

FAITH
IN ACTION

Faith in Action Volunteers Newsletter

December 2018

As 2018 comes to an end, it is a good time to take stock and count our blessings. By year's end, we will have:

- traveled over 25,000 miles
- provided over 4,100 hours of assistance
- recorded 3,400+ appointments, including rides to the doctor, grocery shopping and visits

Of course, these numbers would not be possible without the commitment of all of our volunteers!

We have been very blessed this year. Through the generosity of the United Way of Broome County, we were able to purchase a new vehicle to use for Grocery Day and Chop & Chat. Working with the North Fenton UMC, we have initiated a program to help serve those seniors in the rural areas, which we hope will spread to other rural churches. And, we started our own Christmas gift giving program called "Silver Bells". Six area churches are helping us collect gifts for 90 of our members.

We have also had some new additions to our staff. In September, Paula Johnson joined us as Program Assistant. She manages the Office For Aging Shopper Program, intakes and assessments and our fundraising events. In November, Larese Isaacson (a long time scheduling volunteer) became the Program Coordinator, currently focusing on our Chop & Chat program.

2018 has been a busy and productive year, but our work continues. As the number of older adults needing services increases, and our program continues to grow, volunteers are always in demand. Please check out our "Wish List" on page two of this newsletter to see if there is something you would like to help with. **Also, please share information about FIAV and our "Wish List" with friends, family, church members..anyone who may be interested.** Send them our way and we will be happy to provide more information.

Your time and support is such blessing to those we serve and to us! Thank you for all you do to help the older adults in our community remain independent and healthy!

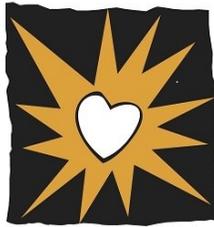
*May the blessings of this holiday
season be with you now and
in the new year!*

*From all of us at the FIAV offices,
Sue, Paula, Larese, Kay, Carol & Linda*



Christmas Gift Wrapping & Delivery Volunteers

It's that time of year to remember our seniors and bring them some holiday cheer. We will be collecting gifts and are now seeking volunteers to wrap and/or deliver them. We will be wrapping on Tues. Dec. 18th at 9 am and they will be available to pick up for delivery on the 19th. If you are interested please contact the office. 724-9130 ext. 339 .



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Wish List

Grocery Day Drivers Needed

Grocery Day is our group shopping service. Drivers would use our new vehicle to pick up shoppers, take them to the designated store and then take them home and help take their groceries into their homes. Drivers can volunteer for once or twice a month. Call Sue if you are interested! 724-9130 ext. 304

Administrative Office Help

If you have a few hours a week to spare, we could use help in the offices answering and returning phone calls and scheduling drivers.

Basic computer skills are needed..

Please contact Sue at 724-9130 ext.304 .

Chop & Chat

Are you interested in working with older adults to help them develop healthy eating habits?

If your answer is YES, Chop & Chat may be for you!

We need volunteers to facilitate sessions at local senior housing and senior centers. For more information, contact Larese at 724-9130 ext. 339.

Visits & Reassurance Calls

Many older adults live alone. Senior isolation is an increasing health factor for this group. Friendly visits and reassurance calls can have a huge impact on the well being of isolated seniors. If you would like to help with either of these services, contact Carol at 724-9130 ext.316.

Shopper Program

Volunteers are needed to grocery shop for homebound older adults. If you have a few hours a week to volunteer and a vehicle, you can be a part of the Shopper Program. You receive a grocery list and payment. You return with the groceries and a receipt. It's that simple to help someone remain independent in their home.. Contact Paula at 724-9130 ext. 318



Online Ride Scheduling is Now Available!!

This summer we began experimenting with giving volunteers the ability to go online and schedule themselves for rides. We invited a few volunteers to use it and help us work out the kinks. So far, everyone has found it easy to use with no issues! Not only does it reduce our time on the phone trying to find a driver, but it also allows the volunteers to plan more easily and choose who they would prefer to drive.

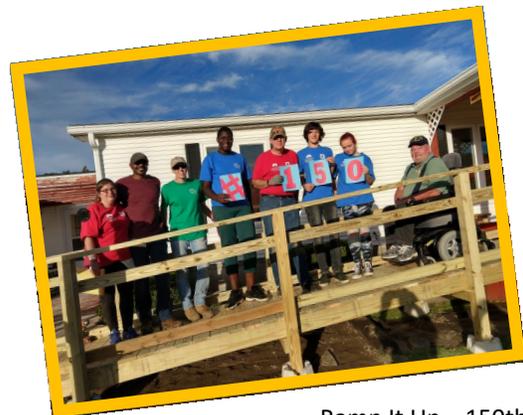
We would now like to extend this invitation to all of our volunteers that use email and the Internet. If you would like to try this option for scheduling, please contact 724-9130 ext. 339 and let us know. We will send you a User name and Password that will allow you to access the online data base, RideScheduler. You will also receive a manual which will walk you through all the steps and different aspects of the data base. Once you have gone through that you are ready to start! You will also receive two monthly email reminders to check the data base.

If you feel online scheduling may be a good fit for you, or you would like more information, please give us a call. We will be happy to answer all your questions and get you started!

2018 FIAV Highlights



Volunteer Brunch



Ramp It Up—150th ramp



New FIAV vehicle



Chop & Chat