

PEM BOARD NOTES FROM VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR ~ June 2019

I made various trips into the community in an effort to recruit volunteers over the past few months.

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, I was invited to the Brighton School District for their “Volunteering Workshop” and spoke to the students about Advent House and the importance of volunteering in the community.

On Sunday March 31<sup>st</sup>, I visited the Farmington United Methodist Church with one of our volunteers who spoke and then we set up a table after each service.

On April 11<sup>th</sup> I visited the Legends Senior Community and spoke to their group.

On Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>, I attended the Fairport Library’s “Community Volunteer’s Open House” with a table set up with information about the opportunities at Advent House. Unfortunately, the room we were in was tucked in the back and didn’t get much traffic.

I was also invited to Bishop Kearney High School on 5/30 to speak to the students for their “Volunteering Workshop”.

We had a table set up in the Perinton Rec Center three times and have potentially recruited some new volunteers. I invited them to attend a coffee and sweets meeting at the House on May 21<sup>st</sup> to learn more about Advent House and orient any that were interested in volunteering. Six people came and four signed up. One on the fence, the other would like to work at Sweet Charity and help with our snow team.

We have placed posters in various public places, sent out letters for volunteers to share with friends & family and asked our local churches to run blurbs in their newsletters/bulletins.

On March 27<sup>th</sup> I attended a meeting at Shepherd Home for the Directors and Volunteer Coordinators. There was much discussion about the crisis in volunteer recruitment as well as retention. It seems every house is struggling in this area. Retention seems to be the biggest issue as the commitment level is low among this current generation and those actively volunteering now are aging out. Glenda and I have worked many shifts that we have not been able to fill including early morning and late night which has made for some long days 😞

On May 1<sup>st</sup> we had a Volunteer Appreciation and Training Dinner for our volunteers. We did a picnic theme and served subs and salads. It was not as well attended as we’d hoped, but those that did come gave great feed-back. They enjoyed the decorations, the red Wing Raffle (tickets based on how many hours they’d volunteered since January), the center piece prizes, the pansies we gave each of them and of course – the food! Deirdre Won-Short (one of our prior weekend nurses and a gifted speaker) spoke about the role and importance volunteers play and also held a Q&A session to answer questions about procedures, protocol and medications.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Eisele/Volunteer Coordinator