

The Official Newsletter of :



Caring Connections

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1



WINTER 2010

Helping the frail, elderly & disabled to maintain their independence & dignity through the spirit of volunteerism.

A Dynamic Duo

Jennifer Smith and Lori Nigl, Martignetti Companies of NH co-workers and friends, volunteer every month to give back to their community. It all started when Martignetti was approached by The CareGivers to become a delivery business partner for the Caring Cupboard program. Jen and Lori enthusiastically volunteered for the one-time delivery of groceries to clients, but it didn't end there. After their initial volunteer experience, these two dynamic women decided they wanted to do more. Jen and Lori asked about other opportunities such as our Birthday Squad

program and becoming regular volunteers for our monthly Caring Cupboard grocery deliveries. Without hesitation, they went through the process to become permanent CareGiver volunteers and "Team J-Lo", as they call themselves, was born.

Jen and Lori's sentiments are the same...they "volunteer to make a difference in someone's life, not for self gratification. People just need to know someone cares. The clients are so appreciative and we get genuine hugs." They both feel good at the end of the day having seen the positive, immediate impact they are making. "Volunteering puts things into perspective. You appreciate what you have" says Jen. Lori states "it makes me feel

good making someone else feel good. It's all so worthwhile." Both ladies wish they could spend more time with the clients when making deliveries because the recipients never want them to leave. Jen and Lori love hearing client stories and getting an insight into their past. Lori adds happily "We love them all because they think we are in college!"



Jennifer Smith & Lori Nigl

Outstanding CareGiver of the Year Award Honorees

This past November, The CareGivers, Inc. hosted its Volunteer Recognition and 25th Anniversary Celebration. Tom Boucher, CEO Owner of T-Bones & Cactus Jack's Restaurants and a long-time supporter of The CareGivers was the guest speaker.

The CareGivers was delighted to honor Rita Soderberg, a Greater Manchester volunteer, Cecile Boucher, a Greater Nashua volunteer and The Meelia Center at Saint Anselm College, a volunteer group. These award recipients go above and beyond as CareGiver volunteers.

Thank you and congratulations to all.



Tom Boucher of T-Bones & CJ's



Cecile Boucher and Her Husband Don



Rita Soderberg & Kelly Urban, Manchester Program Coordinator



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"Experience the power of caring!"



“The balloon is still up in my parlor; it floats all around and keeps me happy. You have to be special people to do this for everyone. It brings a lot of happiness to those you do it for. We don’t feel so lonely.”
 Rose, client, age 90

“Profiles of Service” A Board Member’s Perspective



Steven Scheiner
*Financial Services Manager,
 Vice President, Ocean Bank,
 A Div. of People’s United Bank*

Why did you become involved with The CareGivers?
 “I became involved with The CareGivers as I firmly believe that our senior population gets overlooked too often, as many programs are out there

supporting youth (which is all well and good) and not enough for our seniors.”

Why do you think the mission of The CareGivers is important for the community?

“The CareGivers mission is important as we all have a responsibility to help those less fortunate and to make a difference in their lives. The CareGivers speaks volumes to that with our senior population. Our senior population should not feel they are forgotten or overlooked and The CareGivers provides the support that their clients need and deserve.”

What interests you most about The CareGivers organization?

“Watching The CareGivers grow their mission statement and initiatives is inspiring, as the people who make it happen every day are volunteers who enjoy making a difference. It is very rewarding being associated with an organization of The CareGivers’ caliber and watching it doing more and more for those less fortunate. I know that when I organize a group of Ocean Bank people to assist with the Caring Cupboard program, the feedback I get is nothing short of positive...and they look forward to helping out again!!”



A Look Inside the Cupboard

The CareGivers Caring Cupboard is a mobile food pantry delivering free grocery packages to low income elderly and disabled neighbors.

	<u>Delivery Business Partners</u>	<u>Households Delivered to</u>	<u>Amount of Groceries</u>
OCTOBER ‘09	Saint Anselm College, Fidelity & BAE Systems	150	5,133 lbs. Value: \$9,453.27
NOVEMBER ‘09	Saint Anselm College, Fidelity & Whipple Hill Communications	150	5,772 lbs. Value: \$9,614.75
DECEMBER ‘09	Manchester Fire Explorers, Fidelity, Hesser College & McCarthy Team	150	4,916 lbs. Value: \$8,182.28
TOTALS		450	15,821 lbs. Value: \$27,250.30

Highlights

“CareGivers is not just about making food deliveries to assist someone in need; it’s about making their day by giving them a smile, conversation, hope, and yes...a basic need too. I find the most rewarding part about volunteering with CCC is the socializing with the clients, even if it’s just a few minutes. I leave with my empty grocery bags knowing whatever situation they are in my time and CCC’s generosity is leaving them in a little better place.”

Ann H., Fidelity Cares Volunteer

THANK YOU!

Upcoming Events & Short News



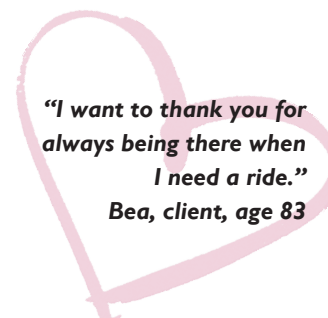
SAVE THE DATE! Sunday May 16, 2010 for our 8th Annual Chocolate Lovers Fantasy Event at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester from 12Noon to 3:00 PM. More information will be available soon on our website at www.caregiversnh.org.



The Bedford Presbyterian Church bought Christmas gifts again this year for some of our clients. Christine Flanagan leads the church in this donation. The CareGivers provided the church with the names of clients to receive a gift and their requested item. Some of these items included robes, sweaters, blankets, gloves, and towels. The Presbyterian Church parishioners picked from the "giving tree" and shopped for that client. They wrapped and delivered gifts to 30 of our clients during the Christmas season.

Fidelity's Personal Investments team of 1,000 employees recently held a food drive to benefit several local non-profits. As fortunate recipients of their generosity and enthusiasm, The CareGivers staff filled both of our Caring Vans with food donated to our Caring Cupboard! Many thanks to all that took part in this great effort.

On behalf of the *Bedford Women's Club*, member Margaret Goodrich (and her grandson), delivered numerous bags of non-perishable food items they collected for the CareGivers Caring Cupboard. In addition, the Club donated a variety of grocery store gift cards to supplement our mobile food program's needs! Thanks to all the BWC members who participated!!!



*"I want to thank you for always being there when I need a ride."
Bea, client, age 83*

From the President...



Donny R. Guillemette
President & CEO

Our mission at The CareGivers is about "people helping people". What I've valued most about our organization over the years are the volunteers, who have many faces and their own unique motivations for helping others. It is my ongoing privilege to be associated with the young, recently retired, stay-at-home parents, working professionals, and so many others who give of their time. I've known those whose lives have been touched by tragedy or health issues who want to give back, realizing life is too short to "put off until tomorrow". We have parents who view volunteering as an opportunity to include their young children, whether it's driving a client to the grocery store or just stopping by for a friendly visit, so they can experience the rewards of a relationship with a grandparent figure. No matter how much time or what service they provide to help others, I've noticed our volunteers' commitment strengthen when they see firsthand the benefits to the recipient of their efforts...the magic of volunteerism!

The Volunteer Corner

Each month, through our Birthday Squad Program, caring volunteers bring personal birthday wishes to clients, which include a birthday card, cookies and a balloon. Eleanor P., age 80, a recent recipient of this special delivery, expressed her feelings in a note:

"Wonderful group; you do such fine, kind work. Have just had a birthday. Had cards, out to dinner, etc. The thing that made me smile the most was your balloon. Guess we still have some kid in us, no matter the age. All cards were gone before the balloon."



Barbara Padley



Bob Lajoie

Birthday Squad Volunteers

Happy Birthday Volunteers:

October

Roger Gosselin	10/3
Christina Lemieux	10/7
Denis Boutin	10/9
Peter Muffaletto	10/12
Pattie Davis	10/18
Robert Lajoie	10/18
Donna Watson	10/20
Patty Martin	10/23
Carl "Bo" Cuchetti	10/24
Pamela Snow	10/29

November

Lucille Atkinson	11/1
Mary Kay James	11/1
Greer Bodmer	11/2
Gail Rheume	11/3
Jane Warren	11/5
Matt Colby	11/6
Deena Greene	11/7
Thomas Lecesce	11/16
Cecile Boucher	11/22
Gail Schevey	11/23
Linda Abels	11/24
Armand Duhaime	11/24
Lorraine Gibson	11/25
James Hall	11/25
Wayne Parnin	11/26
Brian Tremblay	11/29

December

Nancy Letizia	12/5
Beverly Duhaime	12/6
Laura Withers	12/6
Jane Laurendeau	12/8
Tammie Call	12/9
Nancy Pease	12/12
Kathy O'Leary	12/13
Nancy Mellin	12/16
Kathleen Walsh	12/21
Christine Giroux	12/23
Mary Lockridge	12/23
Bruce Manchester	12/23
Andrew Vogt	12/25



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Nashua Program Coordinator

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Office Support Staff

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*AmeriCorps Member
Caring Cupboard Volunteer Coordinator*

Robert Hemmer
Caring Cupboard Warehouse Clerk

Board of Directors

Chairman
Desmond Coffee
Community Volunteer

Treasurer
Steve Scheiner
Ocean Bank

Secretary
Cyndi Spiers
Comcast

H. Andy Crews
AutoFair

David Harrity
*Retired-U.S. Dept. of Housing &
Development*

John Knorr
Business Owner

Ruth-Ellen Mason
Increase Sales & Marketing, LLC

Mary Wainright
Community Volunteer