winner! I have just met someone new. I love volunteering with Staying Connected. Perhaps there will come a day when I will need a ride to an appointment or the grocery store and I will be on the receiving end and grateful to the person who comes to pick me up.

Cheryl R

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!