

Sharing the Caring

In Huntsville and Madison County



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Jan Brewer

Volunteer Coordinator

Sherry Bryant

Volunteer Staff

Currently 84
Dedicated Volunteers

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“Fall is falling” all around us with leaves on the ground, coolness in the air, football, Black Friday around the corner, and recipe books open trying to find the perfect addition to our Thanksgiving feast. My favorite part of Thanksgiving is the gathering of family around my kitchen. Some are no longer with us this year, and their absence saddens me, but having another grandbaby on the way brings joy to my heart and a smile to my face.

Trying to find the right words every quarter for this newsletter only gets harder. There are times when my heart truly bleeds for the mission of this organization. The good works that go on every day through our amazing volunteers is more than I can express to you in words. The phone calls that we receive every time we walk in the door are always a new and different story; a plea for help with requests for food, transportation, errand assistance, or prayer. Loneliness is the silent cry of many of the calls we receive. We are so blessed to have volunteers who step up and say, “I can! I will! When, and where?”



Board of Directors and Staff would like to say a very special Thank You to You!

Last week we provided over 12 transportations to medical appointments; countless referrals to help with food and utilities; Handi-Ride tickets to someone at the mission wanting to go to the Community Free Clinic; a referral to adult day care for the elderly; a request for toilet tissue; diapers for a dad; Ensure for a mother who will no longer eat; house shoes for a client in the hospital; a bedside commode; and a washing machine for an elderly lady who has been placing blankets and towels around the base of her machine for months. Providing all of these things is not about Friends, Inc. It's about allowing God to use this organization to serve those in need. As we go into the New Year it is my prayer that you will continue to lift up this organization as we provide assistance and support to each person, one need at a time.

With the gift-giving season drawing near and the end of the year quickly approaching, I would like to encourage you to remember Friends, Inc. It is our desire to better serve this community and those that are in need. Allow Friends, Inc. to continue being a light to those who find themselves in a dark place.

I hope you will have a blessed holiday season and enjoy your time together with those you love. Have fun, laugh a lot, and eat all the turkey and pie you can hold!

Jan Brewer



Sherry Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator

A few weeks ago one of our clients, suffering with a severe headache, called to request transportation to a medical appointment. Transportation was arranged and our volunteer picked up our client at her home to take her to an MRI appointment. The test's results showed a mass on our client's brain. Our client was sent immediately to the hospital where all the unsettling news began to unfold; news that told her that her stage 4 lung cancer had metastasized to her brain. In the midst of this physical and emotional upheaval, our volunteer stayed with our client the entire time, making phone calls for her and not leaving her side until she was settled and resting in her hospital room that evening. The following day Friends, Inc. had the privilege of providing clothing to our client at the hospital, making personal visits, and offering the comfort of much-desired prayers. Groceries and a hot plate of food were later delivered to our client's home following her brain surgery and a week's stay in the hospital.

Thankfully, our client seems to be doing well, but I would like for you to focus for just a minute on the volunteer that was with her that day. Our volunteer did so much more than provide a ride to the doctor's office. The minute our client stepped into her car, our volunteer became this client's friend; someone who cares enough to sit with you for as long as needed; holds your hand to share your burden, offers a smile to communicate hope; and even cries with you to remind you that you are valued and not alone.

Our volunteers are friends in every sense of the word. They put into action our mission to provide invaluable support to those in need. They are caring, dedicated, compassionate, and hard-working. Our volunteers make the world a kinder, brighter place because of their commitment and concern. We are so blessed to have such generous and devoted men and women serving as Friends, Inc. volunteers.



January 18th and 19th, Noon to 4PM
Hospice Family Care Building
Cost: \$14

This classroom refresher is designed for drivers over the age of 50. There will be no tests to obtain a completion certificate and graduates may qualify for a 3-year auto insurance discount. There is a \$2 discount towards the class registration fee for AARP members with a current membership card. Class size is limited to 25. To register, or for more information, please call Sherry or Jan at 256-534-4079.

Sherry Bryant



NEEDED

We are presently seeking sponsorships for **\$10.00 gift cards** in order to give each of our clients a gift card to use towards the purchase of a ham for Christmas.

Happy Birthday Volunteers!

Kathy Albers	Crista Ayers	Laura Binger	Eloise Boon	Cindy Boyd
Brian Burkhardt	Jim Daniel	Darlene Duerr	Janice Fowler	Julie Fowler
Bernadette Gross	Mary Holder	Susan Jordan	Jean Loux	Carmen Maynard
Bob Moorman	Shirley Nard	Cami Peters	Mike Ragoza	Bob Reynolds
Suzie Roberson	Fannie Rooks	Jewel Spelce	Jim Vann	Anne Walker
Nita West	Dave Wiczorek			

In Loving Memory of
William Emanuel, Opal Glover, Ronald Norwood, and Mary McCool
Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives.

Memorials, Honor Gifts, and Donations

*In Memory of Mrs. Bonnie Enright
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Ken Barfield*

*In Memory of Mrs. Betty King
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer*

*In Memory of Mrs. Marie Lowe
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer*

*In Memory of Mrs. Mary Isbell
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer*

*In Honor of Mrs. Laura Binger
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown*

*In Honor of Mrs. Barbara Daniel
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown*

*In Memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs
Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs*

*In Memory of Mrs. Jean Hendry
Given By: Ms. Debra Hendry*

*In Memory of Mr. Mike Ball
Given By: Mrs. Brandi Johnson*

*In Memory of Mr. Don Langford
Given By: Mrs. Wilma Langford*

*In Memory of Mrs. Mildred L. Levy
Given By: Mrs. Barbara Langford*

*In Honor of Dr. and Mrs. Bill Goodson
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Litkenhouse*

*In Memory of Mr. Jerry Cross
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. John McBride*

*In Honor of Mrs. Pat Golley
Given By: Mrs. Nancy McMahon*

*In Memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs
Given By: Dr. and Mrs. James McMurray*

*In Memory of Mr. Wallace R. Phillips
Given By: Mrs. Doris Phillips*

*In Honor of Mr. Jim Vann
Given By: Mr. Kenneth Sanders*

*In Memory of Donna Uptagrafft
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer*

Donations: Ms. Becky Adams, Ms. Chip Ancell, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Andrzejewski, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Applegate, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ashburn, Mr. and Mrs. John Ashley, Mrs. Christa Ayers, Mrs. Sherry Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. John Ball, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Barfield, Ms. Penelope Bashore, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Batchelor, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Bates, Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Bazzell, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Tim Bennett, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bentley, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bethune, Mr. and Mrs. James Bilbro, Dr. and Mrs. Dick Binger, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bodden, Ms. Hannah Boon, Mr. Adam Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. John Brown, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Brown, Mrs. Sherry Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. Clay Carnes, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Caruso, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Chandler, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Chandler, Dr. and Mrs. Hoyt Childs, Mrs. Janice Churchey, Mr. Roger Coupland, Dr. and Mrs. Norton Cowart, Mrs. Leslie Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Daniel, Mr. Jack Dashner, Mr. Thomas Davison, Ms. Gayla Dean, Mrs. Debbie Deutscher, Mr. Larry Dill, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Dinerman, Mr. and Mrs. Rusty Dinwiddle, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duerr, Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Duke, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Edwards, Mrs. Joyce Egedy, Mr. William Emanuel, Mr. and Mrs. Joel Essner, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Estes, Dr. and Mrs. Noel Estopinal, Mr. and Mrs. Don Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Gayle Fairless, Dr. and Mrs. Mark Falkenberg, Dr. and Mrs. Dick Finch, First Christian Church, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Fowler, Mrs. Janice Fowler, Dr. Jeff Garrard, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gattis, Dr. and Mrs. Carl Gessler, Mrs. Pearlina Gilpin, Mr. and Mrs. Hayden Glenn, Mrs. Pat Golley, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Green, Mrs. Hazel Gregory, Mrs. Beth Griggs, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs, Dr. Gregory Gum, Mrs. Carolyn Hale, Ms. Lynda Hall, Ms. Barbara Handba, Mr. and Mrs. Cletus Harper, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harris, Ms. Cheryl Hasson, Dr. and Mrs. Frank Haws, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Heffelfinger, Mr. and Mrs. Bledsoe Hereford, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Herrin, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Herring, Mr. and Mrs. Don Holder, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Holmberg, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holt, Dr. and Mrs. Louis Horn, Mr. James Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Howle, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Huskey, Dr. Eugene Hutchens, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hutchens, Mr. Gregory Hutcherson, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ingalls, Ms. Greta Inglis, Mr. and Mrs. Chad Johnson, Mrs. Betty Jones, Ms. Radhika Kakani, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kelly, Dr. and Mrs. Denton Kimbrough, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Kimbrough, Ms. Jane Kolyer, Ms. Elizabeth Kuehn, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Layton, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Lewis, Mrs. Elizabeth Lewter, Mrs. Reba Lombard, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Looney, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Malcolm, Ms. Jewel May, Mr. and Mrs. A. O. Maynard, Mr. and Mrs. John McBride, Mr. and Mrs. George McCannless, Mr. William McCauley, Mr. and Mrs. William McDonald, Dr. and Mrs. Philip McGhee, Mrs. Jeaneen McGinnis, Mrs. Nancy McMahon, Dr. and Mrs. James McMurtry, Ms. Sarah McMurtrie, Mr. Lamerle Mikell, Mrs. Janelda Milam, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Miller, Dr. and Mrs. David Milly, Monte Sano Methodist, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Moorman, Mrs. Susan Moquin, Ms. Janet Moragues, Mr. and Mrs. Raymon Mooring, Mr. James Mullaley, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Mullinex, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Palma, Mr. and Mrs. James Park, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Patrick, Dr. Patti Patrick, Mrs. Sherry Patrick, Ms. Connie Payette, Mr. Winston Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Randolph, Mr. and Mrs. James Reeder, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Reynolds, Dr. and Mrs. R. G. Rhodes, Ms. Janet Richardson, Mrs. Nell Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson, Mrs. Frances Rochelle, Mrs. Melisa Rowe, Mrs. Helen Rushing, Mrs. Jane Rutenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Scheiman, Mr. and Mrs. William Schrenk, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sentell, Mrs. Eduare Shuey, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Shannon, Ms. Annette Shingler, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Sissom, Dr. and Mrs. Sid Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Kelly Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Solley, Ms. Sally Stockton, Ms. Diane Strickland, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Stutts, Mrs. Sherry Taylor, Mrs. Sherry Thaggard, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Louie Tipsett, Mrs. Janice Turner, Mrs. Sandra Vallely, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vann, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Vann, Mr. and Mrs. Rex Watson, Ms. Juanita West, Mrs. Carolyn Whatley, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wheeling, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Whitcomb, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Wicks, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Williams, Mrs. Doris Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Tony Woodfin, Mr. Dwight Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wyne, Mrs. T.C. Yarbrough, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Yokley, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Zebell

We want to say thank you to all our supporters. Your gifts do make a difference!

GRATITUDE OF THANKS

What better time to express thanks to our Friends, Inc. benefactors! Thank you for making Autumn Evening 2011 a great success. Through donations and auction items, we benefited \$26,000.00. We would like to thank our sponsors, donors, and those who financially supported or attended this worthy cause. It was an awesome night of fun and excitement with over 125 auction items and plenty of food for all to enjoy.

Also I would like to say thank you to everyone who helped provide Thanksgiving for our families this holiday season. I sent out an email saying we would provide Thanksgiving bags filled with a turkey and all the trimmings for over 50 families and the floor was full of bags by the end of the week with more than enough money to purchase the turkeys and plate dinners for those unable to prepare a meal. Again, I have no words to express how this ministry continues to bless my life. On November 22nd, the dinners will be delivered by volunteers who will do more than drop off a bag full of groceries, but will also provide a friendly visit from someone who cares. I have reminded each volunteer that it's not about the food, it's about the visit; the looking into the patients' eyes and letting them know they are special and that we care about them.

Again, thank you, thank you, thank you to all who make this work possible.

Jan Brewer

A Special Thank You To Our Autumn Evening Sponsors

**AVIAGEN, Clearview Cancer Institute, Center For Cancer Care, COLSA,
Dr. and Mrs. George Harriman, Huntsville Hospital, Orion Transcription, and Regions Bank**

Thank You

**Anita Geinert, Cabot Creamery,
Creative Catering, In Bloom Florist,
Mullins Special Occasions,
and all the many donors who donated to
our silent auction!**





**SHARING THE CARING
IN HUNTSVILLE AND
MADISON COUNTY**



Friends, Inc.
P.O. Box 608
Huntsville AL 35804
www.friendsinc.net

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

It is our mission to provide support to patients with serious illnesses or disabilities, enabling them to maintain their independence through caring volunteers.

Are you currently giving to the COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN?

If so, please remember Friends, Inc. CFC # 40931

Are you currently giving to the **Combined Federal Campaign**? If so, do you know how your money is being used? It is time to take control of your donation and make sure it goes to help those who are in need.

Friends, Inc. is located in Huntsville, Alabama and has served Madison County residents since 1998. Our goal is to provide volunteer support to patients with serious illnesses or disabilities, and to their families.

You can help us continue this work at no additional cost to you. You simply need to specifically designate **Friends, Inc. CFC # 40931** to receive your CFC donation. Please help us to continue sharing the caring in Madison County. If you have any questions about our organization, please call us at 256-534-4079 or visit us on the web at www.friendsinc.net.



YOUR DONATIONS CAN HELP THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL OR DISABLED

Friends, Inc. serves the Huntsville/Madison County community by providing support services such as:

- Transportation to medical and cancer treatment appointments
- Respite care for caregivers of patients
- Running errands-grocery shopping, RX pickup, etc.

- Emotional support through friendly visits and phone calls
- Access to community resources and spiritual support as needed
- Handicap-accessible van with lift
- Lending medical supply closet