



Gold
Transparency
2025

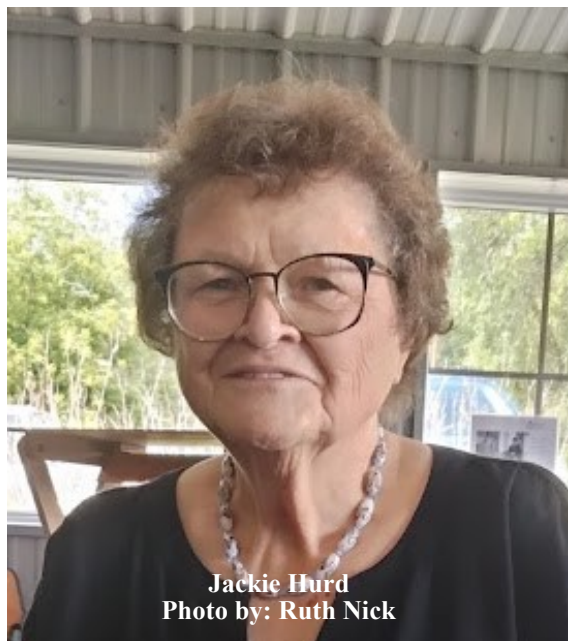
Candid.

Fall/Winter Newsletter 2025

Applauding Our Volunteers, Members & Friends

Jackie Hurd's Respite Volunteering Story

When I became a Respite Volunteer 16 years ago, I had no idea of the wonderful experiences that awaited me. I attended a volunteer training session at the invitation of a former co-worker, Carol Nama. Recently retired, she was confident that I would want to "become a volunteer," and she was right!



Jackie Hurd
Photo by: Ruth Nick

Giving a "Gift of Time" was something I could do. Learning Respite's motto and becoming a volunteer have provided me with the opportunity to meet many families who have become friends over these sixteen years. Spending time with individuals each week allowed their caregivers to take well-deserved breaks, which has been a meaningful experience for me.

For instance, one caregiver needed assistance for just a couple of hours a week so she could work in her garden or attend an appointment. Another caregiver required me to spend time with her parents so she could focus on other family matters. Those visits were full of adventures, similar to having grandparents I never had while growing up. One gentleman simply wanted me to read to him while his caregiver could enjoy a "real nap" elsewhere in their home.

I have baked cookies, colored in coloring books, and played with blocks each week with a lady suffering from dementia. Another family welcomed me to visit their grandmother weekly, allowing her to spend time with her friends. I also spent time with a different grandmother who lived with her grandson, who

was her caregiver while raising his own children. My scheduled visits provided him the opportunity to attend to other household matters. Additionally, I supported a mother who had health challenges herself and difficulty moving. Once a week, her son and I would help prepare a quick supper together. We would enjoy a meal together, help with family tasks like fold laundry that his mom had put in the dryer earlier in the day.

Volunteering is truly about giving the "Gift of Time." Helen Howard, our incredible Executive Director, shared some statistics showing that our program makes a significant impact on the community. In 2024 volunteers donated 9,119.76 volunteer hours. The actual value of one hour of volunteer service is estimated at \$33.49, according to the Independent Sector of Washington, D.C. The total value of these volunteer hours amounted to \$305,420.76. In addition, volunteers logged 33,697.17 miles in 2024, valued at 14¢ per mile, resulting in an additional \$4,717.60. Altogether, this brings the total value of volunteered services to \$310,138.36, not including the value of our staff's time and expertise. I am incredibly proud to be part of Respite Volunteers, providing the "Gift of Time" to families in Shiawassee County.

When my mom was ill before she passed, my siblings and I (there were six of us) were able to organize our schedules to care for her. Not all families have that luxury. Perhaps you have a few hours each week to give to an organization like Respite Volunteers. If my form of volunteering doesn't fit your schedule, there are many other ways you can support Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee. There are always tasks around the office, yard and building maintenance, helping out at fundraisers, or simply sharing the story of Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee.

The rewards of volunteering far exceed what you might imagine. Helen and her staff are eager to take your call at 989-725-1127.



Authorization Agreement for Pre-Authorized Monthly Payments

Please debit my membership payment from: ☐Checking Account ☐Savings Account (check only one)

Monthly Deduction: \$ _____



Purse Party Bingo

Thursday, October 9, 2025



Knights of Columbus
1259 E. M-21 Owosso, MI 48867
Doors open at 5:30 pm-Game starts at 6:00 pm
****ADULTS ONLY****

Tickets \$20 in advance
\$25 day of the event-only if available
Admission includes 20 Bingo Cards
(may purchase extra cards that evening)
Please Bring YOUR OWN refreshments



Volunteers from Horizon Bank employees L. to R. Sue Lamphere, Kelli Raleigh, Anne Kazmer, Yvonne Penrod, Melissa Tate and Heather Thomas who helped us with the Spring Purse Bingo Photo by: Elizabeth Vreibel



Tickets on sale at
Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee office
(brick house east of Memorial Healthcare Hospital)
710 W. King St., Owosso
989-725-1127
Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
office@respitetechnicians.org



License Number: V11457





National Family Caregivers Month is November Theme *Plug-in to Care*

"Each November, Caregiver Action Network (CAN) leads this nationwide campaign to recognize and support family caregivers across the country. In 2025, *Plug-in to Care* will focus on helping caregivers "connect" to essential tools, culturally competent resources, communities, and care strategies—no matter where they are or who they care for."

This resource is available at no cost. Visit their website <https://www.caregiveraction.org>. Also, sign up for their friendly support emails.



Denise Temple, Volunteer Diane Horn, with Joy
Photo by: Melissa Shepherd



Volunteer Amy Flum-Street
with B.
Courtesy Photo



Volunteer Joane McCall with Maureen Photo by:
Jordan Sovis, Sovis Productions

CAREGIVER COMMENTS

"I would have my mama here anyway, but we look forward to Verna's time with Angelina. She frees me up to do things that would otherwise be done at a more inconvenient time of day. Thank you again!! :) " TH

Your kindness and helpfulness have allowed me to have a few hours without being concerned about the patient...allowing me to get necessary shopping done, and other errands. I am truly grateful for the help!! WS

VOLUNTEER COMMENTS

It has humbled me, to see people in their health challenges. AFS

I've met some interesting families. Their illness and hardships have made me appreciate the gifts in my life. SS

Helps get focus off self. RZ

A group from the St. Monica Guild at St. Paul/St. Joseph Catholic Church: Deborah Bendall, Kim Crawford, Sara Edwards, Lynnea Malatinsky, & Charisse Hook, are part of a Respite Volunteers team that is matched with one person. They all have busy lives so this works out well for these volunteers when visiting one person. Let us know if recruiting friends to volunteer together is something you would be interested in.



#raiseUp
SHIAWASSEE
#GIVINGTUESDAY

Give the Gift of Time - Become a Respite Volunteer

Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee supports adults with health challenges - primarily older adults - and the family members who care for them. One of our greatest ongoing needs is for Respite Volunteers: caring individuals who can offer friendly weekly visits to someone in their own community. These visits make a real difference. Volunteers may spend time simply talking, offering companionship, or helping with basic errands like a grocery store trip-especially for those who no longer drive. Just a few hours each week can bring connection, comfort, and joy to someone who truly needs it.

Meet Carol and Mary.

Carol volunteered with Respite of Shiawassee for nearly 20 years before she experienced health challenges herself. After losing her eyesight and her husband, Carol chose to remain in her rural home, close to her church and longtime friends. That's when Mary stepped in- not only as her volunteer but as someone Carol already knew and trusted.

Mary and Carol were a perfect match! Both retired teachers with shared interests, they quickly formed a strong connection. Mary not only kept Carol engaged and socially connected, but also offered thoughtful support in helping her navigate everyday challenges. Carol often expressed how grateful she was to have Mary as her volunteer companion.

We are deeply thankful for the many dedicated volunteers in our program who generously give 1-3 hours of their time each week to visit someone in need. Time and again, our volunteers tell us that they gain just as much - if not more - from the experience. They often describe a deep sense of purpose and joy in making a real difference in someone's life.

Family caregivers also benefit immensely. The companionship and "respite" our volunteers provide give caregivers peace of mind, knowing their loved one is in good hands while they take time to rest or run errands.

If you've been thinking about giving back, please consider volunteering your time. Your presence could mean the world to someone who truly needs it.

A Global Giving Movement | Tuesday, December 2, 2025

Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, GivingTuesday inspires community members to give back to the causes and issues that matter to them. Your contributions of time, talents, and treasures from our 2025 campaign will support local nonprofits, enabling them to continue their vital work.

Visit raiseupshiawassee.org and see what your donations are doing to benefit the community.



Share your Fond Memories of why you love being involved with Respite Volunteers by sending a short story to office@respitevolunteers.org. One lucky person could **WIN A BASKET OF PRIZES WORTH \$30**. If you would like to add a picture to your story, that could increase your chances to win. Fond Memories will be shared in our newsletters, grant writing, and media. We will ask for your permission before sharing your photograph.



Mark Your Calendar

2025 Info/Craft Booths

we will be at

Shiawassee Family YMCA
Camp Shiawassee, Bancroft
Sun., Oct. 19th

Redeemer Lutheran Church
2510 N. M-52, Owosso
Sat., Nov. 1st

RaiseUpShiawassee

Trivia Night

Thurs., Nov. 6th
Lebowsky Center
Studio Theatre
114 E. Main St., Owosso

Giving Tuesday

Dec. 2nd, 2025

Have a Heart for Respite

Donate
Feb. 1st- Feb. 28th



Spring Purse Bingo

Thurs., May 14, 2026
Knights of Columbus

Save Time and Money! Donate by:

Website:
www.respitevolunteers.org
Texting 53-555
"RespiteVolunteers"
or scan the QR code



Volunteer Celebration

\$1,000 Sponsors

Jackie Hurd and

Family of C. Diz and Muriel Clark - In Memory of C. Diz and Muriel Clark

Horizon Bank

\$350 Sponsors

Slingerland Auto Group

Dave & Debbie Stewart

Durand Lion's Club



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Diane was unable to attend the Volunteer Celebration. Denise Temple gave a presentation, had it video taped and sent to Diane. Courtesy Photo



FAITH IN ACTION AWARD

Presented to Memorial Healthcare, Pictured JaneE Sego, Joelle McGuire of Memorial Healthcare & Hospice & Helen Howard

Photo by: Kelli Raleigh



SHARON REARICK PHILANTHROPIC AWARD

Pictured Kelli Raleigh, Helen Howard, & Melissa Tate

Photo by: Ruth Nick



GEORGE NAMA COMMUNITY AWARD

Presented to Ron & Kathy Raines by Elizabeth Vreibel

Photo by: Kelli Raleigh



INSPIRATION AWARD

Presented to Joane McCall by Mary Slingerland

Photo by: Kelli Raleigh



DIZ CLARK RESPITE VOLUNTEER CHURCH LIAISON AWARD

Presented to Ed Kippe by Ruth Nick

Photo by: Kelli Raleigh



Jackie Hurd presenting for Respite Volunteers

Photo by: Kelli Raleigh



Rev. Tony Moore & harpist Danielle Eilert



Board Members Donna Kanan (Secretary), Brent Mowinski, Mary Slingerland (Chairperson), Rev. Tony Moore (Vice Chairperson), Kelli Raleigh, Rebecca Napier, Jackie Hurd & Kathy Raines. Not pictured are Lori Chant (Treasurer), Penny Corbin, Cody Chapman & Rev. Debbie Grazier

Photo by: Elizabeth Vreibel

Special Donations



Grant Funding Provided By:

The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation
Mary Thompson Foundation
Alvin M. Bentley Foundation
Anna Owens & Tom Cook Charitable Fund



THE ALDEN AND VADA DOW FAMILY FOUNDATIONS



Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee provides comprehensive assistance to families, including initial assessments, volunteer training, progress monitoring, and education about other available services. You can support a family for 12 months for \$550 or for half a year for \$275. Send a check or visit the office to make a difference. Four families were adopted in 2025 by Sharon Campbell & Michael VanHoutte, Elizabeth Rancour, and Mark & Elaine Suter. Thank you!

Thank you to Jesse Stevens, of Professional Masonry Services of Byron, for the exceptional help to a family we serve!

Third Party Fundraisers

- Kroger Community Rewards \$339.61 Anyone can give if they shop at Kroger. Link your Kroger Card to Respite Volunteers.
- Thrivent Financial Dr. David & Leeann Huff \$50



Individual Fundraisers Persons in our community, and even in other states, can do their own fundraisers to benefit Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee. We really appreciate these wonderful acts of kindness. Not only do they support our program, but they also help promote our services to new audiences. If you and your friends would like to have a fundraiser for Respite Volunteers, please contact our office for brochures to share. We realize the work that goes into a fundraiser and sincerely value the generosity and efforts of these fundraisers.



EVEN YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY OUT OF TOWN CAN PARTICIPATE IF THEY SHOP AT KROGER. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. **Link your Kroger Card to Respite Volunteers.** All you have to do is shop at Kroger & swipe your Shopper's Card. Go to <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. If you need assistance, call 989-725-1127.



Facebook fundraisers make it easy to support causes that are important to you. If you need help, feel free to give us a call 989-725-1127. Try a birthday fundraiser on facebook.



Thank you 2025 Rock-a-thon Sponsors

Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee P. O. Box 1777 Owosso, MI 48867

989-725-1127
office@respitevolunteers.org
www.respitevolunteers.org

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Thank you 2025 Rock-a-thon Sponsors cont.



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Planned gifts are charitable donations arranged during the donor's lifetime, but not usually fulfilled until many years later. A planned gift is an ideal way to make a substantial gift to Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee while maximizing tax benefits consistent with your financial and estate planning goals. Your generous donation will enable Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee to recruit, train and organize volunteers to help your neighbors, family, and friends. Your valuable gift will allow family caregivers to care for their loved one at home. Also, it will allow elderly family & friends to live safely in their own home, because you chose to care and share.

Memorial Donations

March 1, 2025—August 31, 2025

We greatly appreciate when, as an expression of sympathy, family and friends are remembered by individuals giving donations to our organization in their memory.

In Memory of Dennis Rathbun

Dr. Daniel & Susan Cardwell

In Memory of Hugh Parker

Michelle Howe-Gietzen

Jackie Hurd

David & Sue Lea

Heather Nummendor

In Memory of Richard White

Jackie Hurd

Gerald & Geraldine McDevitt

In Memory of Clarence P. Kramp

Sharon McAllister

In Memory of Sally Pajtas

John Pajtas

In Memory of Bonnie Aldrich & Bill Toaz

Kervan & Jane VanderWey



Memberships

March 1, 2025—August 31, 2025

DIAMOND \$1,000 +

Dale & Nancy Halifax
Frank & Monica Ritter

EMERALD \$500-\$999

Maureen Gilna
In Memory of Richard Gilna
Bill & Jean Graham
Michelle Howe-Gietzen
Joy Welty

RUBY \$250-\$499

Mary Adams
Bonnie Appleby
Redeemer Lutheran Church
Corunna Church of the Nazarene
Randi Graves

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Diane King

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Barbara Pappas
Mary Ruhl

In Memory of Ken Ruhl
Tracy & Denise Temple

SAPPHIRE \$100-\$249

Terry & Pam Allen
In Memory of Barbara Thomas

Bancroft Lioness Club
John & Ronda Beach

In Honor of Helen Howard

Fred & Janice Beyers
Heather Brooks

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David & Bonnie Brown
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Roberta Gilbert

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Ken Lemos

In Memory of Janette Lemos

Linden E. Martin

SAPPHIRE \$100-\$249 cont.

Melanie McCourt
In Memory of Barney McCourt

Rob & Lisa Meihls
Bill & Betty Melrose

Judy Morse
In Honor of Jackie Hurd

K A Neuendorf
In Memory of Joan Burek

Brad & Julie Petty
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In Memory of Dorothy McAvoy
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Ariel St John

*In Memory of Richard St. John,
Evan Reed, & Evelyn Williams*

Marjorie Sutliff

Charles & Arlene Wascher
Richard & Margaret Waters

Linda Watson
Eleanor Mae Wermuth

Rachael Wineland

PEARL \$40-\$99

Anonymous

Joe Beno

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Kathleen Duso

James & Mary Jo Forsythe

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Linda Fulton

In Memory of Don Fulton

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Gary & Carol Higgins

Gary & Phyllis Huffman

*In Memory of Raymond, Ann &
Don Klco*

Dorothy Mead

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In Memory of Thomas Bond

PEARL \$40-\$99 cont.

Dorothy Scherer

In Memory of Vincent Scherer

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TOPAZ \$25-\$39

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In Memory of Donna Nault

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John & Elaine Kuchar

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Bernard & Martha Owens

In Honor of Denise Temple

Respite volunteers typically spend 1-3 hours a week with the person they are matched with, in their community. The volunteers may play cards or board games, help the person with hobbies, go for walks, help write a letter, read a book, or just visit with each other. The family caregivers may need time for grocery shopping, going to their physician appointments, or even meeting a friend for coffee or lunch.



To become a Respite Volunteer of Shiawassee Member or if you want to renew your membership, please return the Membership Application Form on page two. Memberships are for 12 months.

In-Kind Donations

March 1, 2025—August 31, 2025



92.5 The Castle
Michael Absher
Mary Adams
Terry & Pam Allen
Anonymous
Aware Now Media
Jack & Allié McGuire
Katie Baese
Bancroft Lionesses
Bancroft United Methodist Church
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Lorri Matousek
Sandy Maynard
Joane McCall
Melanie McCourt
Joelle McGuire
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Four Seasons Gift Shop
Memorial Healthcare
Meridian Weekly
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Rebecca Napier
Flora Nichols
Ruth Nick
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Claudia Parks
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Tina Perry
Perry Church of the Nazarene
Brad & Julie Petty
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W.O.E.S. Radio Station
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Elizabeth Rancour
Reach Resource Services
Emily Richard
Jonne Rohde
Brenda Roys
Bryan Rush

Lynn Sanderson
Suzanne Schmidt
Shaw's Pharmacy
Jack & Carol Shepard
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Shiawassee Reg. Chamber of Commerce
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Helen Stump
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Frank & Diana Thaler
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Tom Tyler
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Penny Vreibel
Estate of Charles Vroman
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Kelly Weidmeyer
Joy Welty
Angela Wheeler
Debra Wheeler
Georgia Williamson
Myrtle Zelensky

Special Thank-You

The Cook Family Foundation-Nonprofit Capacity Building Program
Nonprofit Network and additional support
Memorial Healthcare In-kind office space

WISH LIST

Sponsor a Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee Family \$550
Annual membership
Help Cleaning our Office
Postage stamps
Avery 8160 Address Labels
Persons to apply for the Kroger Customer Rewards for Respite Volunteers
#10 Plain White Envelopes

8 ½ x 11 plain white copy paper
Paper Products for Bathroom and Kitchen
Gift Cards from: Gilbert's, and Meijer
Help with our building maintenance
Help cleaning out roof valleys and gutters
Retail Gift Cards to Purchase Office Supplies, and Building Maintenance Supplies

We apologize if we inadvertently misspelled or omitted any names. Please notify our office if we did.
Please inform us if you are not the intended recipient of this newsletter, so we can remove you from our list.



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Mission Statement

*A gift of time and
caring support to adults
with persistent health
needs and their families.*

Current Resident or



Do you have a few hours a week?
We need you!
Please join us in making a difference
by volunteering for
Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee



In addition to visiting someone, other volunteer opportunities are; helping at the office, with events, with special projects, and sharing information about us in your community and church.



Central Elementary teacher Mike Raffaelli & his students (Spring 2025) helping Respite Volunteers by picking up sticks in the yard. Photo by: Helen Howard