



Volunteer Awards

At our Volunteer Recognition celebration held via Zoom we presented two awards to outstanding volunteers for their efforts in 2020.

The David F. Leahy Award for Volunteer Excellence is given to a Greater Cleveland Volunteers member that demonstrates the true meaning of volunteerism by executing his/her duties in an exceptional manner.



Shirley Hemminger has been an active Greater Cleveland Volunteers member for four years and has offered her time and talent for many ongoing and event volunteer opportunities.

During the past year, she assisted with distributing food to families in need at several locations and served as a guardian with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry Adult Guardianship Services by assisting with end-of-life decisions for an adult who had no one else to help.

In addition, Shirley served more than 300 hours at McGregor in 2020. As a retired nurse, she greeted the staff at McGregor each day taking their temperatures as they arrived for work. As the year progressed, Shirley also helped at the front desk and provided support to hospice patients.

Congratulations, Shirley!

The Frances White Gale Award for Educational Excellence. This award is given to a person, group, or organization that has provided outstanding service in helping educate youth in our community. This year we presented it to James Spearman.



In a year that has presented many challenges and changes, few have risen to the occasion quite like James Spearman. Jim has been an outstanding tutor for more than four years in our AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy tutoring program. His patient and kind manner serves him well in everything he does and makes him a joy to be around. He has excellent rapport with his students, works well with school staff, and is a valued member of the Experience Corps team.

In addition to tutoring students at Andrew J. Rickoff school in Cleveland, Jim has become a mentor for other tutors in the program. He has worked with them to help improve their digital literacy and assure that they are comfortable using the technology needed for the program.

Congratulations, Jim!

Executive Director's Corner

Volunteers and Summer Fun!

Joy Banish

Thank you to all who participated in our Virtual Volunteer Recognition Celebration event on April 22. We recognized two wonderful volunteers, Shirley Hemminger and Jim Spearman for their dedication and hard work during the past year and had fun playing on-line bingo with a disco theme. Congratulations to our bingo winners. Thanks most especially to the sponsors and donors who contributed to help make this event possible!

As we enter the summer months, and more people are getting their COVID-19 vaccine, we are starting to see more volunteer opportunities opening up and more volunteers re-starting their activities. I encourage all of our volunteers to get vaccinated so you can re-start the activities you used to enjoy doing or start some new activities. If you are ready to start volunteering again, please look on our website or contact us at 216-391-9500 x 2116.

We are planning to hold our annual **Pickle Fest** event again this year, on Saturday, August 28th at the Brecksville-Broadview Heights high school complex and will include a 5k run, a 10-mile bike ride, 1-mile walk, pickle vendors, music, and family fun. See the information below and more will be shared as the date gets closer. I hope you will join us to celebrate volunteerism and all things **Pickle!**



The graphic features a cartoon pickle character wearing a white face mask and white gloves, set against a blue sky background. Below the character are three hexagonal photo cutouts: a young girl in a purple t-shirt that says 'I AM HERE TO EAT ALL OF THE PICKLES', a person in a full-body pickle costume, and two people in green pickle costumes. The text 'GREATER CLEVELAND VOLUNTEERS PRESENTS CLEVELAND PICKLE FEST AUGUST 28' is prominently displayed in green and black. Event details include the time '9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.' and location 'BRECKSVILLE - BROADVIEW HTS HIGH SCHOOL'. A paragraph describes the event's purpose: supporting small businesses affected by COVID-19 through a 5k run, bike ride, vendors, and music. The 'Cleveland PICKLE FEST' logo is shown with a registered trademark symbol and a note 'For the benefit of Greater Cleveland Volunteers'. Social media hashtags '#pickles #CLEpicklefest #volunteer #supportlocal' are listed at the bottom, along with a dark green banner containing the text '5K RUN & 10MI BIKE RIDE - VENDORS - MUSIC - GAMES - CONTESTS - MORE'.

GREATER CLEVELAND VOLUNTEERS PRESENTS
CLEVELAND PICKLE FEST
AUGUST 28

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
BRECKSVILLE - BROADVIEW HTS HIGH SCHOOL

We are back! Greater Cleveland Volunteers is taking the Cleveland Pickle Fest to the suburbs to help support small businesses who, like many, were devastated by COVID-19. In partnership with the local high school and chambers of commerce, we are excited to bring you the 2021 Pickle Fest featuring a 5k Run and Bike ride, pickle & veggie vendors, food trucks, bands, and more. Follow us on social media and keep an eye out for more information and how to get involved!

Cleveland
PICKLE FEST[®]
For the benefit of
Greater Cleveland Volunteers

#pickles #CLEpicklefest #volunteer #supportlocal

5K RUN & 10MI BIKE RIDE - VENDORS - MUSIC - GAMES - CONTESTS - MORE

Volunteer Recognition

Celebrated Virtually!

Every year we have enjoyed a volunteer celebration to honor our partner agencies, friends and most importantly the people who volunteer their time at Cuyahoga County nonprofit agencies. Last year we “took it on the road” to present awards to an outstanding volunteer and a partner agency excelling in education. This year we, like everyone else, held a full ceremony virtually!

You read the stories about our two volunteers featured on the newsletter cover. Both Jim Spearman and Shirley Hemminger continued to volunteer and do what they could for literacy tutoring and ensuring other services were met by nonprofit agencies.

We congratulate them and thank the wonderful sponsors who continued to demonstrate their support of our agency and our volunteers!

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Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging • Cleveland Hearing & Speech Center
Ken & Debbie Davis • Fairhill Partners • Hospice of the Western Reserve • May Dugan Center
Murtis Taylor Human Services System • Nature Center at Shaker Lakes

**If you missed the Awards Celebration we have a video on our website.
greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/events**

We continued the celebration with Disco music and binggo. Some participants dressing the part.

*Volunteer Award recipients,
Shirley Hemminger (left) and
Jim Spearman.*



Chat Pals

A New Program



Greater Cleveland Volunteers has launched a new program, **Chat Pals**. This is a telephone-based or video-based (Facetime or Zoom) program designed to be a support system, which hopes to provide emotional support and companionship to people in our community.

The intention of this program is to bring people together based off like-minded interests and experiences, so that a friendship can be formed remotely.

Older adults who may experience separation from friends or family, retirement, loss of mobility, and lack transportation are at particular risk—leaving them vulnerable to social isolation and loneliness.



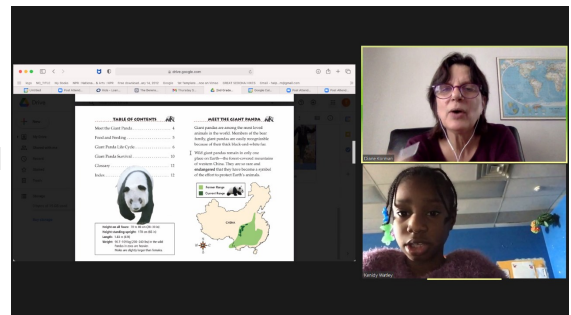
Chat Pals is a great program for individuals 55+ who want to stay connected to the community- and hopefully make a new friend along the way! If you, a family member, or friend would enjoy a chat with a pal, please contact Kirsten Riley kriley@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x 2124.

Tutoring via Zoom

Continuing to read

Our AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy tutoring program was able to continue this school year despite several hurdles for everyone.

We thank the tutors who had to adapt to their training and tutoring virtually. Regardless of the method the students in both the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and Euclid City Schools benefitted with continued one-on-one lessons and encouragement.



Our tutors spent on average of more than five hours learning and becoming comfortable with the new technology components of the program in addition to their typical pre-service training.

New resources were added with the Ohio Digital Library for sourcing their read-aloud books.

If you are interested in making a difference in a young student's life you can learn more and apply to become a tutor on our website or contact Charlotte Petrie, cpetrie@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x 2119. Interviews will occur over the summer with training in the fall.

Volunteer Opportunities

Take a look at these listings

For the opportunities listed contact:

Nancy Dzurnak ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org or 216-391-9500 x 2123

EVENT:

SUMMER CAMP-Volunteers are needed for a day camp for children ages 6-12 which is designed to give children the opportunity to share their grief experiences in creative ways. The camp is held July 12-16th in Independence. You could help as a group facilitator, meal/kitchen assistant or a field trip chaperone. Onboarding and training is provided and required prior to the camp.

HELP WITH VACCINATIONS-Volunteers can assist at vaccination clinics at multiple locations in Cleveland on a variety of days and times. Greet, distribute forms, direct foot traffic, help with screening, assist as a safety monitor or data entry. Volunteers will need to complete a 90-minute virtual training prior to volunteering.

ON-GOING:

Trail Ambassador Volunteer-Greet and interact with guests out on the trails at a nature center in Shaker Heights. Greeting visitors, sharing Nature Center highlights, answering frequently asked questions, and reminding visitors of trail safety guidelines. Volunteers needed Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Volunteer can select their 2-hour shift.

Assist with Family Visits-Transport resident in wheelchair to designated visitation area at East Cleveland older adult living facility. Screen family members by asking Covid-19 symptom questions and take temperature. (non-touch thermometer. Volunteers requested all week.

Help Older Adults Receive Benefits-Call and respond to phone calls remotely from older adults, their family members and other professionals seeking information about benefits eligibility and enrollment. Computer literacy and able to work in a team environment 4 hours a day, 3 days a week.

Office Volunteer-Assistance is needed every Friday for 4 hours at a nonprofit located on the west side of Cleveland. Copying, filing folders, bulk mailings, scanning and helping the Executive Director with the essential administrative tasks. Hours are flexible 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Meals On Wheels-Volunteers would pick up meals at the UH/Richmond Medical Center and deliver to homes and apartments in either Highland Heights, Lyndhurst, Mayfield Heights, Richmond Heights, South Euclid or Mayfield Village. Meals delivered Monday-Friday 10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Handy Helping Hands Needed-Use your expertise on home projects to evaluate the feasibility of home maintenance request inside and outside of older adult clients' homes located in 6 suburban east side communities. Plumbing and electric work prohibited. Safely complete appropriate home maintenance projects. You provide the basis tools, materials for projects provided. Typically, 1-2 hours a month while scheduling around your availability.

Food Distribution-Assist at food distribution sites in Cuyahoga County.

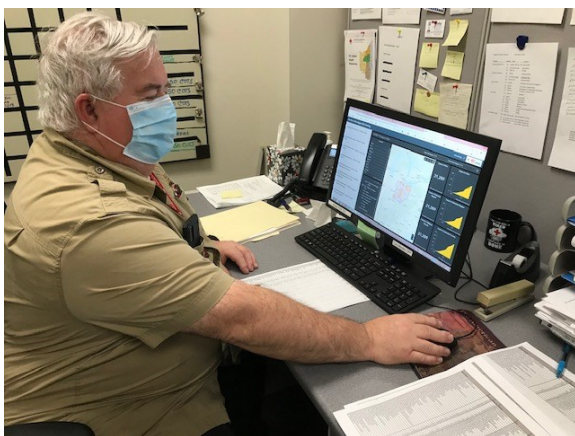
Donations and Contributions

We acknowledge and thank all donors that provided a gift to our agency from October 20, 2020 to April 26, 2021.

AARP Foundation Experience Corps
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Amazon Smile
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#WeAreHere



Entering data for the American Red Cross



*Food distribution at a
Cuyahoga County Public Library branch*

Barbara Kuhlman
 Robert & Brenda Kunkel
 Richard Lawrence
 Calvin Leonard
 Daniel Lesco
 Bonnie Lindberg
 The Lubrizol Corporation
 Kathy Marszalek
 Robert Mast
 Mike Matoney
 May Dugan Center
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 Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging
 Eugene Wolchko
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 John Zitzner



Delivering food box at an older adult apartment complex



Preparing hygiene supplies for distribution



Sorting medical supplies

Greater Cleveland Volunteers

Connecting you with opportunities to serve

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to those in or nearing retirement.



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Editor: dkall@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

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