



SUMMER 2013

Currently 91 Dedicated Volunteers

Executive Director, Jan Brewer Volunteer Coordinator, Sherry Bryant

Board Members

President, Betsy Estopinal

Secretary, Tina Greer

Treasurer, Greg Burgess

Carl Barton | Jim Daniel | Sallie Estes

Paulette Hamblin | Tiffany Noel

Jim Vann + Talitha Yokley + Norm Wolstein



SHARING THE CARING

In Huntsville and Madison County

I read a quote by Mark Twain that said, "Kindness is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see. This quote reminded me of our volunteers who provide many acts of kindness every day. Every week brings new amazement to me; our volunteers allowing themselves to be a part of another person's life by opening their hearts and meshing their lives together.

Recently one of our volunteers provided transportation for one of our elderly ladies to her doctor's appointment; stopped by the store on the way home and picked up pizza; made sure our patient was back in her chair comfortably; then cooked the pizza and sat down and had lunch with her. Our volunteer then tells me that this lady warms his heart. Can you imagine what she would say about him?

Also recently, two of our volunteers went over and beyond to help a young patient make funeral arrangements for her mother, who was also our patient. Going over and beyond consisted of blessing this girl by paying for all funeral expenses in full and giving her the comfort and support that she needed while going through this experience all alone. Can you imagine what she would say about them?

What would our community be like if this kind of volunteerism spread and went viral? Can you imagine how many lives would be touched and changed by the many acts of kindness that go unnoticed every day? Ask yourself, what are others saying about me? Am I making a difference? Am I allowing God to use me to change the world around me? By joining hands with Friends, Inc. you, too, are making a difference.

May you always have love to share, health to spare, and Friends that care.

Jan Brewer



Jan Brewer, Executive Director

How fast time flies! I am reminded of the quote, "Time flies, but the memories collected along the way can never be replaced". So true, and have we been making special memories at Friends, Inc.! In May, volunteers had the honor of providing transportation and accompanying twenty-five of our delightful patients to an afternoon of wonderful fellowship and delicious food to the "I Remember Mama" luncheon, held at The Huntsville Botanical Gardens by Volunteers of America in honor of Mother's Day. We even got to wear hats! One of our very own patients, Ms. Debra Saylor, who has been blind since childhood, delighted all in attendance with beautiful piano and song entertainment. In July, our volunteers gathered together for our Volunteer In-Service entitled, "Connecting People, Passion, and Skills", led by Marsha Farrell of Hospice Family Care. We reviewed patient competency skills and learned how knowing these skills could prove invaluable to us as volunteers, and in our personal lives as well.

Throughout the summer our volunteers have been on the road taking patients to medical appointments, running to the grocery store, driving the van for our wheelchair-bound patients, delivering much-needed personal and medical supplies, and we've even squeezed in an emergency trip or two to take patients to and from the hospital who had no other resource for transportation but through Friends, Inc.

Yes, it's been quite a busy summer; a fast-paced several months with a record number of patients' requests whose needs were attended to promptly and effectively by our incredibly dedicated and compassionate volunteers. And yet, however high those numbers climb, they can never retell the stories or share the memories that have been collected along the way. For the most part, those stories and memories will remain quietly in hearts and minds, daily changing each of us and our community, one act of kindness at a time, as we all strive to provide assistance to those in need.

Grace and Peace,





YOUR DONATIONS CAN HELP THOSE WHO ARE SERIOUSLY ILL OR DISABLED!

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.

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.

We would like to encourage you to specifically designate **Friends**, **Inc. CFC** # **40931** to receive your CFC donation. It is our desire to have you join hands with us so that we may continue to provide assistance to those who are seriously ill, elderly, and disabled.

Caring is Sharing



40931

Event Information

Spectacular music, breathtaking views, and a fabulous dinner will come together for an unforgettable celebration at "Autumn Evening", a fundraiser benefiting Friends, Inc. "Autumn Evening" is set to take place from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM on Friday, October 11th at The Ledges Country Club, which features spectacular views of the Tennessee Valley and some of the finest dining in North Alabama.

Kicking off this celebration will be the unrivaled sound of Patton James and The Synchromatics. This all star Nashville band has been said to "rock and swing like there's no tomorrow!" We invite you to put on your dancing shoes and join Friends, Inc. for a festive evening of dining and dancing.



PATTON JAMES AND THE SYNCHROMATICS

KINESTHETIC CUE DANCE CLUB PRESENTS BALLROOM DANCE LESSON AT 7:00 PM



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Memorials, Honor Gifts, and Donations

In honor of Mrs. Pat Golley Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Applegate

In honor of Mrs. Regina Baker Given By: Mrs. Sidney Bailey

In honor of Mrs. Betty Bentley Given By: Mr. Phil Bentley

In honor of Mrs. Talitha Yokley Given By: Mr. Phil Bentley

In honor of Mrs. Samantha Bentley Given By: Mr. Phil Bentley

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vann Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bentley

In memory of Mr. Otis Perry Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer

In memory of Mrs. Virginia Sanders Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer

In memory of Ms. Judy Antoon

Given By: Col Ret and Mrs. Robert Brown

In memory of Mr. Jack Gramzow, Jr. Given By: Col Ret and Mrs. Robert Brown

In memory of Ms. Patricia Simes Given By: Col Ret and Mrs. Robert Brown

In memory of Mr. Larry Hall Given By: Mr. Tom Dashner

In memory of Mr. James Howell Given By: Ms. Dianne Howell

In memory of Mr. Randall Crigger Given By: Ms. Greta Inglis

In honor of Bill and Elise Goodson *Given By: Ms. Lynn Jones*

In memory of Mrs. Kelly Finch Borders Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Ray Kelly

In memory of Robbie Slaughter Given By: Ms. Barbara Langford

In memory of Mrs. Mildred Levy Given By: Ms. Barbara Langford

In memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Jack McMurray

In memory of Mr. Mike Hammers

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. William Patrick

In memory of Bill Max Duncan Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vann Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Sanders

In memory of Gina Anderson Given By: Mrs. Margaret Singleton

In memory of Ms. Regina Anderson *Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Ben Small*

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Gately Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thomas

In memory of Mrs. Margery Ely Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Gary Watson

In memory of Ms. Paige Stagner Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Williams

In memory of Ms. Martha Carter Jones *Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Williams*

In memory of Mrs. Mary Laura Binger

Given By:

Ms. Becky Adams, Mrs. Joan Bennett, Mrs. Jean Bergeron, Dr. Dick Binger, Col Ret and Mrs. Robert Brown, Mrs. Butch Damson, Mrs. Peggy Galloway, Ms. Pearline Gilpin, Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs, Mr. and Mrs. M.G. Harsh, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lewter, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Maudlin, Mrs. Nell Roberts, Mrs. Jane Rutenberg, Ms. Rosemary Snow, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trouy, Ms. Amy Zoll

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In Loving Memory

Elizabeth Colson, Bonnie Cunningham, Margery Ely, Cheryl Jackson, Howard McAnally Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives.

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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.



