

volunteer FOCUS

A HATTIE LARLHAM PUBLICATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

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March/April 2009

Martin Luther King Day

This year for Martin Luther King Day, the individuals of Hattie Larlham had the opportunity to welcome their new president to office with the help of volunteers recruited by the University of Akron. Twelve volunteers participated in the project at the Hattie Larlham Center for Excellence.

The volunteers worked alongside our residents to create and send out over 30 cards to President Obama. Patriotic stickers, embellishments and a variety of decorated papers really made the cards unique, but it was the creativity and thoughtfulness of the volunteers that helped to personalize them for all of the individuals involved.



Volunteers from Kaiser Permanente joined supported living residents for an "MLK Freedom & Friendship Lunch" after completing a detailed cleaning project at Florida and Yerrick homes. During lunch everyone celebrated the spirit of Dr. King by making thank you cards for the Akron City workers in fire, police and sanitation departments. Volunteers helped residents express their thanks to the men and women who keep our communities safe and clean. Giving thanks to others was a great way to honor the legacy of Reverend King.

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Karaoke gift a hit with supported living



Students in Hudson High School's Leadership Class challenged themselves to raise funds to buy Supported Living a karaoke machine when they learned of our desire for one to use at our many parties and special events throughout the year. Leadership students raised funds by selling raffle tickets for super-sized cookies to the students at Hudson Elementary School.

Sally Patton, a senior in the class, delivered the brand new machine along with several CDs and an extra microphone. Less than a week later, volunteers from the Kent State University Women's Field Hockey Team tested it out as they set up decorations and gift tables for a resident's 90th birthday celebration. We will have music whenever we like thanks to the great students in the Hudson City School District.



Follow Hattie Larlham on Twitter

Now, Twitter users can follow updates from Hattie Larlham on the popular micro-blogging site. And not just Hattie Larlham. The Twitter account will also post updates from Hattie Larlham programs like Hattie's Café & Gifts, Creative ARTs and The Play Center as well as event updates and related links.

A stripped down version of social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace, Twitter allows users to send their followers, or subscribers, brief 140-character messages called tweets.

To follow the organization, go to Twitter.com and sign in or create a new account. Then, search for people using the Find People link at the top of the page. When the organization appears in the search results, click Follow to the right of the profile to add Hattie Larlham to your list of people and organizations to follow.



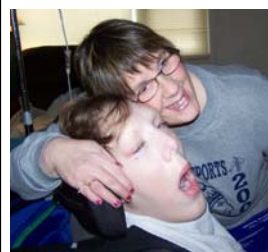
Changes to Volunteer Focus

In an effort to streamline communications, we have decided to discontinue the Volunteer Focus, Jr., newsletter and will include all volunteer information in our standard newsletter.

Youth and adult volunteers alike have noticed the increase in all-ages volunteer activities, and these will continue to be offered on a weekly basis. We are also reserving a few activities per month just for our youth volunteers as we always have. We hope that the new all-inclusive calendar will be easy for everyone to use, but if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask a member of the volunteer resources department.

As a reminder to all volunteers, please sign up for activities by calling or sending an e-mail message in advance of the activity date. We will do our best to accommodate all volunteers who wish to participate; however, there may be times when we have limitations due to space or other factors. In these cases, sign ups will be taken in the order they are received.

Café employee becomes enrichment volunteer



Sandy, an employee at Hattie's Café, has joined the elite corps of enrichment volunteers who have signed on to build relationships with residents, visiting them in the home, joining them on outings, becoming a true friend. Sandy loves visiting the residents at Bailey to hang out, make wrestling crafts and take nature strolls. The guys always look forward to seeing Sandy and her beautiful smile.

Landscaping projects: donate a flower or bulb

With winter almost over and spring right around the corner, we are starting to think of being outdoors at Hattie Larlham. One of our favorite parts of being outside is getting the chance to see and smell all of the wonderful flowers and trees in bloom.

With these flowers and trees come many regular volunteer opportunities and projects. Spring clean up, weeding, planting, mowing, trimming and a variety of other outdoor maintenance jobs are available as projects for individual volunteers or groups of volunteers.



Now that construction is almost complete at the Center for Excellence, we have several new areas where we would like to plant flowers and trees. We encourage volunteers to purchase some of their favorite flowers or bulbs and donate them to be planted by you or other volunteers. This will be an ongoing project for the entire spring and summer. Contact anyone in the volunteer resources department to make a donation or to sign up for an outdoor opportunity.

Volunteer Resources Contact Information

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Hattie Larlham
 9772 Diagonal Road
 Mantua, OH 44255

March and April 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
March Bethel Baptist Bible Service 2-3 p.m.	1 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	2 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	3 Pet Pals 6:30-7:30 p.m.	4 Open Activity with PowerCorps 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	5 Game Night at Solon Home 5-7 p.m.	6 7
8	9 Youth Volunteer Game Night 6:30-8 p.m.	10 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	11	12 Group Games 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	13	14
15 Catholic Mass 1:30-3 p.m.	16	17 St. Patrick's Day Party 6-8 p.m.	18	19 ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	20	21
22 Friendship Bible Service 2-3 p.m.	23	24 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	25	26 Group Activity with Bethel Baptist Church 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	27	28
29	30 March Birthday Party 6-8 p.m. ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	31 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.				
April			1 Spring Craft 6:30-8 p.m. Pet Pals 6:30-7:30 p.m.	2 Open Activity with PowerCorps 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	3	4
5 Bethel Baptist Bible Service 2-3 p.m.	6 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	7 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	8 Easter Fun with Girl Scouts 6-7:30 p.m.	9 Surprise Activity 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	10	11
12	13 Youth Volunteer Game Night 6:30-8 p.m.	14	15	16 ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	17	18 Bloom & Bunny Party noon-2 p.m.
19 Catholic Mass 1:30-3 p.m.	20 April Birthday Party 6-8 p.m.	21 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	22	23 Group Activity with Bethel Baptist Church 6:30-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.	24 ✧ Group Homes April Formal 6-8 p.m.	25
26 Friendship Bible Service 2-3 p.m.	27 ✧ Evening Swim 6-8 p.m.	28	29	30 Youth Volunteer Movie Night 6-8 p.m. ✧ Help Me Grow 5:30-8:30 p.m.		

All of the activities listed on our calendar are open to volunteers; activities marked with a "✧" are limited to volunteers ages 16 and older. If you would like to learn more about any of these activities or if you're ready to sign up, please contact a member of our volunteer resources department.