



## What is Your Time Worth?



Who would ever think volunteering a few hours a week could become the lifeline of another? My name is Geri Brady and I have been a Respite volunteer for 15 years. Never did I imagine my Respite friend Frances would become such an important person in my life. Frances' husband was my client first, as he had dementia and Parkinson's Disease, and she was his caregiver. My role was to give Frances some relief. However, she was unable to drive so I would keep an eye on her husband while we would talk and have a cup of coffee.



A few years went by and her husband's health declined to the point he needed to go into a medical care facility. Approximately one year later, he passes. At this point, due to her own declining health, inability to drive, and little family support, Frances became my Respite friend. I would spend a couple hours a week visiting, drinking coffee, and having a sweet treat. Frances spoke of her loneliness and that she was the last of 11 children and how much she missed her husband.

I decided to take my Boston Terrier, Koda, to meet Frances and discovered she was apprehensive of dogs. She started to warm up to Koda. I would bring treats and run him through his tricks. Frances would take a treat and toss it at him, as she was too afraid to have him take it from her hand. Before long Frances started purchasing dog treats to give him when we would visit, and sometimes even my daughter's Doberman Titan would tag along. It was funny because she didn't understand why she couldn't give them the whole bag. I had a difficult time reinforcing this. Titan would lay at her feet with Koda not far from him. Wow, what a big step for Frances to be that close to, not only my little dog, but Titan, who was over 80 pounds!

Every visit we would play a card game called Golf that Frances taught me. Frances gave me a notebook to record scores, and I would write in the date. This obviously meant a lot to her and it wasn't long before we filled a whole notebook with our games! Even her hairdresser, that would visit and cut her hair, started playing. Frances seemed to beat me most of the time, but we would laugh and she would say "It doesn't matter; I just love your company".

We would talk about life and laugh about silly things and both accepted our shortcomings. I learned so much about Frances and her life and about myself. Frances would always try to get me to play more or eat more to stretch out the time with her, and honestly sometimes it would work. It would always be hard to walk away and leave her there knowing she was all alone. Our two hours a week (sometimes more) meant more to us than anyone could imagine, and we became best friends.

I would take her flowers and a small cake for her birthday every year and I would chuckle when Frances would convince me she was younger than she was. She too would succumb to dementia, not knowing her age, who she would be talking to on the phone, or what year or day it was.

This past September, Frances went to be with her husband and all those siblings she would speak of that went before her. I am comforted by the fact that by giving a few hours of my time, we were rewarded with smiles, hospitality, and hundreds of Golf games filled with laughter and love.

A week before Frances passed I took her to get ice cream. Frances was so happy to be getting out of the house as she hadn't been out in over a year. I will never forget the smile on her face as we enjoyed our ice cream together and thankful for that happy day we shared. You too can make a difference in someone's life by giving the most valuable gift, the gift of time. I will continue to share my story in memory of Frances, honoring her friendship, to bring awareness to the loneliness some elderly people face. Maybe you too would consider giving your gift of time.  
~Author Geri Brady



# GIFT OF TIME CLUB

**NEW: For only \$10 a month you can become a member**

Check the box "I want to enroll in the Gift of Time Club... Fill out the *Authorization Agreement for Pre-Authorized Monthly Payments* below and fill in the amount for \$10. You can also go on our Facebook (no fees attached) or the website and donate \$10 a month. Please let us know that you are joining the Gift of Time Club if donating by social media. If space isn't available for this on social media, send an email to [office@respitetechnicians.org](mailto:office@respitetechnicians.org) and let us know.



## Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee Spring/Summer Newsletter 2022 Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form

- YES**, I want to enroll in the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) program and have my contribution automatically deducted from my checking or savings account ACH every month.
- YES**, I want to enroll in the **Gift of Time Club** and have my \$10 contribution automatically deducted from my checking or savings account ACH every month.

### Authorization Agreement for Pre-Authorized Monthly Payments

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Month to Start Deductions: \_\_\_\_\_ (Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee will debit on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.)

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

NAME ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP	DATE	0123 01-23456789
PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____ \$ _____		
BANK NAME ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP		DOLLARS
FOR		
⑆ 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ⑆	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 ⑆	0 1 2 3
Bank Routing Number	Bank Account Number	Check Number

Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Routing Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly Deduction: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Authorization Agreement:

I authorize Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee to charge my checking or savings account monthly in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. This authority is to remain in full force and effect for at least twelve (12) months which constitutes a one-year membership. I understand that I must notify Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee if I wish to discontinue the automated payment service.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee Spring/Summer Newsletter 2022 Membership Form (new or renewal)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

- Please check one:**
- |  |  |  |                                       |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Diamond \$5,000 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Diamond \$1,000 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Emerald \$500 + | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruby \$250 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sapphire \$100 +        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pearl \$40 +      | <input type="checkbox"/> Topaz \$25 +    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other        |

**Attached is my check payable to Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*This gift is given In Memory of:* \_\_\_\_\_ *This gift is given In Honor of:* \_\_\_\_\_

# A FEW OF OUR MANY BLESSINGS



Photo by: Brad Petty

Hello, my name is Julie Petty. My husband and I moved to Lennon just over a year ago when I retired from Michigan Public Schools, the last 15 of which I spent working as a High School Secretary. I loved every minute of it! Last spring, I started

volunteering at Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee, mostly weeding and planting on the grounds. I enjoy my time there so much that now I am also working in the office with Helen and Ruth one day a week! In 2020, after attending community college for two years, I earned a certificate as a Patient Home Navigator – a great foundation on which to build for the work we do. I love to read, work crossword puzzles, camp, and spend time around kids. I also volunteer at DeVries Nature Conservancy, Carriage Town Ministries, United Way, and Voices for Children.



Debbie Stewart and family Christmas caroling in front of her client's home  
Photo by: Dave Stewart

Hello, my name is Elizabeth Vreibel and I am an intern here at Respite Volunteers. I am continuing my education at Baker College here in Owosso. I am on my way to getting a Human Services degree and my goal is to become a social worker.

Helping and caring for people has been my passion for years and I am grateful I am/will get to do that everyday. I am a busy person with my time interning here, classes, and working part-time at Volunteers of America in Corunna; however I have time to listen and help the people in my life. Volunteers of America is a thrift store yet has many contacts, services, and resources for the community. I am excited to be here and learning all I can from Helen, Angela, and the rest of the staff and volunteers. This is a wonderful organization that does all they can for the community.



Photo by: Ruth Nick

## Newsorthy

We thank The Independent Newsgroup, The Argus Press, Z92.5 The Castle, Shiawassee Regional Chamber of Commerce, and Greater Durand Chamber of Commerce for sharing our news often!

## Grant Funding Provided By:

Edward N. and Della L. Thome Memorial Foundation  
 Ray & Kay Eckstein Charitable Trust  
 Alden & Vada Dow Family Foundation  
 The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation  
 Mary Thompson Foundation  
 Debra Wegman Memorial Fund  
 Alvin M. Bentley Foundation



HARRY A. & MARGARET D.  
TOWSLEY FOUNDATION



United Way  
of Genesee County  
Serving Genesee & Shiawassee Counties



SHIAWASSEE  
— COMMUNITY FOUNDATION —



# Events

**EVENTS WILL STILL BE DIFFERENT. WE MISS YOU ALL!!!**  
 Keep your eye on our facebook, website, emails and media  
 for updated information.

While we would love to highlight some events, we are still uncertain what the future holds for large indoor gatherings such as the St. Pat's Dinner & Auction and Purse Bingo.



Mable Reid & Paula Harris Photo by: Ruth Nick

We are moving our Volunteer Celebration & Annual Meeting to the summer in a well ventilated space or outdoors like Bear Creek Farms, The Z Hall, or another similar venue. This will be our 2022 Volunteer Celebration & Annual Meeting & Awards event which will include dinner with a small fundraiser included. We will INVITE and HONOR all 2020 St. Pat's Dinner & Auction ticket holders and sponsors at this event. Call us if you have questions.



2016 Rock-a-thon with Laura Archer  
 Photo by: Sharra Wright AJ Photography

We will be holding another Rock-a-thon event this summer. We are anticipating this will be held at the Perry Church of the Nazarene again this year. Let us

know if you want to participate and need help getting started with a facebook fundraiser or letters.

## Shiawassee Family YMCA specials for members including: Cancer Survivorship

If you are a member of The Shiawassee Family YMCA, they are offering new classes and outreach and help for persons that are Shiawassee Family YMCA members:

- Strong Steady and Safe, Moving for Better Balance
- New program at the Shiawassee Family YMCA for persons who are either in treatment for cancer, or are cancer survivors.
- Special option for a free 3-month membership for Veterans too.
- Shiawassee Family YMCA also has some scholarships for persons and families that have fixed income, both for summer camp for kids and Y memberships.
- For all of these programs, follow the Shiawassee Family YMCA on facebook, their website, or call 989-725-8136 for more information.

### OUR WISH LIST:

- Sponsor a Respite Volunteer family \$500
- Annual Membership (see page 2)
- Birthday and Sympathy cards
- Persons to apply for Kroger Community Rewards for Respite Volunteers
- #10 & # 6-3/4 plain white envelopes
- Copy Paper
- Retail gift cards to purchase office and building maintenance supplies
- Canopy/Awning for Events
- Help cleaning the office and sweeping off the deck, sidewalks,
- VG receipts "Direct Your Dollars" we need more points to receive \$1,000.00
- Postage stamps

# Memberships

September 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022



## DIAMOND MEMBERSHIP \$1,000+

Capt. Richard & Sue Dunn  
*In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harold Dunn*  
Dale & Nancy Halifax

## RUBY MEMBERSHIP \$499-\$250

Bonnie Appleby  
First United Methodist Church  
Owosso  
J&S Tire & Service Inc.  
Lisa Krzyminski  
Dave & Dianna Maurer  
Sobaks Home Medical  
Order of Eastern Star 10-14  
Byron Masonic Lodge  
Dr. Doug Strong &  
MaryJo Damm-Strong  
Anthony & Renee Patsy  
*In Honor of Pope John Paul II*

## SAPPHIRE MEMBERSHIP \$249-\$100

Elizabeth Andrus  
*In Memory of Jerry Willson*  
Anonymous  
Caroline Bauman  
Brian Beaupre  
Fred & Janice Beyers  
Attorney Thomas Bridges  
Heather Brooks  
*In Memory of Russell Steinke*  
Fred & Terese Brusso  
Suzanne Carpenter  
Corunna Church of the  
Nazarene  
Jack & Carolyn Dillon  
Edward Eshelman  
Edwin & Janet Franks  
Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Owosso Aerie No. 851  
Roberta Gilbert  
Peggy Gulick

## SAPPHIRE MEMBERSHIP cont.

Randi Graves  
*In Honor of Donald Graves*  
Charles & Maria Hegg  
Gary & Phyllis Huffman  
*In Memory of Raymond & Ann Klco*  
Terry & Linda Kemp  
Debra Kolbaba-Luna  
Erwin & Michele Lenneman  
Linden Martin  
Patrick & Laura Marutiak  
R. T. & P. M. Maxwell  
Attorney Rebecca McClear  
*In Honor of Respite Volunteers*  
Bill & Betty Melrose  
*In Memory of Helen Garrett*  
Judy Morse  
*In Honor of Jackie Hurd*  
Brent Mowinski  
George & Johnette Osborne  
*In Memory of Russell &  
Gweneth Osborne*  
Hugh & Mary Parker  
Paul & Janice Ray  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Owosso  
Amy Ritter  
*In Memory of Frank Ritter*  
Charles & Loretta Rolfes  
Mary Jane Scarlett  
Rosemary Schultz  
Jim & Ginny Shipley  
*In Memory of Barbara Curtis Warren*  
St. Paul Episcopal Church  
Corunna  
Don Lantis & Tina Dafoe

## PEARL MEMBERSHIP \$99-\$40

William & Catherine Bailey  
Joe Beno  
*In Honor of Marty & Char Braman*  
Gail Berghorn  
*In Honor of Ruth Nick*  
David Beutel  
*In Memory of Bill & Joane Beutel*  
Covenant Eyes Inc.

## PEARL MEMBERSHIP cont.

Jacob & Veronica Drenovsky  
Dennis & Linda Hrcka  
Dr. David & Leeann Huff  
Greg & Camille Krot  
Dorothy Mead  
Deborah Molnar  
*In Memory of Sam & Jo Molnar*  
Rev. Tiffany Newsom  
Sue Price  
Arthur & Elizabeth Rancour  
*In Memory of Dorothy McAvoy*  
Laurel Robb  
Michael & Mary Szedlak  
*In Honor of Carol Nama*  
Rodney & Diane Timlick  
Charles & Arlene Wascher  
Linda Watson

## TOPAZ MEMBERSHIP \$39-\$25

Larry & Susie Alpert  
Hanora W. Bignall  
*In Memory of Jeanne Hogan-Shulaw*  
Becky Chargo  
Mario & Erin Chaves  
Michael & Rosa Davis  
*In Memory of Reva Sharp*  
Margaret Duntley  
Pat Elliott  
Richard Gute  
*In Memory of Judy Gute*  
George & Paula Harris  
Herbert & Sally Jenkins  
*In Memory of Nancy Best*  
Anita Karianen  
Marian Kovarik  
Ellen McKay Trust  
Charles McKnight  
Kimberly Peters  
Rick & Betty Sloat  
*In Honor of Pat Elliott*  
Kenneth & Nancy Worthington  
Pastor George & Diana Zornow

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 and accepted at any time.



Debbie Stewart & Judy Gay  
Courtesy Photo: Raise Up Shiawassee

**Respite Volunteer Debbie Stewart** called. She had purchased a ticket for the person she visits in Laingsburg, to attend the Christmas Show at The Lebowsky. But he wasn't able to go, leaving her with seating to accompany someone in a wheelchair. So she asked Respite Volunteers if we could give her names and numbers of persons that Respite Volunteers serves that we thought would want to attend, and would really need to be in a wheelchair to get to this performance. Well, as luck (or as God) would have it, the fourth person we suggested, Debbie actually knew! Until we mentioned her name, Debbie didn't know that this lady was receiving our services. It worked out! Debbie & her husband picked up a wheelchair, and picked up the lady, and she was able to have this surprise outing with a Respite Volunteer she knew.

## Play For Me

We received a request from a friend of a 90 year old woman, Amy (not her real name), in October 2021 asking for a volunteer for her friend. Amy lives alone in a far corner of our county and has cats. Amy has adult children that visit, call, and help her, but she is less mobile. Unless friends are willing to transport Amy, she isn't able to get out of the house. Amy really hoped for a volunteer that plays the grand piano. We could only think of two volunteers that played the piano, but both live across the county and already have their own clients. Requests were sent out to many volunteers that live in the area where Amy lives. Most of these volunteers already had a person and were unable to take on another. We were not able to fulfill her request immediately. Requests were also sent to several pastors in the area asking for volunteers.



We didn't receive any responses. We also asked volunteers to recruit new volunteers. Amy had attended a nearby church before becoming less mobile. Prior to this, she attended a different church miles away. More requests were made to volunteers outside of the area and pastors of local churches. After searching for a while, we contacted a board member who is also a pastor in Owosso and left her a message. We also knew that she plays many musical instruments with the piano being one of them. She was also a music director, at one time, at a local church.

We received a phone call from this pastor who actually knows Amy. Come to find out, she had officiated Amy's husband's funeral. She was also aware of many members of her church that knew Amy. One member of the church is also a volunteer for our program. She felt this church member would absolutely love to volunteer by visiting Amy regularly. This volunteer is already volunteering for two people, but once she found out who it was, she jumped right in with a positive affirmation. Amy now has a volunteer she knows that comes in once a week to visit with her. The pastor has also volunteered to play her grand piano for her on occasion, and she has two other people from the church in Owosso visiting and helping about once a month.

**Respite Volunteer Randal Nicolli** shared his story. He was visiting with his client one day and his client wanted to share his photo album with Randal. Randal was flipping through this long album wondering when it would end. When he got to the last photo he recognized some pictures. The pictures showed that he and the client were neighbors many years ago. Until seeing this photograph, neither one had realized that they were neighbors. What a small world.



**Respite Volunteer Sue Price** stopped by our office and had just finished volunteering for her Respite client. With a smile she shared that her Lady sent her out the door with a lunch. She didn't know what it was, but told us when she got home she would let us know. Upon returning home she called to inform us her Lady sent her out the door with cookies and an apple. How sweet! Obviously, Sue is appreciated.



# Memorials

September 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022



## The Gift That Continues to Give

*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 Suzie Shay

George & Carol Attenbery  
Christina Connelly  
The Conrads  
Brandon & Courtney Dirschell  
Connie Fitch  
Troy & Julie Fryfogle  
Jerry & MaryAnn Hodge  
Greg & Jackie Kimmer

### In Memory of Mary Bartlett

Pat Elliott

### In Memory of Sally Garver

Cheryl Korf

### In Memory of Jana Kurrle

J. Doug & Brenda Hogan  
Bernie & Judith Kingsbury  
Margaret Shepard

### In Memory of Gregory Church

Michelle Howe-Gietzen

### In Memory of Patricia Raines

Jeremy Bond

### In Memory of Kirk McCall

David & Lori Stechschulte, Jr.

### In Memory of Bob Johns

Tim & Diane Allen  
Karla Barber  
Richard & Beverly Beal  
Dennis & Mary Campbell  
W.B. Castanier & Mary Castanier  
Glen & Darla Dunn  
Margaret Duntley  
Kirk & Susan Harder  
Thomas & Shannon Hinterman  
Mark & Janet Keesler  
David & Sue Lea  
Rhonda Marvin  
Janet Mead  
Michigan State Capitol  
Carol Paksi  
David & Lori Stechschulte, Jr.  
David & Kathleen Wallen  
Joy Welty  
Julie Wendt

### In Memory of Judy Bristley

Robert & Judy Beach

*Leave a Lasting Legacy*

Planned gifts are charitable donations arranged during the donor's lifetime, but not usually fulfilled until many years later upon the donor's passing. 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. We ask if you would please consider 1% or more in Estate Planning. Your valuable gift will make a huge difference in people's lives. Family caregivers will be able to care for their loved one at home and elderly folks will be able to remain living safely in their own home because you choose to care and



Terry Rathbun  
Helen's Dad

**Respite Volunteers  
of Shiawassee**  
**P. O. Box 1777**  
**Owosso, MI 48867**  
989-725-1127

office@respitevolunteers.org  
www.respitevolunteers.org

### Board of Directors

*Chairperson:*

David Stechschulte, Jr.

*Vice Chairperson:*

Jackie Hurd

*Treasurer:*

Lori Chant

*Secretary:*

Donna Kanan

Dick Gilna

Rev. Debbie Grazier

Rebecca Napier

Rev. Tiffany Newsom

Kathy Raines

Kelli Raleigh

Mary Slingerland RN, MSN

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*Executive Director:*

Helen Howard RN, BSN

*Administrative Assistants:*

Ruth Nick

Julie Petty

*Case Managers:*

Angela Nicholls LLMSW

Glenn Sizemore

### Photographers

Geri Brady

Ruth Nick

Brad Petty

Dave Stewart

Kim Taylor

Sharra Wright,

-AJ Photography

All photography copyrighted  
RVS 2022

### Newsletter

Pam Allen

Helen Howard

Ruth Nick

Julie Petty

Helen Stump

We apologize if we advertently misspelled or omitted any names. Please notify our office if we did.



# Volunteer Celebration and Annual Meeting

- **The Sharon Rearick Philanthropic Award** was presented to Kim Renwick and the Shiawassee Community Foundation. The award was presented in person, prior to the Zoom Awards, at the Shiawassee Community Foundation. The award is named in memory of Sharon Rearick who was a mentor to RVS leaders, and a very generous benefactor to RVS, which she very much believed in.
- **The George Nama Community Award** was presented to volunteer Geri Brady, for her ten years of service to the same elderly lady. We are grateful to Geri for her dedication and advocacy for her Respite friend. The award is named in memory of the late George Nama who was a Respite Volunteer Board Member, volunteer and photographer. Geri's award was presented in person, prior to the Zoom Awards.
- **The Diz Clark Respite Volunteer Church Liaison Award** is in honor of Jackie Hurd who is the Vice Chair Person of our Board and an amazing ambassador for RVS. Diz's family continues to support Respite Volunteers all these years. The award is given to Jackie who with family, friends and her church, hosted Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee (only in person fundraiser in Aug. 2021), Rock-a-thon for Respite. We are very grateful to Jackie for her loyalty to our Respite Volunteer mission of service to others.
- **The Volunteer of the Year Award** was presented to Melanie McCourt who has volunteered with the program for her Respite friend with great patience, compassion, and kindness. Melanie's award was presented in person, prior to the Zoom Awards.



R to L Rev. Deb Grazier, Denise Poirier, Kim Renwick, Helen Howard and Lora Phelps. Kim Renwick was presented with the Sharon Rearick Philanthropic Award. Courtesy Photo

For the second and hopefully last year, we held our Volunteer Celebration and Annual Meeting via Zoom. We are moving our Volunteer Celebration & Annual Meeting to the warm weather in a well-ventilated space or outdoors like Bear Creek Farms, The Z Hall (outside), or another similar venue. This would be our Annual Meeting & Awards along with a small fundraiser in 2022. **We still owe a nice dinner to all our ticket holders & sponsors for our 2020 St. Patrick's Party.**

## Prayer is powerful

As we continue life's journey, may we continue to keep others in our thoughts and prayers. Remember daily your Respite family, the person or persons that you are serving or being served by. This daily communication with God for those who make a difference in our lives is a wonderful blessing... We also can pray for those that challenge us, that the Lord will give us the words and the strength to follow His guidance. Prayer brings a sense of peace knowing that we are not walking through this life alone. May prayer be a focal part of our daily routine, whether it be quiet reflection or structured prayer and scripture. Be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and find the strength to share your gift with others...a short text, a quick phone call, a letter or note lets others know that they are remembered and lifted. Life is a wonderful journey filled with joy and challenges, but it is so much better when shared with another.



Blessings, David Stechschulte, Jr.  
Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee  
Chairperson

# Vacation Package



## ***Enjoy 5 Days and 4 Nights in Boyne Falls, Michigan!***

This is your chance for a great vacation and help support Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee. **Bidding starts at \$900.** Send us your bid by calling us on 989-725-1127



**Details:** Bring your friends or your family to this amazing Resort where you can dine, golf, mountain bike, hike, fish...or just relax and enjoy the spacious villa with luxurious amenities!

**Location:** Mountain Run at Boyne Club Resort in Boyne Falls, Michigan

**Check in:** Thursday, November 10 ~ **Check out:** Monday, November 14, 2022

**Accommodations:** 1165 square feet - sleeps 6 - two bedroom (1King & 1 Queen bed), 2 full baths, full kitchen with cookware & dishes, one sofa bed (most comfortable for 2 kiddos), gas fireplace, same level laundry in foyer, balcony, cable TV, and DVD player. No smoking allowed in the room/building. No pets allowed. Free parking.

**Resort Amenities:** BBQ Grills, Clubhouse, Fitness Room, Game Room, Hot Tub, Internet Access, Outdoor Pool, and 24-hour Front Desk

**Value:** \$1,870.00 US Dollars

**\*\*\*Cut Off Date for Bidding: August 27, 2022\*\*\***



# Special Donations

September 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022

## ADOPT A FAMILY

Each request for our services requires time and staff to perform the initial assessment, identify the person and the family needs, gather and research all the educational materials, train and match a volunteer, reassess and update their progress, keep their files current and educate the persons and family on other area services they might meet the criteria for. The expenses incurred by Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee while helping a family for 12 months adds up to only \$500, or \$250 for half of a year.

Our Shiawassee County community friends often support us by *Third Party Fundraisers* to benefit Respite Volunteers of Shiawassee. Not only do they financially 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 of Shiawassee, please contact our office so we can help promote this. We realize the work that goes into a fundraiser and sincerely value the generosity and efforts of these Third Party Fundraisers. *Thank-you!*

### Here is a list of recent Third Party Fundraisers:

- Birthday Facebook Fundraisers were created by **Betty Presson, Ruth Nick, Kathy Raines and Crissy Rann** raising a total of \$429.96
- Kroger Community Rewards (anyone can give if shops at Kroger) \$190.68
- Amazon Smile \$24.14
- Glenn Sizemore donated a copier to Jackson Trucking. Glenn asked that any payment be a donation to Respite Volunteers. \$300
- The Cook Family Foundation received a white board from the Humane Society who asked in lieu of payment they donate to a charity. \$100
- New & Old Unique Treasures sell some of our items on consignment. \$87.71



- Giving Tuesday is always on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving which was November 30th. *In 2022 the date will be Tuesday, November 29th.* Respite Volunteers wishes to thank the Cook Family Foundation, Shiawassee Community Foundation, and United Way of Genesee County (serving Shiawassee County). On Giving Tuesday 2021 the following gave \$25 or more.

## Giving Tuesday Donations~\$6,198.62

#GIVING TUESDAY

### DIAMOND MEMBERSHIP \$1000 +

Carol Nama

### EMERALD MEMBERSHIP \$999-\$500

Michael & Ruth Goergen

Jackie Hurd

Thomas Kalina

Kathy Neumeister

Dianne Rodgers

### RUBY MEMBERSHIP \$499-\$250

Anonymous

Michelle Howe-Gietzen

Lebowsky Center

### SAPPHIRE MEMBERSHIP \$249-\$100

Dave and Marcia Bird

*In Memory of Doris Coy*

*In Memory of Judi Pennell*

Heather Brooks

Just Us Girls

Kirk & Joane McCall

Melissa Smith Higbee

Jackie Snyder

Joy Welty

Richard & Sandy Zwolensky

### PEARL MEMBERSHIP \$99-\$40

Terry & Pam Allen

Tom Cook and Anna Owens

Kathy Canfield

Bruce & Jacqueline Cook

### PEARL MEMBERSHIP cont.

Diane Horn

Jim & Shelly Nyquist

Paul Parson

Paul Powers

Betty Presson

Jodi Slingerland Marrah

Martha Sutton

### TOPAZ MEMBERSHIP \$39-\$25

Frederick & Marge Dery

Patricia Klockziem

Phil & Ruthann Liagre

Barbara Lien

Paul & Kathy Wilson

#raiseUp

SHIAWASSEE  
#GIVINGTUESDAY

# More Donations

September 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022



When you receive something from Respite in the mail this year, look at the stamp, and notice the word LOVE. It carries the memory of one of the greatest friendships of all time.



Margaret & Michelle  
Courtesy photo

Where do I start, the beginning or the end? If I start at the beginning, I was just 18 years old, a freshman in college and away from home for the first time. If I start at the end, it is 52 years later, and my best friend has just died from multiple myeloma. For the first time in my life, my guide, my person, the only person on the planet who knows every secret I have ever had, has passed away.

Margaret, my friend, was 31 and worked in the Ad Bldg. of our college. Through God, I believe, we found each other, and we loved each other unconditionally all those years. When my parents divorced, she was there. When my son was born, she rejoiced with my husband and me. When I got my Master's Degree, she held the party. The night my husband died very unexpectedly, she held me all night. She was at the funerals of both my parents and both grandmothers. My son decided to go to school in Boston, and she never flinched. She just drove us there and drove me back so I wouldn't be alone.

She is gone now, but she taught me to be strong, so I know I'll get through this loss. I also know I want to buy the stamps in her honor for this year. Her blue Irish eyes would be twinkling at this. I may have lost her, but I am also blessed at having had her for so long. God is so good.



*Michelle Howe-Gietzen*, Respite Volunteer

## IN-KIND DONATIONS

Pam Allen  
Anonymous  
Marcia Bird  
Heather Brooks  
Connie Brown  
Elizabeth Chandler  
Lori Chant  
Darla Dunn  
Helen Howard  
Michelle Howe-Gietzen  
Nancy Jackson  
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Diane King  
Jerry Kramer  
Ed Kippe & Larilee Kippe  
Becky Maurice  
Joane McCall  
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Glenn Sizemore  
Helen Stump  
Valerie Thelen  
Carolyn Tower  
University 7th Day Adventist Church

## SPECIAL THANK YOU

**The Cook Family Foundation**  
Nonprofit Capacity Building Program for funding,  
coaching and mentoring  
**Memorial Healthcare**  
In-kind office space

**DayStarr Communications**  
For again choosing persons we serve for their Give Back Day  
**United Way Serving Genesee & Shiawassee**  
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Current Resident or

**Mission Statement**

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



**R**espice Volunteers of Shiawassee provide persons and family caregivers with a trained volunteer for regularly scheduled weekly visits. We provide one-on-one time, giving family caregivers a well deserved break. Respite Volunteers help the elderly living alone and persons with disabilities to remain living safely in their home for as long as possible.

**CAREGIVER COMMENTS**

“Jane and Kervan have been answers to prayers. My mother really enjoys being with Jane!”

“Top notch. I learned so much as to what is available in our county for senior care.”

“I believe that my mother has formed a close bond with Diane. She looks forward to each visit with great excitement. Diane has been the source of good information that has been used to improve my mother’s situation.”

**PATIENTS COMMENTS**

“Diane has been such a blessing. Her visits are valued so much.”

**VOLUNTEER COMMENTS**

“I have gained a lot of satisfaction in my relationships with my client Mary...I have found great enjoyment knowing the staff. It really does feel like a village. My life has been enriched because of Respite...”



Our Monday Crew  
L to R Liz Vreibel, Helen Howard, Angela Nicholls, Ruth Nick, Helen Stump & Stasia Reyna Photo by: Angela Nicholls

**BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING:**

- Provides you with a sense of purpose
- Provides a sense of community
- Helps you meet new friends
- Increases your social skills
- Improves self-esteem
- Teaches you valuable skills
- Provides job prospects
- Brings fun into your life