



## VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

September 2009

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*The September In-Service is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 17th at 5:30 in the Woodland Hospice Conference Room. The topic is Estate Planning presented by Kevin Cotter. We will be doing the presentation first, with dinner following. Please R.S.V.P. per the sign up sheet on the fridge in the conference room, e-mail or call Char or Sheral.*

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### *News from Jennifer Cotter*

#### *“Rock on for Woodland Hospice”*

**There is still time to get your Rocking Chair Team together to participate on Saturday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>.** This 10 hour Rock On for Woodland Hospice is our signature fund raiser. It will take place at Chipp-A-Water Park in Mt. Pleasant from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm. We would love to have every volunteer participating in some way.

What you need to do:

1. Put a team together of as many members as you can. Your team can consist of family members, friends, co-workers, golf partners, bowling team, etc.
2. Each team member is responsible to go out and get people to sponsor them—give donations for their rocking efforts. This spreads out across many people to get donations, the more the better.
3. Designate a team leader and come up with a fun name for your team.
4. Set a goal for the amount the team wants to collect.
5. Bring one rocking chair per team to the event.
6. You can split the rocking times up according to how many team members you have.
7. Contact Jennifer Cotter at [jcotter@woodlandhospice.com](mailto:jcotter@woodlandhospice.com) or call her at 989-773-6137 for additional information or for a team registration packet.
8. If you would like to participate and don't want to put a team together, we are looking for volunteers for the day of the event. Just let us know.

**Our goal is to have 50 teams!!!** Please come and rock to honor the past, current and future clients and family members of Woodland Hospice and Bereavement Center.

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## *Lighthouse Program*

We are in need of Woodland Hospice Lighthouse Liaisons!

**Role:** To educate and inform people in your congregation about the services Woodland Hospice and Morey Bereavement Center provides. The goal of the Lighthouse program is to have a Woodland Hospice representative in as many area churches as possible to act as a liaison between Woodland Hospice and members of the congregation.

As a Woodland Hospice Lighthouse Liaison you may:

1. Schedule educational programs in your church and community—you would arrange for a hospice representative to offer the program. Be sure to give the presenter plenty of lead time.
2. Communicate events and services through church bulletins, newsletters, bulletin boards and information tables--sometimes a simple email or phone call to get information in the church bulletin. Does your church have a place for our brochures? Please stock them for us.
3. Does your church have a festival activity where we could offer an informational booth? You could make arrangements for us to have a table there.
4. Answer questions about services provided by Woodland Hospice and Morey Bereavement Center.
5. Hang flyers in the vestibule of your church for volunteer training.

These are just some ideas of how you might bring Woodland Hospice to your congregation. If you are interested in the Lighthouse Program please contact Jennifer Cotter at [jcotter@woodlandhospice.com](mailto:jcotter@woodlandhospice.com) or 989-773-6137.

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## *Red Cross Blood Drive*

We will be hosting a blood drive....Woodland Hospice along with the Weidman Community Center will be hosting a Blood Drive so please come out and support our local Red Cross and promote Woodland Hospice. **The Date** is Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. **The Location** is Weidman Community Center, 1581 West Bridge Street, Weidman, MI **The time** is 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Blood is needed more than ever now and our goal is 25 units. **Who can donate?** To give blood you must be 17, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. You can donate blood every 56 days. People with allergies, high or low blood pressure and high cholesterol are not automatically deferred. Appointments are available starting at 12:00 pm; if you would like to set an appointment please contact Jennifer Cotter. I look forward to seeing you there.

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## *2009 Volunteer Training - Fall Session*

The Fall Volunteer Training Session will be held October 5,6,7,12,13,14. Please tell your friends, neighbors, family, classmates, church and club members how much you **love** being a **Woodland Hospice Volunteer** and encourage them to join the team. If you would like a flyer to post in your church, club or school there are copies in the foyer.

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## *Volunteer Opportunities*

**WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!! WE ARE SO EXCITED TO HAVE YOU BACK. THERE ARE SO MANY CLIENT REQUESTS AND NEEDS TO FILL. WE NEED ALL OF YOU TO GIVE A LITTLE OF YOUR TIME TO HELP US OUT.**

We continue to send e-mails with new and old requests and to follow up with calls until we are able to get the requests filled. Please don't think because it has been a couple hours or even a couple days that the request has been filled. Many times it has not. If the certain request that you can do is filled, it is possible that you could help with another client or in other areas. Please do not assume anything.

As you probably know, it is a constant struggle from this office to get volunteers in all the areas that are needed. You may think that the request is not something you want to do, but we encourage you to try it. You may find out that you love that particular volunteer service that you never dreamed you would be doing.

We would prefer to spend the time talking to you about the opportunities rather than spend that time leaving 50 phone messages. It would be more productive for all of us. I know sometimes I begin to sound like a broken record, but it is so fulfilling to provide even the simplest service or even just a couple hours of your time...**WE REALLY NEED EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED!** Woodland Hospice continues to provide outstanding service for those at the end of life's journey. **We cannot do it without you.** Please e-mail or return our calls and let us know what you can do to help.

*THANKS TO SO MANY OF YOU*

*Awesome Job*

You all continue to amaze us. We have the best group of volunteers any organization could have. The way you step up to help the clients and families is wonderful. We are so busy right now; the census is 32 with 7 in the house. There continues to be 17-18 clients that are requesting volunteer help and many of these families are 3-4 times a week. **THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU, THANK-YOU!**

### *Landscaping*

Thanks to all of you that have helped with the landscaping project. Spreading mulch, black dirt, planting flowers and plants. The Boy Scout troop from Shepherd helped Char spread piles and piles of mulch and dirt. Thanks to those boys and their Moms and Dads. We got a lot done in a short time with all those hands. Thanks to **Don Mirrieles, Roy Burlington, Bob Kerns, Bill and Peggy Sowle and Allan Riggs for shoveling and spreading and planting.** Thanks to **Isabella Corporation** for donating 30 yards of top soil. Big thanks to Ron Shuert for mowing the lawn every week.

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*Dozen Roses - Great Job*

Autumn Cooper, Maggie Foote, Mike Ross, Kim Dickens, Bob Kerns, Molly Mehalko, Amanda Anton, Lori Lickly, Kara Pifer, Pat Coen, Vicky Schafer, Julia Schambach, Ewa Gorski, Kathy Preston, Nancy Kinny, Beth Miller, Kathy Gordon, Kelsi Olkowski, Katelin Schrock, Molly Mehalko, Emily Yurga, Mandi Morse, Sherrel Lee Haight, Carole Kennett, Jerry Bierschbach, Ton Schafer, Joyce Schafer, Sara Cavanaugh, Cindy Haven, Jill Zimmerman, Staci Wood, Lauren Pierce, Brenda Gaeth, Mary Lee, Keith Frank, Monica Hlomes, Dee Korhman and (dog) Pepper, Tracy Henry, Keri Sturdevant, Danielle Dickinson, Ron and Mae Shuert, Brooke Reese, Michelle Gibbs, Debra Bauder and Christine Fowler provided many visits and client care to several clients in their homes, at assisted living and at the Hospice House. It's a great team effort. We thank you all for being so responsive to our requests and providing this outstanding service to our clients and caregivers.

Thanks to Sally Angelos, Maggie Foote, Nancy Hyder, Shirley Gallandt, Lois Curtiss, Julia Schmalbach, Jo Redman, Kathy Gordon, Barb Houghton, Joyce Schafer, Geri Bierschbach, Carol Grossa, Judy Neely, Carole Kennett, Alice Burlington, Mae Shuertt, Mary Lee, Sally Angelos, Brenda Gaeth and Vicky Schafer for your great help at the Reception Desk and Switchboard.

August Volunteer Hours		August Census	
Clients Served	20	Beginning	22
Client Care/Kitchen	509.5	Admissions	24
Reception/SB	438	Discharges	4
Maintenance	77	Re-admits	1
Administration	81.5	Deaths	10
		Ending	33
Total Hrs.	1126		

## September Birthdays

### Volunteers

Katie Rundle 9-3  
 Geri Bierschbach 9-4  
 Joyce Schafer 9-5  
 Lois Curtiss 9-7  
 Carissa Schultz 9-7  
 Natalie Harpe-Moler 9-9  
 Michelle Gibbs 9-15  
 Sarah Hays 9-16  
 Edie Allen 9-19  
 Marilyn Allen 9-19  
 Ginny Maney 9-22  
 Pat Coen 9-28

Debra Bauder 9-28  
 Judith Friday 9-29  
 Bill Peters 9-29  
 Mike Ross 9-30

### Staff

Char Birgy 9-1  
 Linda Elliot 9-8  
 Jennifer Cotter 9-16  
 Beth Cornell 9-17  
 Jennifer Lucas 9-20  
 Bianca Hernandez 9-25  
 Neice Tuma 9-27  
 Alex Metevier 9-28

