



FALL 2012

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88 Dedicated Volunteers

SHARING THE CARING

In Huntsville and Madison County

Phone call. Her story begins with telling about all the effects of her combined illnesses: the pain, nausea, panic, medical bills, endless procedures, appointments that fill the calendar, and dozens of pills each day. The worst of it all, she says, is the need for help. Thankfully, a social worker referred Friends, Inc. to her and our volunteers began driving her to her appointments; remembering what the doctor said so they can better explain it to her; picking up her many prescriptions; and maybe stopping for a hamburger before taking her back home to an empty house.

This is our story. When someone asks and opens the door, grace begins to flood in so much bigger than the illness. Volunteers are blessed, knowing they have given of themselves to serve others that are in great need. This brings knowledge of who we are, and that we are here to serve. We all have a story. Every patient that calls requesting support services has a story. Through Friends, we are able to provide volunteer support to those trying to maintain their independence. By volunteering and donating your time or money, this becomes part of your story; part of who you are.

I personally would like to solicit your prayers on Friends, Inc.'s behalf. Let's begin the New Year with open hands and hearts, ready to serve others in need. I hope you will have a blessed holiday season and enjoy your time together with those you love. Have fun, laugh a lot, and eat all the turkey and pie you can hold!

Blessings and peace,

Jan Brewer

Jan Brewer, Executive Director

In Loving Memory of

Barbara Bridwell, David Cauthen, Wilma Caughran, & Iretta Pettus Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives. As I think about how abundantly blessed I am this Thanksgiving season, I find myself especially thankful and grateful for our Friends, Inc. volunteers. I am thankful for their contribution of time and energy; for their hearts and hands to help and serve others. I am thankful for their commitment, dedication, sacrifice, love and compassion for those truly in need. I am thankful for their warm smiles and quick responses whenever asked if available to assist. Our volunteers are truly "friends" of the best kind and are the heart of Friends, Inc. Our mission to provide support to patients with serious illnesses and disabilities is made possible because of our volunteers. They spend their days changing the lives of all those touched by our organization. Patients are being transported to chemotherapy, radiation, and medical appointments. Lives are literally transformed as our volunteers ensure that our patients get to fittings for items such as hearing aids, prostheses, and custom orthotic shoes. Our patients are voting because our volunteers are taking the time to make certain all who want to vote have a ride to the polls. Birthday cards wishing a happy birthday are sent out each month. Luncheon dates with the patients are not out of the question. Sitting beside terminally ill patients with a listening ear; fixing computers; planting flowers; going to get ice-cream; bringing over a home-cooked meal; providing fresh vegetables; whatever it takes to make a patient feel valued and cared for, that's what our volunteers do.

All of these sincerely appreciated acts of kindness take place, not only during the Thanksgiving season, but all year through. We are exceedingly blessed to be able to call our volunteers... Friends.

Grace and peace, Sherry Bryant



Patient Harry Spain assisted by Volunteer Bill Bodden



Volunteer Shirley Nard sends birthday cards to all Friends, Inc. patients.

Sherry Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator



By Edith Toney

To me, Friends, Inc. is a godsend. Two years ago I found out that I had breast cancer. In order to get better I needed to go to radiation treatments and physical therapy appointments and I didn't have any transportation or the



Volunteer Eloise Boon & Patient Edith Toney

money to provide for transportation to get to those appointments. If you can't get transportation and get to all of your doctor appointments then something worse can happen. If it hadn't been for Friends, Inc., I don't think I would have made it. I needed their help and they were there to help me in my time of need; and still are!

I have met so many new people. All the volunteers are so nice and treat me like a real friend. Ms. Malcolm brings fresh vegetables to me out of her garden and one volunteer even sent flowers to me on my birthday. They call me and talk to me on the phone to check on me. There's so much I could say about how wonderful the volunteers are. They have been so good to me. I appreciate everything that Friends, Inc. has done for me. I just feel that I am very blessed and I am thankful for all the help that Friends has given me. I am telling others that Friends, Inc. can help them too.



NEEDED - We are presently seeking sponsorships for \$10 gift cards in order to give each of our clients a gift card to use towards the purchase of a ham for Christmas.

WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

Huda Al-Ghaib, Armand Fux, Mary Manary, Margaret Mann, Jill Queeney, and Nichelle Simon

Memorial, Honor Gifts, and Donations

In memory of Richard Lapidus and Barbara Ann Ross Walker

Given By: Mrs. Jean Bergeron

In memory of Ms. Susi Bazzell

Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer

In memory of Homer & Guynneth Crim Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Frank Crim

In memory of Mrs. Carol Ann Samples

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Given By: Ms. Diana Davidson

In memory of Dr. Pat Burlison *Given By: Ms. Gayla Dean*

In honor of Mrs. Laura Binger Given By: Ms. Gayla Dean

In memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duke

In memory of Mrs. Betty Dinwiddie Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Duke

In honor of Mr. Jim Daniel Given By: First Christian Church

In honor of Mrs. Susan Bowen
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Francisco

In honor of Friends, Inc. Staff & Board Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs

In memory of Reba Louise Smith Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Ken Hill

In memory of Mrs. Allene Howell Given By: Mr. James Howell

In memory of Mr. Harvie P. Jones *Given By: Ms. Lynn Jones*

In memory of Mr. Charlie Roddie Given By: Ms. Nan McBride

In memory of Mrs. Betty Dinwiddie Given By: Ms. Brenda McDaniel

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In memory of Mr. Wallace R. Phillips *Given By: Mrs. Doris Phillips*

In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Dailey *Given By: Mrs. Janice Turner*

In memory of Mrs. Betty LeHew Dinwiddie Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Williams

We want to say thank you to all of our supporters. Your gifts do make a difference!

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SHARING THE CARING IN HUNTSVILLE AND MADISON COUNTY



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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



What we need...

Green Beans - 2 cans

Sweet Corn - 2 cans

Cranberry Sauce

Sweet Potatoes - 1 large can

Stove Top Stuffing-1 box

Macaroni & Cheese - 1 box 12 oz size

Cake Mix and Icing

Or \$10 to purchase a turkey or prepared plates for those unable to prepare a meal.

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



Thanksgiving is a time for families to gather around the family table, share a meal, and count their blessings. This is where you can help. We have provided you this list of food items as a specific guide to follow. If you would like, instead of adding more items, please consider doing more than one bag.

Thanksgiving is a time for reflecting on all the blessings that have been bestowed on you and yours. It is also a time to share your blessings with those less fortunate. If you prefer, feel free to make a monetary donation to purchase prepared plates for those who are unable to cook a meal. Thank you for helping us provide our patients a traditional Thanksgiving meal.

Friends, Inc.
PROVIDING FRIENDS FOR THOSE IN NEED
256.534.4079 www.friendsinc.net





Autumn Evening 2012 was a great success with 170 in attendance and benefiting over \$25,000. I would like to take this time to say a very special thank you to our sponsors and to all who attended or made donations to this year's big event.

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