



LET THE LOVE OF GOD POUR THROUGH YOU TO OTHERS.

*Be His hands and feet.*



**Friends, Inc.**

SPRING 2025

Currently 85 Dedicated Volunteers

Executive Director, Jan Brewer  
Volunteer Coordinator, Kim Houser

Board Members

President, Rusty Stiles

Vice President, Jane Diamantis

Secretary, Stacey Condron

Treasurer, Greg Burgess

Sam Barnes, Afton DeLucca,

Beth Griggs, Kavitha Hichkad,

Elaine Wales, Judy Wilson

Every morning when we walk through the doors of Friends, Inc., the phone rings, and the person on the other end is someone with their own story of what they or a family member is walking through, a story of illness, hardship, uncertainty, or love for a family member who is struggling. After listening to each story and desiring to provide comfort and relief, we begin to offer suggestions on how Friends, Inc. can assist or refer individuals to other organizations.

After the call ends, I think about the path the family is walking along, and how we can walk beside them or help carry them during this trying time of a possible new diagnosis or decline in health. Often, it's our volunteers who show up, literally stepping through the door to offer the kind of comfort only a friend can provide. Through countless and sometimes thankless acts of service, our volunteers give freely of themselves by caring for each patient they serve.

Often, I find myself wondering: What would I do if I had to walk a mile in their shoes? How would I handle things differently? Are they an exhausted caregiver holding it all together, or someone fiercely clinging to independence in their much-loved home, where they feel safe? Is it the end of the month, and they are running low on food, supplies, nutritional supplements, or simply someone to talk to? Someone who will listen with empathy and compassion as they share their story, telling of what they are walking through?



If you have a heart to serve and the willingness to help carry someone's burden, I encourage you to jump in with both feet. Give us a call! Be prepared to be swept off your feet by the joy of doing something meaningful. When you give your time, your energy, or your gifts to Friends, Inc., you become part of something greater than yourself. And as the Dakota proverb reminds us: "We will be known forever by the tracks we leave."

**HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET THAT SERVE.**

*May you always have love to share, health to spare, and Friends that care.*

*Providing Friends*  
FOR THOSE IN NEED



**JAN BREWER**  
Executive Director

*As I wrap up my first three months as Volunteer Coordinator at Friends, Inc., I find myself both humbled and inspired. I've witnessed firsthand the quiet power of compassion, how something as simple as a handwritten note or a ride to an appointment can change a day, or even a life.*

From heartfelt thank-you cards to tearful words like, "I didn't think anyone cared" or "You're the only ones who've listened," I've seen the incredible impact our volunteers make in the lives of those we serve. These moments are not rare; they are the heartbeat of this organization. To be part of this mission, surrounded by people who show up with open hands and hearts, is a privilege. Friends, Inc. is more than an agency. It's a family, and I'm honored to be a part of it.



**KIM HOUSER**  
Volunteer Coordinator



## CYNTHIA HUGHES

2025 Volunteer of the Year

Volunteers at Friends, Inc. often step up at a moment's notice, sometimes spending hours and making multiple trips for just one patient.

**Cynthia** exemplifies this selfless spirit—always ready to serve, with a heart full of compassion and a friendship that deeply touches those we care for.



Our recent Volunteer Luncheon celebrated the incredible individuals whose time, energy, and compassion power the mission of Friends, Inc. Every hour they spend brings hope, connection, and dignity to those we serve.

*Volunteers are*

**THE FEET THAT HELP CARRY A BURDEN, THE HANDS THAT LIFT SPIRITS, AND THE HEARTS THAT CHANGE LIVES.**

# Memorials, Honor Gifts, and Donations

In memory of Mrs. Judy Berry  
Given by Mrs. Sara Batson

In memory of Mr. Bill Crump  
Given by Mrs. Sara Batson

In memory of Mrs. Myrna Ellen  
Dillard McGee  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brady

In honor of Mrs. Debbie Davis  
Given by Mrs. Carole Bryant

In honor of Mr. Greg Burgess  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. William  
Burgess

In honor of Mr. Walter Fletcher  
Given by Ms. Rosie Carter

In honor of Mrs. Jan Brewer, Mrs.  
Debbie  
Davis, Mrs. Kim Houser  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Ron Carter

In memory of Mr. Christopher Griggs  
Given by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Griggs

In memory of Mrs. Chun Chih  
Hwang, Mr. Steve  
Herriott, Mrs. Maggie French  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Duke

In honor of Mrs. Mary Anne Enlow  
Given by Dunagan Yates and Allison  
Plastic Surgery

In memory of Mrs. Aggie Carter  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ezell

In memory of Dr. Terry Davis  
Given by Ms. Renee Graham

In memory of Miss Alexa Hooper  
Given by Ms. Renee Graham

In memory of Mr. Clint Shockley  
Given by Mr. Wayne Greeson

In memory of Mr. Joe Allen  
Given by Mrs. Roxanne Allen Jones

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry  
Kilpatrick  
Given by Mrs. Susan Kelly

In memory of Mr. Stephen Michael  
Krebs  
Given by Mrs. Donna Krebs

In memory of Mrs. Betty Aldridge  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Bobby  
LeCroy

In memory of Mr. John Matras  
Given by Mrs. Catherine Matras

In memory of Mr. George  
McCanless, Jr.  
Given by Mrs. Christel McCanless

In memory of Mr. Rex Mills  
Given by Mrs. Karin Mills

In memory of Mr. Guy Spencer, Jr.  
Given by Mrs. Sally Noori

In honor of Mrs. Debbie Davis  
Given by Mrs. Bobbie Norville

In honor of Mrs. Jan Brewer, Mrs.  
Debbie Davis, Ms. Zoey Davis,  
Mrs. Maya Kambeyana, Mr. Lewis  
Ingalls, Mr. Dan Shedroff, Mrs. Jeri  
Miller, Mr. Walt Miller  
Given by Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mr. Harvey Duncan,  
Mrs. Lizzie Duncan,  
Mrs. Elizabeth Ford, Ms. Lois Jaritz,  
Mrs. Eleanor Maguire,  
Mr. Fred Maguire, Mr. Jack Ray  
Given by Mr. Thomas Robinson

In memory of Mr. Kenneth Sanders  
Given by Mrs. Ann Sanders

In memory of Ms. Nell Davis  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Brent Smith

In memory of Mrs. Camille Solley  
Given by Mr. Steve Solley

In honor of Mr. Dwayne Duke  
Given by Mr. Luke Spears

In memory of Mr. Roy Stephenson  
Given by Mrs. Marlene Stephenson

In memory of Mrs. Judith Smith  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Bruce  
Thompson

In honor of Mrs. Sherry Bryant  
Given by Mrs. Edith Toney

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry  
Kilpatrick,  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Malcolm  
Given by Mrs. Edith Toney

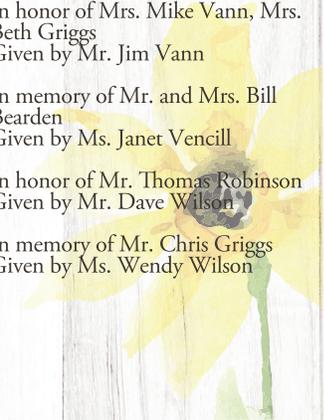
In memory of Mr. Gerald Bishop,  
Mr. Tom Carter, Mr. Bill Crump,  
Mr. Brian Clovis, Mrs. Brenda  
Dickens, Mrs. Janie Owens,  
Mrs. Meritha Thurman  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vann

In honor of Mrs. Mike Vann, Mrs.  
Beth Griggs  
Given by Mr. Jim Vann

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bill  
Bearden  
Given by Ms. Janet Vencill

In honor of Mr. Thomas Robinson  
Given by Mr. Dave Wilson

In memory of Mr. Chris Griggs  
Given by Ms. Wendy Wilson



*Donations:* Mrs. Sidney Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Barnes, Big Cove Women's Group, Boeing, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryant, Mrs. Robbie Burlison, Mrs. Debbie Chandler, Mrs. Brooke Chandler, Mr. David Ely, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Armand Fux, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gillespie, Ms. Renee Graham, Ms. Yvonne Hawkins, Mr. Roman Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Knothe, Ms. Jennifer Lord, Mayfair Church of Christ, Ms. Kristi Meacham, Dr. Ramsay Nuwayhid, Ms. Joanne Sanders, Mrs. Sarah Scheiman, Mrs. Mary Schrenk, Mrs. Sue Seward, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Sissom, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Tilley, Tinker Murdock Family Fund, Ms. Janet Vencill, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitten, Mrs. Judy Wilson

*No Show Gala:* Mrs. Shirley Ashburn, Mrs. Sidney Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Barfield, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bevis, Mrs. Cynthia Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. John Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Brady, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bryant, Mrs. Nancy Burg, Mrs. Rebecca Carstens, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Carter, Dr. and Mrs. Richard Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Davis, Ms. Afton DeLucca, Ms. Jane Diamantis, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Dinwiddie, Mr. and Mrs. David Ely, Mrs. Ashley Essner, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ezell, Mrs. Carole Finch, Mrs. Kelly Godwin, Ms. Beth Griggs, Ms. Tami Harvell, Mrs. Elizabeth Herrin, Mrs. Joanne Horn, Mrs. Cynthia Hughes, Mr. Roman Jennings, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Jones, Mrs. Maya Kambeyana, Mrs. Susan Kelly, Mrs. Donna Krebs, Mr. Shelby Kurizus, Dr. and Mrs. Troy Layton, Mr. and Mrs. David Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Doug Madison, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Massey, Mrs. Catherine Matras, Mrs. Christel McCanless, Ms. Lydia McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. James Miller, Mrs. Karin Mills, Mr. Ricky Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reynolds, Mrs. Nell Roberts, Mrs. Pat Roberson, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Scheiman, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Sissom, Mr. and Mrs. Brent Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Chris Smith, Mrs. Doris Smith, Mr. Steve Solley, Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Steger, Mrs. Leesa Stroud, Mrs. Donna Tignor, Ms. Edith Toney, Mrs. Sandra Vallely, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Vann, Ms. Elaine Wales, Ms. Wendy Wilson



*In Loving Memory:*  
Mrs. Judy Berry • Mr. Armand Fux  
Mrs. Clara Martin • Mr. Rex Mills  
Ms. Joséphine Moseby  
Mrs. Patti Patrick • Albert Vanhooose

*Special Thanks:*  
Bentley Family Fund  
H.C. Blake  
Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
Tinker Murdock Family Fund  
Mr. David Lewis

*\*Please contact us with information regarding unintentional omissions or misspelled names on these lists.*

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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



*It is our mission to provide support to patients with serious illnesses or disabilities, enabling them to maintain their independence through caring volunteers.*



THIS JOYFUL SNAPSHOT CAPTURES THE HEART OF FRIENDS, INC., WHERE VOLUNTEERS DON'T JUST DRIVE, THEY DELIVER *hope, connection, and dignity.*



Scan to learn the many ways you can help someone in need today.

