

# REFLECTIONS

Family Pathways Volunteer Quarterly Newsletter



## In This Issue:

- Message from Volunteer Manager- Page 1
- Meet Our Board Members- Page 2
- Spotlight Recognition- Page 2
- Volunteer Program Updates- Page 3

The Reflections Newsletter is a quarterly publication for all volunteers and the community. Its purpose is to inform readers about upcoming volunteer opportunities and appreciation.



## Message from Volunteer Manager

For the last couple of months, I have been visiting the volunteers at our locations for recognition and to talk about our volunteer opportunities. Volunteers have shared many stories about why they volunteer for Family Pathways.

One of our volunteers at a food shelf told me that she moved to the area and wanted to learn more about her community. She didn't have any friends and was alone. Once she started volunteering, she met new friends and told me she didn't feel all alone in a new town.

Family Pathways' volunteers seek not just to serve and perform tasks, but they seek to understand. They provide empathy and true compassion. We are grateful to all our volunteers who continue to learn and grow and lean in to the work we do, even in the summer months.

Thank you!

*Brooke Z.*

Brooke Zank | Volunteer Manager





# Spotlight Recognition

## Meet our Board Member



### Marti Charpentier, Treasurer, Retired, CFO, CPA

#### How long have you been a board member with Family Pathways?

I've been a board member for 2+ years and have served as the Treasurer.

#### What is your background?

I am a retired financial executive. As a CPA, I spent 40 years in various financial positions with a number of different companies, both public and private. Upon retiring, we moved to our lake home west of Cambridge and really enjoy being in this community.

#### What do you like most about being part of the board?

I would have to say it's about being part of an organization that does so much to support the communities we serve. The people at Family Pathways, staff and volunteers, are so dedicated to the mission. It's a pleasure to help in a small way by being on the Board.



### Sharon Murzyn, (22 years) Forest Lake Food Shelf

Family Pathways had over 1000 volunteers this last year who served at our programs. We wanted to do something special and honor a community group, family, or person who contributes significant time to help their neighbors and strengthen their community by volunteering.

The "Together as Family" Volunteer Award for 2022 went to our Volunteer Sharon Murzyn, who has been with us for 22 years at the Forest Lake Food Shelf. Sharon always has a positive attitude and is kind to all of the clients. The other volunteers enjoy working with her.

Thank you Sharon for all that you do for Family Pathways!



The Cambridge Ambassadors helped at our Annual Barn Bash volunteering their time to help at the event. We appreciated all of their support!



Thank you to the Forest Lake Food Shelf volunteers and coordinator Lena for always being there for the community.



Polaris volunteered at our thrift stores for a day of service. "We learned so much about the stores and everything they do for the other programs. It was a great experience"

# Volunteer Updates

## Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently looking for volunteers in the following programs:

- Thrift Stores: Princeton, Hinckley, Forest Lake, and Chisago Processing Center
- Food Shelves: Onamia, Sandstone, Pine City, and Mobile Food Truck
- Door-step delivery Pine City, Mora, Ogilvie area, and now in Wisconsin
- Sunshine Calls
- Service Group Events- all thrift stores, food shelves and shelter

## Thrift Stores Updates

Family Pathways' partnership with ReSupply is now live, and several donors have taken advantage of the new program. We've had three donors donate furniture and other large quantities of donations in May. Those donations were delivered to the Cambridge store, but all donations are brought to the Family Pathways location nearest the driver's last pick up. The cost is often lower than furniture movers and junk hauler fees, and all items are picked up. Items that are not accepted for donation by Family Pathways are disposed of ethically. Book your pick-up today by clicking on the "Donation Pickup" button on



If you have a good story of volunteering, please share with me at [brookez@familypathways.org](mailto:brookez@familypathways.org). I can include those stories in future newsletters as an encouragement to our team.

## WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT LUNCHEON

**HOPE IS A GAME CHANGER**

**October 22, 2022**

**11:30am-1:30pm**

Registration begins at 11:00am  
Maranatha Assembly of God  
24799 Forest Blvd., Forest Lake

There is no charge to attend. All proceeds from this annual fundraising event will go to Family Pathways Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services

RSVP at [www.FamilyPathways.org/WEL](http://www.FamilyPathways.org/WEL)

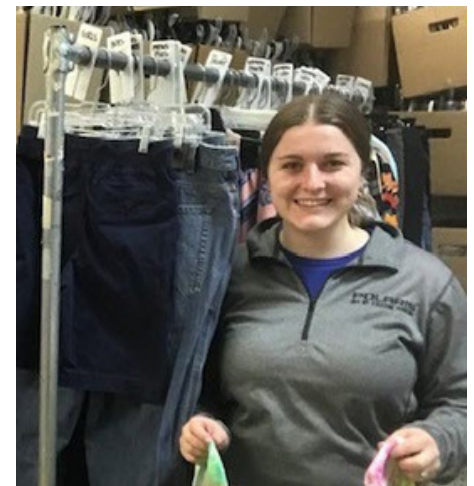


## Featuring Junita Flowers

Keynote Speaker



Through the power of story sharing, Junita will take you on an inspirational journey filled with hope, courage, a few risks and definitely some missteps, as a part of her process of clarifying, embracing and leaning into the life changing power of living life guided by purpose and intention...and it all began with hope.



Volunteers come from all walks of life, backgrounds, service groups, businesses, youth groups, and educational systems. Some are brought to our agency through the court system to complete community service hours. We strive to provide everyone with an opportunity to contribute.