

May Birthdays

Katie Howlett	5/6
Kathlyn Brown	5/9
Lezlie Banks	5/17
Dorothy Daniel	5/20
Delores Rau	5/25
Michael Gillis	5/26
Debra Harris	5/29



The NEWSLETTER for SENIOR COMPANIONS



SPOTLIGHT: Mary Perkins 17 years as a Senior Companion

MAY 2016

Mary Perkins, 80 years young, has been a Senior Companion since 1999 -

17 years!! During that time she has served 35 clients. When asked why she has stuck with it so long she says it's very simple "I like the people. The people are good—sometimes there are problems in the family, but the people are good".

Mary who is a certified CNA and CMT brings many skills to her clients. In many ways she began her work as a Senior Companion when she was a 9-year-old "Willing Worker" at St. James Baptist Church. Through that program, Mary says she basically learned how to take care of old people. Over the years, she added to that early experience through her work at the Armour Home, Caldwell Nursing Home, Homesdale Convalescent Center, Jewish home and Gladstone Nursing Home.

Mary has worked with all kinds of clients and families—some wonderful and some challenging. Her secret when working with her clients, Mary notes, it is important to be respectful and not to insist on running the show—always wanting the client to do what you want them to do. When she meets with stubbornness she uses a bit of psychology—make your request and then go away and wait. When you come back and make your request again, often the client will then agree to your request. According to Mary, everyone needs to feel they are making their own decisions.

In addition to caring for older people, Mary has experience caring for young people. She has 6 children, 9 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, 10 nieces and 12 nephews. Congratulations Mary on 17 successful years as a Senior Companion.

We know the clients and their families you've worked with are glad you continue to be a Senior Companion. And so are we!!!



May timesheets must be received by our office no later than Thursday, June 9th. We will not have time to process and generate pay checks in time for the luncheon (June In-service) if your timesheet is received after that date. Checks for late timesheets will be mailed at a later date.

Mail timesheets to the Senior Companion Program, PO Box 32844, KCMO 64171. You can also fax them to (816) 753-2855.

Don't Miss It!

Tuesday, June 14th Annual Senior Companion Recognition Luncheon

Senior Companions of Lee's Summit and Clay County will join with the Kansas City SCs for the June In-service—the Annual Recognition Luncheon.

The luncheon will be held at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 620 East Armour Boulevard, KCMO 64109 from 9 AM to 1 PM. (Please adjust your Share-a-Fare or other transportation arrangements for pickup no earlier than 1:00 PM).

In-service Attendance

Your attendance at the monthly in-service training fulfills an important requirement in maintaining our federal grant. It's a time for you to receive continued training and an occasion to discuss the business of the Senior Companion Program with your colleagues, station supervisors or program leadership.

If you miss three in-services in a row, or if your attendance history establishes an irregular pattern (like leaving early), we may have to consider terminating you from the program.

2016 Income Documentation

Thanks to all of you who provided your 2016 Income Documentation.

At the beginning of each year the Corporation for National Community Service, from which we receive our funding, **requires** that we document income levels for all of our Senior Companions. This documentation effort insures the SC is eligible to receive stipend payments from this fund.

Just a reminder, ***we cannot issue paychecks to anyone from this point forward unless your income documentation has been provided to us.*** If you receive a memo in your paycheck envelope regarding income documentation please call our office. If you do not receive a memo then you are good-to-go.



Well, here's the final word.....

The Final Word on Transportation

“Volunteers who do not incur travel expenses (e.g., those who walk to their assignments, ride on free public transportation, or are passengers in car pools) are not eligible for reimbursement.”

Sarah Forgey, Program Officer

Have you changed your address or phone number?

Please let our office know when your phone number, street address or email address changes so we can update our database.

Not being able to communicate with you regarding business issues could result in undesirable outcomes.

We might lose you!

