

Pem Report ~ December 2021

I have been busy with recruitment! The two open houses I organized were a great success. Many people attended and almost all were eager to fill out applications that night. I asked some of our current volunteers to attend and give them tours and answer any questions they had as a way to keep them engaged in the house as well. Over the next few weeks, I was able to interview 25+ people interested in resident care giving. There are still a few more that I am working on interviewing and new applications are also trickling in.

In addition to the hands-on care givers, I have also recruited 13 non-hands on caregivers that are willing to help out with housekeeping, scheduling, house maintenance and bulk mailings.

When we closed in March of 2020 I had approximately 101 hands -on volunteers. At the present count I now have 108 so we're in good shape!

I put many of them to work right away helping with our annual appeal mailing which helped keep them on our radar until we re-open.

I did a complete overhaul on our training materials to make them more cohesive and easier to understand. I put together folders for each new volunteer to have at the training classes. I have been working with Deirdra Won-short (one of our per-diem nurses who will lead the training) in scheduling the classes. There will be 3 class dates for the new volunteers to choose from and I already have 25 signed up to attend. All are eager to see the house open and ready to start volunteering.

I also scheduled an open house which was December 1st for current and new volunteers to drop in and have refreshments as a way to keep them connected to the house. I ordered some pretty Christmas ornaments to give each of them as well as a thank you for being so patient while they wait for us to re-open. Many attended and expressed their eagerness for the house to re-open.

I met with students from the Harley School for an orientation meeting and we have 6 students that will be volunteering through next May.

I have attended two meetings since my last report with the other Directors of the local Comfort Care homes. We shared our struggles with re-opening as well as what's working and what isn't. Overnight aides seem to be the biggest struggle with pay being the biggest hurdle.

Advent House seemed to rank highest with the number of volunteers on board so I am quite happy with that!

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Eisele/Volunteer Coordinator