

Volunteer Voice

December 2025

Letter from the Director

By JoAnn Bross, Director of Social and Volunteer Services



Dear Volunteers,
As the holiday season surrounds us with its lights and traditions, I want to take a moment to celebrate you. Whether providing comfort at the bedside, offering companionship and support to families, or ensuring our offices run smoothly, your presence makes an immeasurable difference. Every act of service brings hope, connection, and care to the patients, families, and team members who rely on us.

As the year comes to a close, Gulfside continues to grow, we are eagerly anticipating the opening of the new Weil Care Center in New Port Richey which will allow us to welcome more patients and families into a safe, compassionate environment. At the same time, we are launching our new Hospice program in Pinellas County while continuing to grow. Additionally, the successful launch of our new electronic medical record system is already helping our teams coordinate care more efficiently and provide the highest quality services. While these milestones are the result of agency initiatives and planning, the support of our volunteers, through their time and dedication, helps make this growth possible by saving staff time, resources, and helping our teams to focus on improving patient care.

So, as you give so much of yourselves, please remember to care for your own hearts too. Take moments to rest, reflect, and enjoy the season with loved ones. Your well-being is just as important as the care you provide. We are here to support you every step of the way.

From my heart to yours, thank you for sharing your time, compassion, and warmth. May this holiday season bring you joy, peace, and the knowledge that your efforts - both seen and behind the scenes - truly make a difference.

JoAnn Bross

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Dates to Remember:

- December 9: The Candace Glewen Charity Fashion Show
- December 14-22: Hannukah
- December 24: Christmas Eve
- December 25: Christmas Day
- December 26: Kwanza
- December 31: New Years Eve
- January 6: Epiphany
- January 19: Martin Luther King Jr Day
- February 2: Groundhog Day
- February 14: Super Bowl Sunday
- February 17; Presidents Day

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening at the Dr Jay Weil Center for Hospice Care



Volunteer Linda C. and Carla Armstrong, Director of Philanthropy.

Ten of our incredible volunteers attended the Weil Care Center Opening on September 19 to welcome visitors to the new facility! We also had several volunteers come out to the Ribbon Cutting on November 3rd.

We are excited to announce that we have 15 volunteers trained and eagerly awaiting the opportunity to cover Reception and offer room visits at Weil. We are also excited to announce that Linda and Lucy, the beloved Golden retriever, who visit Rucki once a month, will also be visiting Weil monthly!



Volunteer Coordinator Donna F. and the harpist.



Volunteer Coordinator Maritza A. at the Weil Care Center Grand Opening.



Volunteers at the Weil Care Center Grand Opening.



Volunteer Carl F. holds the door for guests at the Weil Care Center.



Volunteer Donna F. tours the Dr Jay Weil Center for Hospice Care.

Volunteer Spotlight: Katherine Manware

Gulfside is very pleased to welcome Katherine Manware to the Gulfside Volunteer family! Ms Manware supports our staff with the management of clinical supplies at both Weil Care Center and Hadley Center. She put in a great many hours with the clinical staff to prepare clinical supplies for the opening of the Weil Care Center.

Katherine also supports the Veteran Services program with Veteran pinnings and community events. Since joining the Gulfside as a Volunteer in September, Katherine has already provided over 150 volunteer hours!



Thank you to Katherine and all of our valued volunteers!

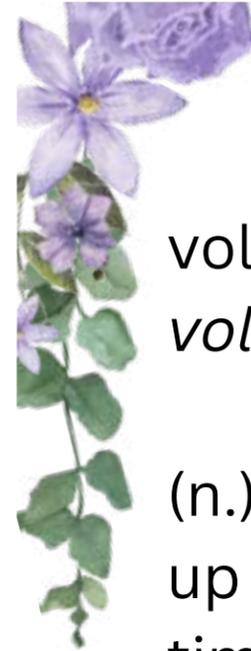


Happy Anniversary!

of Years

Jessie C.	December	6
Maria G.	December	3
Brett G.	December	2
Karen R.	December	2
Michelle D.	January	1
Claudia D.	January	2
Donna F.	January	9
Barbara K.	January	8
Richard P.	January	3
Matthew R.	January	1
Elizabeth B.	February	1
Linda C.	February	5
Joyce F.	February	1
Maria F.	February	1
Ronnie M.	February	1
Joan M.	February	10
Judy R.	February	1
Chuck S.	February	1
Sheila T.	February	1
Jessie C.	February	2

From The Heart



volunteer
vol-uhn-teer

(n.) a generous superstar who lights up the lives of others with their time, energy, and heart of gold.

Usage: "Thank you for being an amazing volunteer - you make the world shine so much brighter!"



Bereavement



Light Through Loss: Finding Comfort in the Holiday Season

Thursday, December 18
12:00pm to 1:30pm

New Port Richey Library
River Room
5939 Main Street
New Port Richey, FL 34652

Thursday, December 11
1:00pm to 2:30pm

Zephyrhills Public Library
Conference Room
5347 8th Street
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP is recommended due to space limitations. Participants will gain an understanding of the "normal" course of grief, strategies for coping with the intensity of grief at the Holidays, and a shared time of remembrance.

Questions should be directed to the Bereavement Department dedicated line at (727) 844-3946.

News and Notes

Reporting Reminders

We thank everyone for your continued patience and commitment to accurate volunteer reporting. Please remember the following IMPORTANT details when completing your reports:

DATE: The date of the volunteer activity must be on each report

TIME: Please use military time! Our new system uses military time, so using that format on your reports makes it easier and more efficient when our volunteers are entering your reporting time.

PRINTED NAME: Your printed name MUST be entered on your reports. If we cannot read your name, we cannot record your volunteer time.

NOTES for Patient Care

You may have already started to get phone calls from the Gulfside Hospice Social Worker who oversees the file of the patient(s) you visit. If not, please note that you'll begin to receive calls soon. These calls are just a short check-in with you to give the Social Worker a bit of additional insight into the patient's overall condition. This monthly call from the Social Worker is at their convenience and on their schedule. If you do not receive a call, you DO NOT have to notify your Volunteer Coordinator or contact the Social Worker. They will reach out to you when they need to gather information regarding the patient.

Please note that your Volunteer Coordinator is ALWAYS your ONLY point of contact regarding your volunteer service and patient visit schedule. If you have any questions about these calls, please talk to your Volunteer Coordinator.



facebook

join our group +

Gulfside volunteers have a new way of staying connected! If you are on Facebook, we invite you to join our new Facebook group created just for our volunteers.



We'll share information about what's coming up, fun facts, inspirational messages, photos from events, and more. Plus, you can use the group to share your experience as a volunteer and connect with other volunteers.

To join, visit FB.com/GulfsideHealthcareServices and go to the "Groups" tab, or scan the QR code above with your smartphone.

Tell A Friend

Gulfside's volunteer department is looking for volunteers to help in the following areas:

Companionship - Provide companionship to patients in their home to decrease loneliness and isolation, and provide moments of joy. Companionship type activities could include playing cards, reading, or simply talking about fond memories with the patients. Up to 3 hour per visit a week.

Caregiver Respite - Assist caregivers by being with a patient in the home while the caregiver runs errands or simply takes some time for themselves.

Pet Peace of Mind - Deliver pet food to patients. May also assist in completing paperwork for patient's pets to enroll in the

Follow Gulfside On Social Media To Get More Updates:

@GulfsideThriftShoppes
@GulfsideHealthcareServices



Happy Birthday!



- Valerie E.....12/04
- Jessie C..... 01/05
- Maria F.....01/08
- Callie G.....01/18
- Karoleen I.....01/21
- Katherine M.....01/25
- Denise W.....01/20
- Dexter B.....02/01
- Jimmy H.....02/02
- Alisha S.....02/04
- Janice R.....02/13
- Doris O.....02/15
- Judith R.....02/17
- Linda V.....02/18