

REFLECTIONS

Family Pathways Volunteer Quarterly Newsletter



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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 Executive Director

Happy New Year!

As 2022 comes to a close I want to say thank you to all of our volunteers, this past year I have seen firsthand the passion, skills, and energy that our volunteers bring to clients, staff, and each other. Our services and programs have exponentially benefited from all that you do and inspires us going into the New Year! Thanks to you, individuals and families across our service area will have the possibility to reach their full potential to live a healthy and secure 2023.

I'm profoundly grateful for your extraordinary commitment to Family Pathways and our neighbors.

Warmest regards,

Tony B.



Spotlight Recognition

Meet our Board Member



Brenda Wicklund, Pastor, First Lutheran Church of Hinckley **How long have you been a board member of Family Pathways?**

I am new to the Family Pathways board and have just finished my first year.

What is your background?

My background for the last fifteen years has been as an ordained minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. I just finished ten years serving as Pastor at First Lutheran in Hinckley, MN. I retired on the first of the year.

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

What I like most about being on the board is continuing to learn all the details and work the organization does for many people. Seeing how many people fed, helped, and cared for in our communities is amazing. As a Pastor, I see the needs for others, and they are met with much help. I am so thankful to be a part of such a great non-profit.



Ron Bernhagen, Sunshine Calls

Thank you to Ron Bernhagen, who helped in Aging Services for Sunshine Calls. Ron helped our client Ken.

Ron said they would both talk on the phone often and get together. They both loved classic cars, and Ken would take his 57 Chev to classic car shows. They enjoyed going out to eat and to DQ for a blizzard.

"We are good buds! We both love cars! He and I both love classic cars, and I have two businesses in sprint car racing. This love has spawned many conversations."



Spotlight Winner Food Access

Sandy Hewitt has been volunteering at the North Branch Food Shelf for 20 years! "I enjoy helping and giving back to the community."



Spotlight Winner Thrift Stores

Jean Dupslaff for her ten years of volunteering at the Forest Lake Thrift Store. Jean helps in the backroom with processing goods.



Schaffer Manufacturer helped prep thanksgiving meals for our clients at the Frederic Food Shelf.

Volunteer Updates

Volunteer Opportunities

We are currently looking for volunteers in the following programs:

- Main office: Facilities and Events Support
- 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



Family Pathways Scholarship Open

The Family Pathways scholarship is in its 3rd year this year! Started by a private group of donors in 2020 with a desire to fund a scholarship program for Black and African American identifying students living in East Central, MN and Western WI. The goal is to amplify the voices of Black students in our community who may be facing a financial gap that is keeping them from accessing higher education. Applications are being accepted starting January 1st, through April 15th, 2023.

Candidate must:

- Live in Family Pathways service area which includes the Counties of Chisago, Pine, MilleLacs, Carlton, Isanti, Kanabec in Minnesota and the City of Forest Lake; as well as Polk County in Wisconsin.
- Identify as a Black or African American student
- Be currently enrolled or will be enrolling in 1st year post-secondary school for the upcoming academic year



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.