

# VOLUNTEER BULLETIN



INSPIRING VOLUNTEERS AND EFFECTIVELY CONNECTING THEM WITH THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

## What's Inside

Program Updates

Page 3

Youth Programs

Page 4

Volunteer Spotlight

Page 5

Volunteer Opportunities

Page 6

Calendar of Events

Page 7

## Let's Connect



@flinthillsvolunteercenter



@flinthillsvc



The Memory Tree, donated by our Senior Corps RSVP Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Task Force raised \$2,100 at the Festival of Trees. Special thanks to our sponsors: Manhattan Military Relations Committee, DAV Pearl Harbor Chapter 16, Allan and Sandy Rothlisberg, VFW 1786 Auxiliary, and our tree designer Tara Jackson. The tree was donated to Irwin Army Community Hospital.



2019 was a great year for receiving grants and financial support. We were able to open a satellite office in Junction City, hire two new staff members, and implement many of our core programs. We are truly grateful to the Corporation for National and Community Service, Riley County Council on Aging, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, Howe Family Foundation, YES! Fund, Youth Impacting Community, Kansas Health Foundation, Pi Beta Phi Sorority, Caroline Peine Foundation, and the Kansas Volunteer Commission.

# NOTES FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Lori Bishop  
Executive Director

Greetings Volunteers,

Happy New Year! 2019 was a busy and successful year for us. We opened a satellite off in Junction City for our RSVP program. Karen Paulus was hired to develop the program and recruit volunteers and volunteer stations.

We took over the Manhattan Snow Partners program and renamed it to the Neighbor to Neighbor program. With this new program and a huge increase in medical transportation rides, we needed to add another staff person. Thanks to the Howe Foundation grant award, I was able to hire an Administrative Assistant, Sarah Tortella in August.

Our Suicide Prevention initiative is making great strides. The Suicide Prevention Task Force is doing a great job in helping develop this program. We are very grateful to the Kansas Health Foundation for a grant award of \$24,200 to raise awareness.

We are especially grateful to the Greater Manhattan Community Foundation for several grant awards and especially for their support of our programs.

We are ready to take an active role in our Elder Justice programs and the Opioid/Drug Prevention programs. We have some creative marketing and awareness campaigns and are now looking for volunteers to help with this. Please let Amanda know if you are willing to help us out!

We also celebrate and recognize the work of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was the most important voice of the American civil rights movement, which worked for equal rights for all.

I am really looking forward to 2020 and sharing all the great things our volunteers do in our communities.

Thank you, VOLUNTEERS, for all you do!

Lori



**The Flint Hills Volunteer Center would like to extend a warm welcome to our new volunteers!**

**92** new volunteers enrolled between October 15 and December 15

**473** new volunteers enrolled in 2019

**197** new volunteers enrolled in 2019 are students

154 College   26 High School   17 Middle School

**47** new volunteers enrolled in 2019 are Veterans or Active Duty

## NOTES FROM KAREN, JUNCTION CITY RSVP:

Junction City will be ringing in 2020 with a new community dinner program at Church of the Covenant. The Flint Hills Volunteer Center is excited to join this effort alongside the volunteer planning committee. We have begun planning our meals for the first few weeks while also working to identify who we hope to meet and serve each week. With logistical help from Breaking Bread, we can realistically plan hearty meals within a small budget. The community is coming together to support this program financially; including a chili cook-off on January 10th along with donations from individuals and Wheels of HOPE. As plans are falling into place to start serving at the beginning of the year, we are reaching out to find volunteers to join our meal team leaders to help cook, prepare, and serve on a regular basis. Each week of the month will be lead by a different team of planning committee members and volunteers. If you are interested in joining us in Junction City once a month as we prepare and serve a community meal, please reach out to Karen Paulus in the Junction City satellite office.



Our 16th annual Festival of Trees celebration was another successful event. A huge thank you to our sponsors and all who attended the Festival of Trees Gala!

### Crystal Sponsor

Capitol Federal Savings

### Evergreen Sponsor

CivicPlus

Anderson Knight Architects

Bayer Construction

Flint Hills Moving Company

Midwest Concrete Materials

### Friend of the Festival

US Engineering

Olsson

The Trust Co.

Manko

Florence Corp.

Shilling Construction

Commerce Bank

Bluemont Hotel

WTC

Community 1st National Bank

Hi-Tech Interiors

Vonfeldt, Bauer, & Vonfeldt

# YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

## YOUTH VOLUNTEER CORPS

The Youth Volunteer Corps had a fantastic 2019. Our Youth completed 100 project days, earning almost 1,900 hours of service with 30 different organizations. In the last two months, YVC Youth volunteered with Sunset Zoo, Fort Riley USO, Via Christi Village, and the Hand to Hand program. This month, YVC will also spend a day with Toys for Manhattan.

Our program adopted 22 Sunflower CASA kids for Christmas this year. These children will all receive gifts wrapped by YVC volunteers as well as a personal, handwritten letter. YVC Youth will spend time learning about CASA and how they work to help local children.



**VOLUNTEERS RAKING LEAVES FOR A  
COMMUNITY MEMBER IN NEED**

YVC has worked with the Flint Hills Volunteer Center's Neighbors Helping Neighbors program. This is a volunteer program in the city of Manhattan that helps elderly and disabled residents remain in their home by providing assistance with snow removal, leaf raking, mowing, and basic yard work. As a year-round program, residents will be required to reapply for services with each season. YVC Youth have previously volunteered to do basic yard work, and a group of volunteers helped with leaf raking over Thanksgiving break.

The Youth Advisory Board has been working toward their goals this year. Two of the members are preparing a presentation for the Middle Schools to recruit new members. The group has also started planning a fundraiser, which they hope to hold in Spring of 2020.



**VOLUNTEERS HELPING AT HAND TO HAND  
WITH THEIR HOLIDAY CRAFT**

## SCHOOLS OF HOPE

Wow! This semester has just flown by. We have several students that are still in need of volunteers for the upcoming Spring semester. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE let me know if you are interested in working with a student for the remainder of the school year. We'd love to match you with a student to make a world of difference!

—Amanda



## GETTING TO KNOW... OUR VOLUNTEERS

Kelly's time here as a K-State intern has been a great experience that she would not want to change. She first got involved with the Flint Hills Volunteer Center because she needed an internship opportunity. She was running out of time and asked them if they needed an intern this semester. At first, she was a little nervous thinking that they wouldn't want her. As time progressed, she found out that they needed one for the upcoming semester. She was excited to know more information about who they were as an organization. Kelly thought all the people here were very friendly. When she spent more and more time with them, she got to know them better. Something that surprised her about the Flint Hills Volunteer Center was that there were a bunch of volunteer opportunities.

She believes that everyone should know that the Flint Hills Volunteer Center is a great way to learn about others who are also involved in volunteering around the community. While there she has noticed that the volunteers love to spend time together and talk about what they have been up to. Also, what they have planned for the weekend. She has loved learning about these wonderful volunteers who have helped her with From the Land of Kansas activity. She has also interacted with them while doing another activity called Cookie Brigade.

From the Land of Kansas is an organization that is involved with the Department of Agriculture and wants to spread the word of how great Kansas agriculture is. They have let us build their holiday boxes. Cookie Brigade consists of volunteers to bring in cookies and is then brought to the senior center for volunteers to then bag two different cookies into a bag. Another volunteer takes these bagged cookies to Fort Riley USO to distribute these cookies to service members.

As Kelly has been a part of the Flint Hills Volunteer Center, she wishes that she knew about it sooner because of all the learning opportunities that she has been exposed to. During a 9/11 event, she was offered to be a photographer at the event. At first, she thought that that was a fun opportunity but then realized that she was not a professional photographer. She took about four-hundred

pictures that day. Some of the pictures that she got to get a glimpse at were not bad at all. She was also offered an opportunity to take pictures at the Festival of Trees Gala because of how well she took pictures at the 9/11 event. That was a fun event in the sense that she has never been to an auction and loved seeing how it went down.

Kelly wants to tell everybody that they should volunteer. Even if they are on the fence about it, they should. They will meet a bunch of people who want to help the community and who believe that there is good in the world. There a bunch of different stories that are expressed when volunteering. There a bunch of loving volunteers who want to know more about what they are volunteering for and who is apart of their team. She has loved her time here and would do it again in a heartbeat.



## Dated Volunteer Opportunities for January—February

**Tuesday, January 7 – Area Agency on Aging Caregivers mailing.** Volunteers needed to insert, fold, seal and address the newsletters. 9 AM to 11:30 AM at 401 Houston Street.

**Thursday, January 9-Cookie Brigade.** You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

**Thursday, January 23-Cookie Brigade.** You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. **Packaging will occur at the Riley County Senior Center.** We would love for you to join us!

**Tuesday, February 4 –Area Agency on Aging Caregivers mailing.** Volunteers needed to insert, fold, seal and address the newsletters. 9 AM to 11:30 AM at 401 Houston Street.

**Thursday, February 6 Cookie Brigade.** You can drop off cookies anytime Wednesday through Thursday at 1 PM and we will package them to take to the Fort Riley USO on Thursday at 2 PM. We would love for you to join us!

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### On - Going Volunteer Opportunities

**Transportation Driver Volunteers needed** — We are in need of more transportation volunteers to take seniors to their medical appointments. Volunteers are able to work around their own schedules.

**Schools of Hope** — Volunteers are needed to provide one-on-one mentoring to increase literacy. Volunteers work with a student one-on-one, becoming a part of their improvement, and helping to celebrate their success. Requirements include: one school year commitment to your student (Sept.-May), attend required orientation/training, tutor twice a week for 30 minute sessions, and the completion of a successful background check.

**Cookie Brigade** — Typically the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month– 1 PM at the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. 2601 Anderson Ave. Suite 200

**Caregiver Mailings**— Every 1st Tuesday of each month (except on a Holiday) — 9 Am-12 PM; 401 Houston St., Manhattan

**Youth Volunteer Corps** — Seeking more volunteers to be Team Leaders. Team Leaders are assigned a group of kids (ages 11-18) to work on special projects. Please contact the office for more information.

**Outreach Volunteer**—The Flint Hills Volunteer Center is seeking volunteers to help implement our new community initiatives: Suicide Prevention and Elder Justice. We are looking for volunteers to help at suicide prevention training classes and learn the curriculum for Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention and Money Smart for Older Adults to teach trainings within the community.

**Friendship Meal Delivery**— Drivers are needed. Please contact us if you're available to help.



Please remember to ALWAYS wear your nametag or volunteer shirt when you're out on a volunteer assignment! If you do not have a name tag, please contact me and I can have one ready for you! Also, when volunteering for an organization especially ones that are on the weekly volunteer opportunities, please ALWAYS make a reference and say you are part of the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. We don't have much marketing around the area and that would help us promote the Volunteer Center tremendously!

Contact Amanda @ 776-7787 or [info@flinthillsvolunteercenter.com](mailto:info@flinthillsvolunteercenter.com) if you're interested in any of these opportunities!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## JANUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  Office Closed	2	3	4
5	6	7 Caregivers	8	9 Cookie Brigade	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20  Office Closed	21	22	23 Cookie Brigade	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## FEBRUARY 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	
2	3	4 Caregivers	5	6 Cookie Brigade	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Cookie Brigade	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

# FLINT HILLS VOLUNTEER CENTER

2601 Anderson Avenue Ste 200  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
Phone: 785-776-7787  
Fax: 785-776-8653



Corporation for National and Community Service, Kansas Volunteer Commission, YES! Fund, Konza United Way, Kansas State Pi Beta Phi,  
Riley County Council on Aging, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation, Caroline Peine Foundation, Kansas Health Foundation

**Please help us raise \$30,000 to support over 900 volunteers. Your support is appreciated!**

- \*\*Gift in Honor/Memory** of a loved-one *(to support on-going projects)*
- General contribution (recruiting/placing individuals in positions that impact the community)
- Schools of Hope (recruiting/placing volunteer tutors)
- Youth Volunteer Corps (recruiting youth 11-18 years old)
- Contribution to new Initiatives: Suicide Prevention, Elder Justice, Opioid Abuse

**My gift to the Flint Hills Volunteer Center is enclosed:**

\_\_\_\$50    \_\_\_\$100    \_\_\_\$200    \_\_\_\$500    Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*In Honor/Memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_