



Sharing the Caring In Huntsville and Madison County

P.O. Box 608
Huntsville, AL 35804
Voice Mail 880-1672
Office 534-4079
www.friendsinc.net

Executive Director
Jan Brewer

**Volunteer
Coordinator**
Sherry Bryant

Volunteer Staff
Currently 78
dedicated volunteers

Board Members

President
Sallie Estes

Vice President
Debbie Chandler

Secretary
Pam Patrick

Treasurer
Greg Burgess

Valerie Chandler
Barbara Daniel
Betsy Estopinal
Janice Fowler
Julie Fowler
Pat Golley
Karen Madison

The New Year is always a time of reflection for me. It is the one holiday that actually is dedicated to the passing of time. It's when we can sit back and look at what we have, or have not accomplished over the past year. The have not part is what usually gets us going. Hence the infamous resolutions to the better, healthier, happier, more prosperous self... blah blah blah... I like the notion of "fresh starts" and "second chances", but dieting and exercise makes me tired.

The following are a few stories that didn't make the news last year. Friends, Inc. volunteers took Chinese take-out, a personalized birthday cake, a lovely bouquet of flowers, and party hats and horns to celebrate the 80th birthday of one of our patients. The patient was moved to tears. She shared that it had been over 40 years since she had received flowers from anyone. This lady lives alone, has no family, and was so appreciative to have "Friends" help her celebrate her special day.

Another elderly lady lost her husband to cancer. Her only outing each week is to attend Hospice Family Care's Grief Support. Volunteers are always eager to provide transportation and companionship for her. A young lady called from Blount Hospitality House in Huntsville seeking treatment for cancer with no car, family, or spiritual support while going through a very difficult time. Friends, Inc. volunteer's provided transportation three times a week for nine weeks while forming lasting relationships with this young lady. She was able to attend church and go out to lunch and shopping while away from her children in a new town, all possible because of our volunteers kindness and support.

These acts of kindness didn't make the cover of *People* magazine, but have changed the lives of those who are in need. To some, these stories may seem mundane; picking up groceries, providing a lift to the doctor, reading, and perhaps most importantly, talking and listening. What a difference Friends, Inc. makes in the lives of ordinary people in need!

As you can see, last year was amazing here at Friends, Inc., where service and support were given to over 172 families; not to mention groceries, wheelchairs, hospital beds, and many non-medical supplies such as diapers and Ensure, all donated to families in need in our community.

Please feel free to call the office at 534-4079, or email us at friends@friendsinc.net if you have any questions. May you always have love to share, health to spare, and Friends that care.

Blessings,

Jan

Patient Harry Spain makes a very good Santa to all the residents at Summit Apartments. Even I fooled him into thinking I have been good all year!



Sherry Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator

It has been said that, "in every community there is work to be done, and in every heart there is the power to do it." The volunteers at Friends, Inc. have that empowering heart and, without question, represent the very best of our community. They are the unsung heroes who selflessly share their expertise, talents, and time to provide life-changing support services to the seriously ill and disabled within our community. It is our volunteers' compassion, dedication, and caring commitment that makes such a difference in our patients' quality of life. We value our volunteers and sincerely appreciate the very personal donation of themselves. Our volunteers are truly a priceless treasure; the very heart of Friends, Inc.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Friends, Inc., please do not hesitate to call our office at 534-4079. We have many that need a friend like you!

Grace and Peace,

Sherry

"If only you could sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person." Fred Rogers

Welcome New Volunteers

Anne Dillard, Cindy Huntley, Patti Patrick, and Dave Wiczorek

Happy Birthday Volunteers!

NOVEMBER

Charlie Brooks
Darlene Duerr
Bernadette Gross
Dr. Bob Moorman
Shirley Nard
Cami Peters
Anne Walker
Kevin Lowe
Dave Wiczorek

DECEMBER

Judy Berry
Barbara Daniel
Sallie Estes
Linda Ganey
Ray Kelly
Karen Madison
Vi Veitch
Carolyn Whatley

JANUARY

Anne Dillard
Dudley Brewer
Jan Brewer
Mary Dickerson
Pat Golley
Richard Harper
Kristina Jaynes
Roland Roberts
Marianne Quackenbush
Meg Tilden
Don Helman

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



Sarah and Elissa Estopinal, home for fall break, volunteering with Friends. Thank you, girls, for organizing the Thanksgiving dinners!

Volunteer Valerie Baty held a food drive at her work, Whitney, Bradley and Brown, that stocked our pantry during the holidays.



Volunteer Jim Wallace and client Fred Plymale enjoy visiting and sharing stories.

Volunteer Kathy Albers taking her dog, Finley, to visit patient Pat Thibeault.

"Seeing Mrs. T's eyes light up was a mountaintop moment that we only get once in a while," quotes Kathy Albers.



Volunteer In-Service



Brenda Martin

Susan Holliday

Volunteers listening intently to our speakers.

THANKFUL

What better way to say thank you to our volunteers than to let some of our patients say it for us. We were honored to hear from Susan Holliday, Tim Hendel, Mary Rayford, Lou Jordan, and Sherry Patrick. Each gave a testimony of how valuable our services are to their lives. Thank you to our Board for providing an assortment of delicious pies and coffee. We were grateful to hear from a representative from Mayor Battle's office. Ms. Brenda Martin thanked our volunteers for all of their hours of dedication to our community. Afterwards, volunteers delivered forty turkey dinners provided by Volunteers of America, to some of our patients. We are thankful also for the generosity of those who paid for prepared dinners from Piccadilly for those unable to prepare a meal. This Volunteer In-Service was truly a blessing.

Thank you for your Memorials, Honor Gifts, and Donations

In Memory of Mrs. Jewel Chandler

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer

In Memory of Mr. Chris Griggs

Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Pat Burlison

In Memory of Mrs. Marcello Lyons

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cramer

In Memory of Mrs. Georgia Bice Sharp

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cramer

In Memory of Mrs. Carroll Johnson

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Cramer

In Memory of Mr. Chris Griggs

Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs

In Memory of Mrs. Allene O. Howell

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. James Howell

In Memory of Mrs. Doris Bentley

Given By: Mrs. Janie Huffman

In Memory of Mr. Brett Jordan

Given By: Mrs. Susan Jordan

In Memory of Mr. Chris Griggs

Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Jim McMurray

In Memory of Mrs. Gladys Neely

Given By: Mrs. Janet Miller

In Memory of Mr. Chris Griggs

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dean O'Farrell

In Memory of Mrs. Rebecca Rice

Given By: Dr. and Mrs. R.E. Rice

In Memory of Mrs. Joyce Horn

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Wynn Sterling

In Memory of Mrs. Jewel Fowler

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hinson

In Memory of Mrs. Ellie Watts

Given By: Mrs. Margaret Yarbrough

In Memory of Mrs. Jewel Fowler

Given By: Mayfair Church of Christ

In Honor of Regina Kelly, Jan and Sherry

Given By: Ms. Sherry Patrick

Donation: Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Bazzell, Mrs. Judy Berry, Dr. and Mrs. Dick Binger, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown, Ms. Jill Burt, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Choate, Dr. and Mrs. Norton Cowart, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Daniel, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Duerr, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Erwin, Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Graham, Ms. Barbara Handba, Dr. and Mrs. Leroy Harris, Mr. Tim Hendel, Mr. and Mrs. William Herrin, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Hull, Dr. and Mrs. J. Michael Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Kimbrough, Ms. Mary Ann Koontz, Ms. Annie Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. William Lummus, Ms. Helen McBride, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Miller, Mrs. Martha Miller, Ms. Charlotte Parker, Mr. and Mrs. William Patrick, Mr. Seymour Peckins, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pryor, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Randolph, Mr. Roland Roberts, Ms. Helen Rushing, Dr. and Mrs. William Shasteen, Mr. and Mrs. Luck Spears, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stroud, Ms. Vi Veitch, Ms. Doris Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Wortman, Ms. Carol Wright, and Mr. Bobby Young

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

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



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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

40931



My Cup Runneth Over...

A simple cup of coffee a day could make a difference
in the lives of the elderly or those with long-term health needs.

Do you realize that a pledge of \$25 per
month is only 83cents a day?

That's far less than a cup of coffee
at your favorite fast food
or your local coffee shop.



A simple cup of coffee
becomes hope
when you share it with
Friends, Inc.

Donation, Memorial, & Honor Gifts

**Memorial Gifts and Honor Gifts are ideal
ways to remember a loved one's legacy, or
special occasions. At the same time, your gift
is used to provide volunteer support to
patients with serious illnesses or disabilities,
and to their families. Upon receipt of your
gift, an appropriate letter of acknowledge-
ment will be sent naming the honoree, and
you, as the thoughtful donor.**

In Loving Memory of

***Mr. Tom Merriman, Ms. Willie Jean Sanders, Mr. Daniel Talbot, Mr. James Garner,
Mr. Everett Brooks Sr., Ms. Frauke Evers, Mr. Royce Vaughn and Mr. Robert Lovett***

Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives.