

Thanks to the 2,009 volunteers who say “YES”

Kathy Cerles has always volunteered. But when her mom passed away last fall, Kathy said, “I just wanted to do more to help people.”

During a recent Neighborhood Program Homework Club session, Allannah, a bright-eyed first grader, walked through the door. Staff member Becca Weber welcomed her, “Hey, come on in. What are we working on today?” Allannah responded with a self-confident “math.” Becca guided her to a chair next to Homework Club volunteer Kathy Cerles and said, “You’re the first one here so you have Kathy’s undivided attention.”

Volunteers like Kathy are the heart and soul of our youth programs. Nearly 300 volunteers work with hundreds of kids living in Neighborhood Program locations in the Wayzata School District or Sparks program locations in the Orono School District.

Kathy says, “I really look forward to coming every week. The kids might have a particular struggle with something and it is just so rewarding to be able to assist them.

And sometimes all they need is someone to listen to them or express interest. For example, I once got a map of the U.S. and used basketball teams to teach geography. I said, ‘Where does Portland play? Just put them on the map.’”

Kathy’s advice about volunteering? “Just do it. It’s an hour and a half out of your day, as little as once per week. You’re going to make a tremendous difference.” She says, “Your hour and a half is going to multiply by tens, twenties, hundreds to that child.”

Every detail you plan, every dollar you give and every burst of energy you share makes a difference. Thank you for saying “YES.”



Kathy Cerles, one of the amazing Homework Club volunteers, helps Allannah with math worksheets

National Volunteer Appreciation week is April 23-29. We are so very grateful for YOU!

MISSION - To engage the heart and will of the community to respond to emergency needs and create opportunities for all to thrive.

VISION - To build a vibrant community where everyone counts and all sectors and systems work together for the good of all.

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Volunteer “Yes-es” make magic happen

Ellie Bathe, Interfaith Outreach volunteer leader and champion, explains her many generous yes-es to volunteering with a typically pithy Ellie-ism: “You can pretend to care, but you can’t pretend to show up.”

We celebrate and give thanks for the generous “yes” of volunteers like Ellie who make magic happen here and throughout our community.

Faithful, capable, wonderful volunteers who care and show up day after day, year after year.

Like Charlie Cook, who can be found in the wee hours of the morning preparing coffee for his early morning food shelf crew.

Or Muriel Ryden, who makes clients

feel welcomed and cared for from her afternoon front desk post.

Or Brad Sleeper, who facilitates a Great Expectations Action Team focused on helping high school students discover their passions and the opportunities to pursue them.

Or Darlene Woolsey, who, behind the scenes, skillfully enters data that keeps us accountable.

Or Kathy Lund, who connects people with rides to medical appointments.

Or Dee Spalla, who helps people build confidence and skills for getting into the workforce.

Or Mary Burton, a favorite with the little kids cared for in our child care area.



*LaDonna Hoy,
Executive Director, Interfaith
Outreach & Community Partners*

Or Susan Dankle, who makes Resale Select sparkle and shoppers smile.

Or the amazing Spread Your Wings Chairs who have created an elegant opportunity for a whole community to do magic.

This is no ordinary magic, friends. Volunteer magic is turning our whole community into the best possible version of itself. Ta da!



Spread Your Wings Gala

The Spread Your Wings Gala sponsors, committee members and guests will ignite the power of community on April 22 while enjoying an evening of fun, friendship and philanthropy. Thanks to all who choose to be part of the *real* win – seeing local families and kids thrive.

Proceeds will support local families and individuals with emergency and strengthening services. Register today at iocp.ejoinme.org/SpreadYourWings.

Presenting Sponsor (\$25,000)



Halftime Sponsors (\$10,000)

TCF Financial
Goldman Sachs
U.S. Bank
Robins Kaplan LLP

Pregame Sponsors (\$5,000)

BMO Harris Bank
Bremer Bank, NA
HR Simplified, Inc.
Voice Solutions
State Farm

Touchdown Sponsors (\$2,500)

OnApproach, LLC
Tradition Bank

Field Goal Sponsors (\$1,000)

Aspen Waste Systems
Conveyor Concepts, Inc.
John Kraemer & Sons
Minnesota Bank & Trust
Mohagen Hansen
Architecture/Interior Design

Our Point of Difference – Finding Your Perfect Fit!

A community at its best is welcoming, attentive, responsive and inclusive. It's how we live each day. Volunteers are the heart and hands of everything we do. Many tell us their experience here is different than any other place they've volunteered. The secret recipe? Our Community Engagement team and staff help you find the right volunteer fit. **We want you to LOVE what you do here!**



- 1** Go to iocp.org/volunteer and complete application (online or mail) for the Community Engagement team
 - 2** Meet one-on-one with Lynn Vettel or Liz Erstad-Hicks
 - 3** Talk about your interests and Interfaith Outreach's work & current opportunities
 - 4** Choose an opportunity that fits you best
 - 5** Meet your staff supervisor and get trained on job duties
 - 6** Get started and give it your all
 - 7** Try something new if you want to - we are here for YOU
- Volunteers!** Get 30% off your Resale Select purchase on the day you volunteer. Don't leave the building before you shop at Resale Select and sign up for Resale Rewards.



Cathy Roth fondly remembers meeting LaDonna Hoy back when holiday gifts were first being distributed at St. Bartholomew Church. Cathy was looking for a meaningful way to

get more involved and accepted the huge responsibility of chairing the 2016 Holiday Gift Program. Under the guidance of Liz and Lynn, Cathy learned to manage all the behind-the-scenes details that make this highly successful program a cherished tradition.

On behalf of the 512 families who received holiday gifts last year, thank you to all our amazing volunteers for your commitment and inspiration.



Ramona Richter initially served as liaison to more deeply connect her faith community (Holy Name) with Interfaith Outreach. As her commitment grew she decided to "walk the talk." Ramona now leads the Resale Select jewelry department, assists people as a personal shopper in the *Return-to-Work* program and acts as a formal Ambassador for Interfaith Outreach.

Ramona recalls a job seeker who tried on a suit, looked in the mirror and screamed, "This is how I've always wanted to look!" Ramona loves helping someone start a new beginning.

Thank you, Ramona, and all volunteers for your heartfelt contributions.

2,009 volunteers support families and kids!



Wayzata High School student Aly Rahmatullah, a Y.E.S. student, was recently featured on Ch. 12 TV for his commitment to volunteering

Brenda Badger, Youth Service Coordinator at Wayzata High School, works with staff at Interfaith Outreach to identify volunteer opportunities that engage high school students. Club Y.E.S. (Youth Extending Service) is a program that offers a wide range of exciting opportunities for volunteer service. Thanks to Y.E.S., 4-5 amazing students volunteer twice per week at the food shelf after school. Many are inspired to become ongoing food shelf volunteers. The students show up on time and volunteer until the work is done. Thank you to all the students in Club Y.E.S. for making a difference in our community!

Tell us about your “YES” moment

Why did YOU say “YES” to volunteering? Tell us on social media for a chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to an area restaurant! Names will be collected during April and the winner will be notified on April 28. **#NVW** or **#TeamInterfaithMN** + tag **Interfaith Outreach**



GRANTS December 2016 – February 2017

B & H Way Foundation, Education & Youth
Edina Realty Foundation, Sleep Out
Hamel Lions, Sleep Out
KPMG Minneapolis, Education & Youth
Lexus Pursuit of Potential, Education & Youth
Minnesota Housing Partnership, Housing & Neighborhoods

Nash Foundation, Housing & Neighborhoods
Pentair Foundation, Sleep Out
Plymouth Rotary, Housing & Neighborhoods
Solutran, Sleep Out
Wayzata Community Church, Housing & Neighborhoods

MEMORIALS December 2016 – February 2017

Kathleen Anderson / Ann Argento / Virginia Beal / Anne Bisson / Robert “Bob” Bruer / Robert Bruley
 David K. Cosler / Martha Czerniak / Martha “Marty” Davidson / Yvonne “Hunsey” Ellingson / Shirley Harder
 Anne Heideman / Rudy Keimowitz / David Koch / Alec Lawrenz / Lyman Moore / Steve Moy / Michael Mullins
 Brandon Olsen / James “Jim” Pohtilla / Robert Schmid / Edward Schuck / James “Jim” Seifert
 Phillip G. Semmer / Bernadine Sheehan / Judith Sullivan / Christopher Uzzolina / Dr. James Wegener
 Wayne Wittman / Evelyn Yanish

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Volunteers can Power up an Entire Community

It started with a promise in a Wayzata church basement nearly 40 years ago.

We will build a community where everyone counts, where all children are cherished and protected, and where family life is valued and supported by all. Since 1979, this great community has been doing just that – leading, rallying and igniting the power of people to address the critical needs of struggling families and individuals who live right here – our neighbors.



Last Year By the Numbers



2,009
Total
Volunteers



64,358
Total Hours
of Volunteer
Service



Equivalent of
31
Full-Time
Staff



\$1,516,281
Value
of Service
Provided by
Volunteers



\$7.42
\$1 invested
produces
\$7.42 value



Become our friend or follower on Facebook or Twitter to connect with us and hear about the ways our community takes a stand against poverty.



Hope to See You at our Spring Events!

Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, May 11, 7:15 – 8:45 a.m.

Wayzata Country Club
200 Wayzata Blvd, Wayzata

Buy \$20 tickets online at
iocp.ejoinme.org/PrayerBreakfast

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 13, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Interfaith Outreach parking lot
1605 County Road 101 N,
Plymouth

To donate plants or
volunteer, contact Jackie
at jiversarch@comcast.net
or 612-280-8873

Wayzata Empty Bowls

Thursday, May 18, 5 – 7 p.m.

Wayzata High School
4955 Peony Ln N, Wayzata

Tickets are \$10 at the door

Go to iocp.org/events
for details about
upcoming events



Wednesday, May 24, 2017
7 – 8:30 a.m.

Wayzata Country Club
200 Wayzata Blvd West, Wayzata

Register at iocp.ejoinme.org/CaringforKids

500 children in our community are at risk of entering kindergarten behind



Keynote speaker,
Mary Brainerd

Mary Brainerd is president and chief executive officer of HealthPartners, the largest consumer-governed nonprofit health care organization in the nation.

Often cited for her business acumen and commitment to working with government, civic, and business leaders to address issues impacting economic growth, she will share her conviction that a quality early childhood

promises the greatest economic return on investment for families, our community and Minnesota's future.

Caring for Kids (CfK) jumpstarts preschoolers on a path to kindergarten readiness by providing scholarships to quality early childhood care and education centers, as well as parent education and holistic family support.

Can't make the event? Use the enclosed envelope to make a donation instead. Your support will make a life-changing difference for some precious little kids. Put CfK Breakfast in the subject line.

Newsletters are available online at www.iocp.org/get-updates. To be removed from the mailing list, please email communications@iocp.org.



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SERVING THE CITIES OF HAMEL, LONG LAKE, MEDICINE LAKE, MEDINA, MINNETONKA BEACH, ORONO, PLYMOUTH & WAYZATA