



SPRING 2017



Currently 100 Dedicated Volunteers

Executive Director, *Jan Brewer*

Volunteer Coordinator, *Sherry Bryant*

Board Members

President, *Chris Allen*

Vice-President, *Debbie Chandler*

Secretary, *Don Dukemineer*

Treasurer, *Greg Burgess*

Jim Daniel | *Betsy Estopinal*

Lori-Ellen Hudnall | *Tiffany Noel*

Shari Poteat | *Shannon Siegel*

Talitha Yokley | *Jim Vann*

PROVIDING FRIENDS FOR THOSE IN NEED

In Huntsville and Madison County

The cold winter months here in Madison County can often be hard on those who are seriously ill, homebound, elderly, or a caregiver of a loved one. We catch ourselves longing for signs of springtime such as buttercups, robins, and Bradford Pear trees starting to bloom. Many of our clients are in need of a friendly phone call or visit to pass the day away. Recently, one of our patients said that her only outings were her many medical appointments. Often a family member will call our office and ask for supplies from our medical lending closet, such as diapers or a bedside commode. Graciously we give them what they need to help assist the person they are caring for. This brings me to the photo above. I recently went on a mission trip and noticed this elderly lady using an old umbrella stroller for a walker. As I watched her slumped over that worn out stroller, my heart ached knowing I had just what she needed in our lending closet.

Two weeks later another group went to that same area and delivered our walker, which will now enable her to move freely around her dirt floor home. In comparison, we are so richly blessed. Our cups are truly overflowing with all that we need, and then some.

With the blessing of continued growth here at Friends, Inc. comes greater financial need. Currently we have a large deficit from last year. Friends, Inc. is solely supported by donations from individuals within the community. Please consider placing Friends, Inc. high on your priority list by making a financial contribution. The only way we can continue touching the lives of those in need is with your support.

My vision for 2017 is to enable Friends, Inc. to continue growing by providing more volunteer support services and to ensure that we are financially grounded. With your help, I know we can do this! I would like to encourage you to place yourself in the presence of those needing help and hope by volunteering, making a donation, or spreading the word to others about our support services. Please know these many acts of kindness could not happen without the ongoing support of you and our community.

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

Jan Brewer



Jan Brewer, Executive Director

The need is so great. A precious lady called recently, desperate to get to her upcoming cancer treatment appointment, one of several required for that week alone. She shared that she lives by herself with no family in the area, her health is failing, and she is having difficulty eating. The amount of money she receives each month makes it extremely difficult for her to take care of her own basic needs, though she so wants to. Her desire is to stay in her own home, win her battle against cancer, and continue to live her life independently. She also needs a friend. Can we help her? Absolutely we can, but we need you to help us do it.

We need more volunteers to help this precious lady and others just like her. We need volunteers to help ensure that these men and women get to their doctors' appointments when they require medical attention. We need volunteers to help pick up their groceries and prescriptions, and deliver medical supplies. We need volunteers who would be willing to make a friendly visit or phone call to remind those who need our support that they are not forgotten, that someone still cares. We need you.

The beauty of being a volunteer with Friends, Inc. is that we do not require a commitment to a specific day or block of time in order to volunteer. We are flexible and work around your personal schedule. The donation of your time and caring heart, for as little as even once a month, can make a lasting difference in another person's life. The need is so great, yet the amount of effort required to make a huge impact is so small. Won't you join hands with us? We need more Friends like you.

Grace and peace,
Sherry Bryant

Sherry Bryant, Volunteer Coordinator



Friends, Inc. honors the memory of
Bill Malcolm



Bill was a faithful volunteer and friend who demonstrated his compassion and care for the seriously ill, disabled, and elderly in our community with his loyal and dedicated service to Friends, Inc. Bill served as a Friends, Inc. volunteer for 15 years and left a tremendous impact on this organization and those he assisted. His wife, Jo Ann, continues to be a valued volunteer with Friends, Inc. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jo Ann and her family. Bill was an inspiration to all who were blessed to know him.



November - "Bags of Blessings"
Our volunteers gathered together to deliver 75 bags of Thanksgiving groceries to those less fortunate in our community.



December - "Be a Santa to a Senior"
Our volunteers were able to play Santa as they delivered Christmas gifts to 61 of our senior patients. For most of those patients, these were the only Christmas gifts that they received.



February - Happy Valentine's Day!
Mountain Gap School's Kindness Krew joined hands with Friends, Inc. and created beautiful Valentine cards for our 125 patients.

Memorials, Honor Gifts, and Donations

In memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs
Given By: Acero Thermo Technology, Inc.

In memory of Mrs. Ophelia Horton
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Irma Cook

In memory of Mr. Phil Skidmore
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Long

In memory of Ms. Anna May Robinson
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of the parents of
Mrs. Linda Winters
Given By: Mrs. Kathy Albers

In memory of Ms. Carolyn Lewis
Given By: Dr. and Mrs. Gene Corfman

In memory of Mr. Phil Skidmore
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Pat Manary

In memory of Mr. Fred Maguire
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of the daughter of
Mrs. Mary Occhipinti
Given By: Mrs. Kathy Albers

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. John Davis

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Ms. Terry Martin

In memory of Ms. Eleanor Maguire
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mrs. Laura Binger
Given By: Anonymous

In memory of Ms. Eunice J. Merrell
Given By: Ms. Doris Elkins

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Richard Morgan

In memory of Dr. and Mrs. Dick Binger
Given By: Ms. Anna Sherwood

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

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Walls
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Armand Fux

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mrs. Beverly McCulloch

In memory of Ms. Mary Blackshear
Given By: Ms. Marlene Sinous

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mrs. Kathy Bazzell

In honor of all Military and Emergency
Responders
Given By: Mr. Robert Gibbs

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

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mrs. Linda Smith

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mrs. Marilyn Bethune

In honor of all Soldiers and First
Responders
Given By: Mr. Robert Gibbs

In honor of Dr. and Mrs. Tom Griggs
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Loch Neely

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. Luke Spears

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Billy Bills

In memory of Mrs. Laura Binger
Given By: Mrs. Jane Glenn

In memory of Ms. Carolyn Jones Lewis
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Bob Noblitt

In memory of Mr. Guy J. Spencer Jr.
Given By: Mrs. Sally Spencer

In honor of Mr. Carl Barton
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. David Blankenship

In memory of Mrs. Sarah Neely
Given By: Mrs. Karen Graham

In memory of Ms. Mary Michels
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Bob Noblitt

In memory of Mr. Andrew Herndon
Given By: Mrs. Evangeline Spillman

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brady

In honor of Mr. Jim Vann
Given By: Ms. Beth Griggs

In honor of Mrs. Jan Brewer &
Sherry Bryant
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Noel Tallon

In memory of Mrs. Clare Gibbons
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Brewer

In memory of Mrs. Mary Hackenfort
Given By: Mr. Robert Hackenfort

In memory of Ms. Lizzie Duncan
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mrs. Monty Kilpatrick
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Rex Watson

In honor of Dr. and Mrs. Tom Griggs
Given By: Mrs. Robbie Burlison

In memory of Mr. Phil Skidmore
Given By: Ms. Nadean Hankins

In memory of Ms. Joan Robinson
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Dr. and Mrs. Dick Binger
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Peter Wick

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Campus Street Church of Christ

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Hooten

In memory of Mrs. Elsie Hydrick
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mr. Phil Skidmore
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wood

In honor of Mr. Walter Fletcher
Given By: Ms. Rosie Carter

In memory of Mrs. Margaret Essner
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jones

In memory of Mr. John F. Robinson
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson



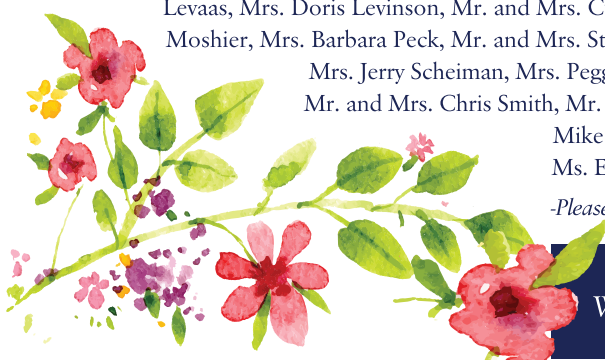
In memory of Mrs. Rachel Norton
Given By: Mr. and Mrs. Irma Cook

In honor of Mr. Bob Reynolds
Given By: Mrs. Barbara Kibler

In memory of Ms. Linda Lambert
Given By: Mr. Thomas Robinson

Donations: Alabama Hospice and Home Health, Ms. Marva Anthony, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Applegate, Ashburn Foundation, Mrs. Melinda Avery, Mrs. Merry Barfield, Mrs. Marilyn Benefield, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Bentley, Mrs. Judy Berry, Dr. and Mrs. John David Blankenship, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Bodden, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Brice, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Brunetti, Mr. Greg Burgess, Cato Fashion, Dr. and Mrs. Gene Corfman, Mrs. Darlene Duerr, Mr. and Mrs. David Ely, Dr. and Mrs. Noel Estopinal, Mrs. Chris Farber, Mr. and Mrs. Armand Fux, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Godwin, Mr. James Goldbach, Mrs. Janie Hardt, Mr. and Mrs. William Herrin, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Israel, Mr. J. Michael Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Hal Kimbrough, Mrs. Marge Knothe, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lee, Mrs. Mary Levaas, Mrs. Doris Levinson, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Don Lewter, Mrs. Mary Manary, Mrs. Carmen Maynard, Mrs. Beth Moshier, Mrs. Barbara Peck, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Peterson, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Reynolds, Mrs. Nell Roberts, Mrs. Helen Rushing, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Scheiman, Mrs. Peggy Schlemmer, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Shannon, Ms. Anna Sherwood, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Sissom, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Thurman, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tilley, Ms. Edith Toney, Trustmark National Bank, Hazel Green United Methodist Women, Ms. Elizabeth Vest, Mrs. Talitha Yokley

-Please contact us with information regarding unintentional omissions or misspelled names on these list.



Friends, Inc. welcomes your in-kind donation!

We currently have need of these items: Wheelchairs, Cardiac Walkers, Ensure or Boost, and Canned Goods.

In Loving Memory

Mrs. Carolena Bryant, Ms. Susie Fletcher, Ms. Pauline Hill, Mrs. Muriel Knowling, Mr. John Miller, Mrs. Sherry Patrick, Mr. Windell Pinkerton, Mr. Phil Skidmore, Mrs. Edith Turner, Ms. Treva Watson

Thank you for allowing Friends, Inc. to be a part of their lives.

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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.

WHAT WE DO **COMMUNITY IMPACT**

Over **2000** support services were provided in 2016 by **100** dedicated, trained, compassionate, and caring volunteers who donated **26,789 miles** and **2,683 hours** of their time to enhance the quality of life for seniors, the disabled, and the seriously ill in our community.



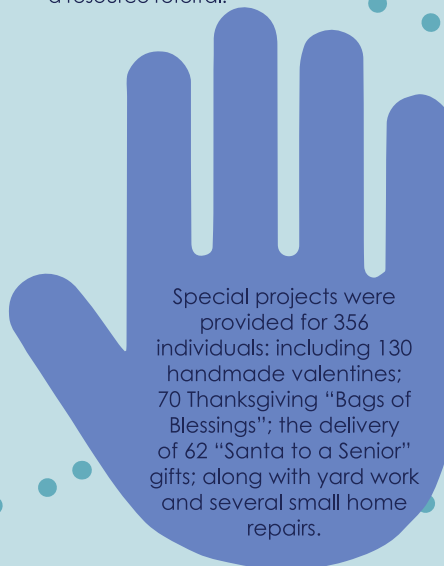
Transportation assistance was provided on **884** occasions.

95

individuals received non-medical supplies.

271

individuals received a resource referral.



Special projects were provided for 356 individuals: including 130 handmade valentines; 70 Thanksgiving "Bags of Blessings"; the delivery of 62 "Santa to a Senior" gifts; along with yard work and several small home repairs.

Food relief was provided for over **100** families.



transportation tickets were provided for rides to and from appointments.

Our volunteers, day after day, week after week, and month after month provide **hope**, **encouragement**, and **support** to those who so desperately need it.