



May June 2016
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99-year old still volunteers Volunteer Spotlight



Yes, you read correctly, we have a 99-year old volunteer! Isabel Willis has contributed 25,121 volunteer hours in 33 years of service and still helps out at the Lakeshore Rose Center for Aging.

Ms. Willis was born in New York City in 1916 and moved to Cleveland in 1951. "When I came to Cleveland with my husband I didn't want to sit around." She was determined to find a job and did at the Avenue Pet Shop in East Cleveland where she worked until they closed in the 1970's. She found another pet shop and worked there until her retirement at age 65.

This is when volunteering came into her life. She saw the Lakeshore Rose Center for Aging (formerly the Lakeshore Golden Age Center) being built. When completed she and a friend stopped in for breakfast. A staff member approached them and asked if they would like to volunteer there. "I said yes and that Monday I started and have been there since 1983," Willis reminisces. Her duties include assisting in the office, answering phones and coordinating the volunteer assignments.

Isabel received a special award at our annual volunteer recognition for; most hours served, longest serving and oldest serving volunteer. Congratulations. You can watch an interview with her, greaterclevelandvolunteers.org. click Volunteer Story.



Willis with a special award presented to her at our annual Volunteer Recognition.



New Development Director

We welcome G. Dwayne Jones to our staff as the Development Director.

Dwayne is a native of Plaquemine, Louisiana (9 miles south of Baton Rouge). He has an extensive 13-year career in the nonprofit sector with all of it having some partial and some exclusive focus on fundraising and philanthropy.

Most recently Dwayne was the Director of Field Service for the Greater Cleveland Boy Scouts of America. He'll research and discover funding avenues and community outreach projects for Greater Cleveland Volunteers.

He is married to his wife of 14 years, Azzari and they have 4 active children (2 daughters and 2 sons). Welcome aboard, Dwayne.

Volunteers!

Joy Banish, Executive Director

In the last issue I wrote how much I enjoy our annual Volunteer Recognition and this year was no exception. We presented awards as you read on the cover about Isabel Willis and on page 3 to our Limelight recipients.

This event takes months of planning and discussing the details. My thanks to the committee: Calvin Leonard, Chair, Joanne Clemens, Jill Fowler, Lois Hagood, Barbara Tate and Ann Zellmer.

We appreciate the support of the event sponsors: Gateway Health, Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, Cleveland Teachers Union, Dominion East Ohio, The MetroHealth System, The BCJC Group, The Centers for Dialysis Care, Hospice of the Western Reserve, Joan Ibbett, McGregor and Western Reserve Agency on Aging.



Joy Banish Executive Director and Tom Barnard Board President.

We have a winner in our quarterly Refer a Friend program. Mary Jordon, an AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy tutor submitted names of potential volunteers and her submission was randomly drawn for the \$25 prize. This newsletter insert has the form for the April to June contest, or you can submit all year with the form on our website greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

Hathaway Brown

Books for Kids and Help Me Grow Foundation

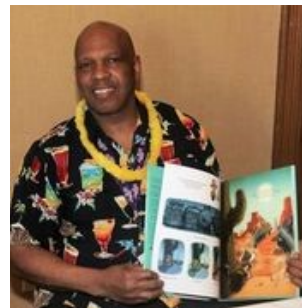
We participated in a service learning day at Hathaway Brown School. The 6th grade students spent their morning volunteering at a variety of nonprofits in Ohio City.

In the afternoon they used their artistic skills designing bookmarkers and sorting books from a recent book drive they held to benefit our AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy tutoring program.



Over 1,200 new and gently-read books were collected by the students for the K-3 students summer reading.

Their **Help Me Grow Foundation** made a financial donation to our *Books For Kids* program.



Ross Jones, AARP Foundation Experience Corps Program Manager, shows one of the 250 books we collected at the annual Volunteer Recognition this year.

Thanks also goes to the Lubrizol Corporation for their spring book drive of 500+ books. Both of the collections will be added to the *Books For Kids* program.

We collect K-3 grade fiction books all year. Contact Ross at 216-391-9500 x 119 rjones@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

We're Connected Keep it Local Cleveland



We welcome a new partnership with Keep it Local Cleveland. They are a local company that connects only Cleveland-owned businesses with each other.

You can find our latest volunteer opportunities on keepitlocal.com under the jobs dropdown.

Volunteers are OUR Paradise!

Annual Volunteer Recognition

We enjoyed wonderful Volunteer Recognition celebrations on Tuesday, April 12th. Over 400 volunteers, sponsors, partner agency staff and friends enjoyed the steel drum music lending itself nicely to the tropical-themed luncheon.

Congratulations and thank-you for your volunteer service to our Limelight Award recipients:

Donald Arthur
George Ault
Margaret Burik
Richard (Dick) Dawson
Patty Dotts
Don Epstein
Joanne Epstein
Marian (Mitzi) Faye
Elva Fosh
Mike Hoffman
Mark Jackman
Mary Ellen Klein
Sue Phelps
Sue Sande
Joann Schieman
Elsie M. Thomas
Leroy Wilson, Jr.

Cleveland Hopkins Department of Port Control
Great Lakes Science Center
Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities
University Hospitals— Case Medical Center
Greater Cleveland Volunteers—The Players
Greater Cleveland Food Bank and The Arthritis Foundation
Greater Cleveland Food Bank and The Arthritis Foundation
Judson at University Circle
Greater Cleveland Volunteers— AARP Foundation Experience Corps
Hospice of the Western Reserve
Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity
Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center
The MetroHealth System—Prentiss Center
The Intergenerational School
Euclid Senior Programs
Murtis Taylor Human Services System
Cleveland Botanical Garden



Limelight Award recipients. Congratulations!



Sandy, top and Rochelle show off their winning door prizes.



Tom Barnard, Greater Cleveland Volunteers Board President, gives his welcome message to attendees.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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We were there **The Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service**



On Tuesday, April 5th area volunteers from Serve Ohio gathered to participate in the event at Cleveland City Hall. Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson presented a proclamation and thanked volunteers for their service.

Walter Reddick, one of our RSVP Program volunteers, was on the panel and delivered these remarks, "Everyone has a gift. Everyone can give that gift to others when they volunteer."

Walter volunteers at food pantries and with the American Red Cross in Disaster Services.

If you have a question about volunteer opportunities at a critical needs agency, call us 216-391-9500.



Joy Banish, our Executive Director with Bill Hall, Executive Director of Serve Ohio