



ICP Connections

News for our clients, families and community

Dear Friends and Families,

It's so hard to believe we are now more than four months into this pandemic that has turned all of our worlds upside down. I hope you and your families are in good health and spirits. Despite the heartaches and hardships that have come with this situation, I have found solace in unexpected pauses to count my blessings and in witnessing the many resilient, generous and creative efforts at work to continue important missions like ours in the midst of unprecedented challenges and uncertainty.



Here at ICP, we've continued to support older adults throughout this new COVID-19 environment with well-being checks, grocery shopping and delivery, and rides to critical medical appointments—all with precautions and protocols in place to protect our clients, volunteers and community. Isolation has long been a concern in regard to older adults, so in addition to well-being calls we've partnered with others in the community to keep our older adult friends connected by delivering flowers, cookies and greeting cards. Rest assured we are 100% committed to making whatever changes are necessary so we may continue to serve older adults.

One of many unfortunate consequences of the pandemic has been our need to find an alternative to our much-loved Fall Benefit. For everyone's safety, an in-person event is not feasible; however, our need for your generous support is still very much real. You'll see details for our playful "Non-Event" fundraiser on page 3, and it is my sincere hope that you and our generous community will still show up—from your couches!—to support ICP and older adults with vital services that are needed now more than ever. Our goal is for every single client or client family to participate in this important fundraiser, as any amount is helpful to keeping us on the road!

Thank you for being part of our ICP community. We wouldn't be here without you. We're celebrating 20 years of ICP this year and with your help we'll be serving and supporting older adults for another 20 years and beyond.

Enjoy your summer and may you and yours be happy, healthy and strong.

Janet Garreau, Executive Director

ICP is Committed to Serving Clients Through the Pandemic!

We've had to adjust services and safety protocols, and we are committed to keeping clients and our community healthy and connected during this trying time. Here are some March-June stats:

- 261 rides to critical medical appointments
- 442 well-being checks to clients, community members and volunteers
- 35 grocery and pharmacy deliveries
- Ongoing library delivery services once libraries reopened services
- 750+ Sending Sunshine and greeting cards to clients, with more on the way
- 104 flower arrangements delivered to clients and community members as part of our Petal Pushers program, May Day Flower Event and Flower Shop Fundraiser

Thank you to all of the amazing volunteers who made this happen!

COVID-19 SAFETY: Ensuring a safe ride for all

All clients should please adhere to the following safety procedures when taking a ride with ICP. Please note that at this time we continue to limit our ride services to medical appointments only. If you need grocery shopping or medication delivery services, please contact our office.

- If you test positive for COVID-19 and have had contact with ICP volunteers or staff, please call our office as soon as possible so we may inform those potentially exposed and apply proper quarantine protocols.
- Cancel your ride if you feel ill, have any COVID-related symptoms or have been exposed to someone who is ill or recently tested positive for COVID-19.
- Wash hands before entering a driver's vehicle.
- Wear a mask for the duration of your ride.
- Sit in the back seat for safe distancing.

All volunteers are directed to wash hands regularly, sanitize their vehicles and hands while on the road, and stay home if they feel ill or have any reason to believe they have been exposed.

Thank you for your patience and please call our main number at 708-354-9328 with any questions or concerns.

Our Heartfelt Thanks To...

Brian and Dominica Davis of Home Helpers Home Care for donating 100 bottles of hand sanitizer to keep our volunteers and clients safe!



Julie Suarez for donating homemade face masks for our clients and volunteers!

Y's Men's Club for donating \$1,000 from their Christmas Tree Sale to support ICP's mission.

Maria's Floral Studio and Christopher Mark Fine Flowers and Gifts for partnering with us for our Flower Shop Fundraiser, and **State Farm Agents Kathy Dierkes, Bill Brennan, Drew Karis, Mark Niemiec and Linda Antonietti** for sponsoring this special event that raised much-needed ICP funding, supported local florists working to stay afloat in this challenging time, and put a smile on the faces of some very deserving flower recipients! Thank you also to all who purchased a bouquet and those who volunteered!



WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!

Kara Boyle

Mary Ann Johnson

Annie Davis-Korelc

Maura Oeth

Laura Dvorak

Brad Promisel

Delta Farias

Maureen Hamor

Michelle Hennessy



Like us on Facebook to keep up with the latest ICP news and events!



Congratulations to ICP volunteers **Julianne Rizzo** (also Board member!), **Jay Copp** and **Lulu Kulaga** for being featured in Suburban Life for their contributions to the community as COVID Heroes! You are wonderful examples of care and service to others during this especially challenging time.

STAY



HOME

TO KEEP US ON THE ROAD

This year, for the safety of our ICP community, we're replacing our 2020 Fall Benefit with a special NON-Event fundraiser.

We love our wonderful friends and supporters, but we do NOT want to see your lovely faces at this NON-Event. We mean it.

Stay on your couch. If you show up, we will NOT be there.

Instead, show your support by making a donation from your couch or office chair.

➔ Because this very important event is NOT happening. ➔

Grab your "ticket" before they're gone so you can NOT attend!

Included with your "ticket"

~~cocktails~~ ~~appetizers~~ ~~music~~ ~~dancing~~ ~~wine pull~~ ~~silent auction~~

Wait, it gets even better.....You do NOT need to wear a mask or practice social distancing because this event is NOT actually happening!

And now for the BEST part of this NON-Event...

While we will miss seeing everyone in person, with no event costs this year we can funnel as much money as possible toward our mission!

100% of your "ticket" purchase/donation is tax deductible and will go toward reinstating our mission to maximize the independence and well-being of older adults by enabling connections with others in their community.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT WITH A DONATION

Online: <http://bit.do/fGfGY>

Text: ICP to "88793"

Email: interfaithcommunitypartners@gmail.com

Mail check to: P.O. Box 310, La Grange, IL 60525

Phone: (708) 354-9328



Scan me to donate!

For a minimum \$50 donation, you will receive an ICP logo mask and a cocktail and appetizer recipe from a local restaurant.



Our wish is for all clients and client families to participate—every dollar makes a difference!

Please look into your heart and consider donating whatever you would have contributed at our fall benefit.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!!!

Donations will be accepted through August 20, 2020.

THE EVENT IS IMAGINARY, BUT THE NEED IS REAL!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Kate Marshall

Kate Marshall has been with ICP from the beginning! In 1999, as a social worker with Aging Care Connections, Kate was part of the team that formed ICP and

helped shape our mission. She has been by our side ever since, supporting ICP however she can and partnering with us to distribute meals to older adults through her holiday meal program.

Kate's commitment to older adults dates back to her days volunteering with Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly, an organization dedicated to relieving isolation and loneliness among Chicago elders. In 1982, Kate and her husband, Jim, began a Holiday Meals on Wheels program to serve older adults in the western suburbs. At the time, this allowed Kate, Jim and new baby Emily to spend more time together by preparing and delivering meals from their own home.

The Marshall's meal program continued to grow and, in 1988, moved from their home kitchen to St. Barbara's Parish Center kitchen in Brookfield (now known as Holy Guardian Angel Parish). The program is still going strong and sends out 70-90 meals each Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas!

"I really see the holiday meal program as my ministry. I love doing it and couldn't imagine my life without it," says Kate.

ICP is one of several social service agencies who recommend clients for the meal program, and the ICP Board and volunteers assist Kate with delivering the meals to these very deserving recipients.

"We are so thrilled to partner with Kate and Holy Guardian Angel Parish to bring these special meals to older adults in the community," says Janet Garreau, ICP Executive Director.

The holiday meal program continues to be a family mission with Kate's daughter Emily, son-in-law Michael and their three children all participating.

When Kate's not cooking and delivering meals, she's helping care for her grandchildren and serves as an Associate of the Congregation of St. Joseph.

Thank you, Kate! You are an inspiration!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Jay Copp



Jay Copp first became interested in ICP and our mission several years ago while reading an article in his church bulletin. Jay couldn't commit to volunteering at that time, but he kept ICP in the back of his mind. Retirement eventually afforded the opportunity to spend more time volunteering and Jay signed on as an ICP driver in March 2019. In just over a year, he has cheerfully provided 83 rides for our clients, equating to 693 miles and nearly 69 hours of his time! Jay's calming, gentle demeanor makes clients feel safe and comfortable with him.

Jay says volunteering with ICP is particularly fulfilling because he is face-to-face with the people he's helping.

"I come in direct contact with clients who need and appreciate the services that ICP provides," says Jay. "It's such a good feeling to help someone in person, to connect with them and see with my own eyes how I'm helping them and to feel their appreciation. I've volunteered elsewhere and written donation checks, which are both great things to do, but nothing has been as gratifying as volunteering with ICP."

Personal experience connects Jay to ICP as well. "I can really relate to our clients' needs because I see similar needs in my 90-year-old Dad," says Jay.

Jay is an accomplished freelance writer who writes regularly for West Suburban Living Magazine among many others. With a full family life, hobbies and his writing, Jay appreciates that ICP has very flexible volunteer hours and he can easily volunteer at times that suit his schedule.

When he's not writing or behind the wheel driving ICP clients, Jay enjoys biking, reading nonfiction and spending time with his wife, Laura, and their three adult sons. Due to the current coronavirus situation, the whole family is back home and Jay has enjoyed the unexpected bonding time playing games and hanging out together.

Thank you, Jay, for your kind service. We are so grateful to have you driving and caring for ICP clients!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Terri Fischer

Terri Fischer first learned about ICP in 2017, when the La Grange Highlands Women's Club voted ICP as their Charity of the Year. Impressed with our mission,

Terri sought out more information and found she was interested in becoming a volunteer driver. Driving ICP clients proved fulfilling to Terri and, since joining us in October 2017, she has generously driven our clients 1,320 miles, translating to 187 client trips and 170 volunteer hours!

Terri connected with the ICP mission in part due to her own experience with an aging parent. Terri's mom was a resident at Plymouth Place for several years and, during that time, Terri and her young daughters would spend lots of time with her.

"Keeping connected was so important for my mom and our family, and I realize not every older adult is so lucky to have family nearby or frequent visitors," says Terri. "This makes services like ICP so important to the well-being of older adults in a community."

Beyond connecting to our mission, Terri was drawn to the flexibility of volunteering with ICP and appreciates that she can self-assign driving clients based on her schedule.

Terri, a true community volunteer, also gives her time as a Board member for Friends of the La Grange Library, as a Docent for Indian Head Park Heritage Library, fostering dogs for Bark from the Heart Rescue, and walking dogs and helping at the front desk at Hinsdale Humane Society.

When she's not volunteering, you can find Terri reading, gardening and spending time with her family. She and her husband Neal have been married for 24 years and have two amazing and bright daughters, Allison and Julia.

Thank you, Terri, for sharing your time and generous spirit with ICP and our clients!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Mardel Graffy



Mardel Graffy recalls first learning of ICP and our volunteer opportunities through her church bulletin and making a mental note to volunteer once she retired. Lucky for us, Mardel followed through on her interest and became an ICP volunteer driver in June 2018. Since then, she has generously driven our clients 1,480 miles, providing 196 client rides and more than 185 volunteer service hours!

Mardel took her ICP commitment a step further in 2019 by joining our Board of Directors, where she provides valuable guidance based on her wealth of business experience and her commitment to our mission and community.

Mardel values giving back to her community and enjoys interacting with older adults. "I think older adults are just terrific," says Mardel. "I meet so many interesting personalities with great stories and experiences to share."

Along with helping our clients, Mardel finds satisfaction in knowing she is helping their families as well. She says volunteering with ICP reminds her of all she has to be grateful for. From a practical standpoint, Mardel appreciates that as an ICP driver she has the freedom of self-assigning herself to days and times that work for her schedule.

Mardel also volunteers for Ladder Up, where she helps prepare tax returns for low income earners under the VITA tax program.

When Mardel is not volunteering, you can find her playing pickleball with friends, gardening with her church group and enjoying time with her siblings, nieces and nephews—often in Michigan. Her cat, Winston, keeps her company as well, when he's not too busy moving from window to window in her home to bird watch and bask in the sun.

Thank you, Mardel, for the many kind ways you contribute to ICP and support older adults!

THANK YOU to the many volunteers who called ICP to assist older adults during the shelter-in-place mandate!



Kind Words from our Clients

"Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers. During these days of social distancing, it brought a ray of sunshine into my life. Thank you again for remembering me."

"I want to thank you for my pretty birthday card; that was so thoughtful of you."

"Your kind act of love has been a bright spot in my life! Your service to us seniors is very much appreciated. Thank you and God bless you all!"

"The flowers from flower friends meant so much to me, in these hard times especially. I was truly touched."

"Thank you for all you do! Please stay safe. All the best."

"Thank you so much for your wonderful service to those of us who no longer drive. It is more than a service, it is a ministry!"

Board Member News

Congratulations to ICP Board Member Libby Koziarz for her success and recognition as a Regional 30 Under 40 award recipient! The Regional 30 Under 40 is awarded by the West Suburban Chamber of Commerce and Industry, honoring 30 of the region's young professionals who are making a deep impact on our local communities. Congratulations Libby!



Summer Intern Return!

We're thrilled that Kate Beja will intern with us again this summer working with ICP staff on marketing, events, and client contact.

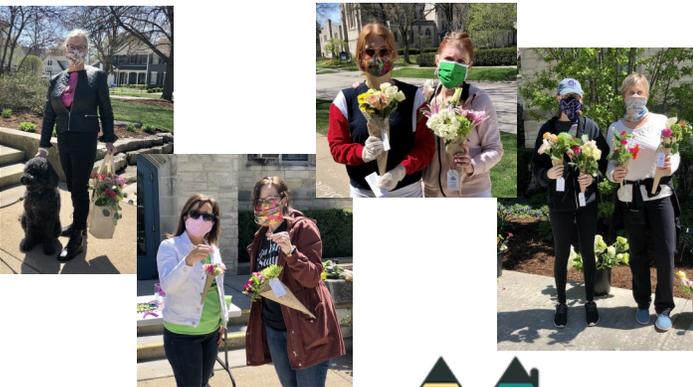
Welcome back, Kate!



Clients: Blog with us! Do you have an interesting or entertaining story to share? Whether it's related to ICP services or not, we want to feature clients and their experiences on our blog. If you would like to participate, contact the office to learn more!

ICP IN THE COMMUNITY!

Lifting Spirits with our May Day Flower Event



La Grange Rolls With It Party Cart



ICP is joining the La Grange Summer Art Project again this year with a fun party cart currently on display outside of Anderson's Book Store on La Grange Road at Calendar Court. Thank you to our cart artist, Kimberly Arndt, and to the Flaim, Behar, and Urbashich family for sponsoring! Watch our social media and emails for details on how this cheerful cart could become yours!



Thank you to the generous organizations who sponsor our newsletter!



*Catherine's
Community Closet
Sharon Flaim, Founder
part of WSCCJF*



BROOKFIELD FINANCIAL PLANS, INC.

Linda Sokol Francis E.A.

708-485-3439

Shannon Rapp, Owner
shannon@blueskycares.com
(708) 482-7424 - O
(708) 567-8687 - C



7041 S. Willow Springs Rd.
Suite 101
Countryside, IL 60525
www.blueskycares.com



**HITZEMAN FUNERAL HOME
& CREMATION SERVICES**
HONORING THE LIVES OF LOVED ONES SINCE 1904

Serving the Community with Care & Support for 5 Generations.

24 Hour Personal Service
No Obligation Consultations

708-485-2000

9445 W. 31st Street · Brookfield, IL 60513
www.HitzemanFuneral.com



Philip Wagler, Agent
140 N La Grange Rd Ste 7
Bus: (708) 215-2472



**COME CHECK OUT OUR
UNIQUE BOUTIQUE STYLE
COMMUNITY
IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN LAGRANGE**

*We Are An Independent Senior Living
Community*

51 East Cossitt Avenue * LaGrange, IL 60525
Call Angie for a Tour Today! (708)354-7600

Law Office of Eileen R. Fitzgerald
Eileen R. Fitzgerald, J.D., L.L.M.
1561 Warren Ave. Downers Grove, IL 60515
Phone: (630) 493-4380
www.efitzlaw.com

Concentrating in Elder Law
Wills, trusts, estate planning, Powers of attorney;
probate; Medicaid for nursing home residents

Thank you to the generous organizations who sponsor our newsletter!

FOR EXPERIENCED AND COMPASSIONATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Concentrating in the areas of:

Estate Planning • Special Needs Planning
Estate Administration • Asset Protection • Elder Law
Medicaid Planning • VA Benefits
Residential Real Estate

**Wilson
Wilson &**

ESTATE PLANNING &
ELDER LAW LLC

Our legacy is protecting yours.

CALL 708-482-7090

1023 W. 55th St., Suite 110, LaGrange, IL 60525

Also serving: Northbrook • Warrenville • Orland Park

www.wilsonwilsonllc.com

Independence-4-Seniors Home Care

Award
Winning



Home
Care

Compassionate care
for the times you
can't be there

Call for a complimentary
assessment

630-323-4665

independence4seniors.com



Joan M. O'Brien,
RN, MSN, CDP®
Owner



Midwest PC Group
.com

Complete Technology Support
for

Law Offices
Medical Practices
Accountants
and more...



630-204-5756



Your life...reimagined

Bethlehem Woods helps you enjoy an active
retirement with two lifestyle options —
independent living or assisted living.

Call 708-316-0518 to schedule your visit today!



© Ascension 2020. All rights reserved.

Thank you to the generous organizations who sponsor our newsletter!



**WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT
INTERFAITH
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS**

The
**COMMUNITY BANK of
WESTERN SPRINGS®**

A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK
1000 Hillgrove Ave. | Western Springs, IL 60558
708-246-7100 | www.communitybankws.com

The Community Bank of Western Springs is a branch of Hinsdale Bank & Trust Company, N.A. **MEMBER FDIC** 



Plan on a more *colorful* life.

Turn your future into a masterpiece with our award-winning Life Enrichment program.

**Learn more at
PlymouthPlace.org
or give us a call at 708-482-6511.**

*Plymouth
Place*
Senior Living

315 N. La Grange Road | La Grange Park, IL 60526



**SENIOR
LIVING
MADE**

**When it's time to consider
senior housing, call us.**

A free service that navigates senior housing options. We provide personalized resources and tour communities to find the "right" fit.

Call today! 708-929-8221



 **oasis**
SENIOR ADVISORS.

Julianne Rizzo, RN, MBA, CSA
Certified Senior Advisor®
JRizzo@YourOasisAdvisor.com
OasisSeniorAdvisors.com/SouthwestChicago



Home Helpers
is Taking Care of the Greatest Generation...Yours.

You & your family deserve the best home care. From a few hours to 24/7 care, we're there when and where you need us!

- Light Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Grocery Shopping
- Meal Preparation
- Errand Services
- Prescription Pick-Up
- Escort To & From Doctors
- Much More!

630-323-7231
www.HomeHelpersHomeCare.com/Hinsdale


Making *Life Easier*®

Each office is independently owned & operated.



P.O. Box 310
La Grange, IL 60525
Phone: 708-354-9328

Email: InterfaithCommunityPartners@gmail.com
Web: InterfaithCommunityPartners.org

Board of Directors

President

Ken Kostal

Vice President

Ben Boyd

Secretary

Gaye Wagner

Treasurer

Andy Gore

Mary Pat Flaherty

Sharon Flaim

Mardel Graffy

Bob Grecco

Libby Koziarz

Julianne Rizzo

Executive Director

Janet Garreau

Staff

Karen Frank

Peggy Patino

Eileen Tumpach

Eileen Uzarski

Amy Watkins



WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER NEWSLETTER!

- Updates to services and protocols in response to COVID-19
- How YOU can stay at home to keep us on the road!
- Volunteer superstars serving clients through the pandemic
- ICP in the community
- ...and much more!

OUR MISSION

The mission of Interfaith Community Partners is to maximize the independence and well-being of older adults by enabling connections with others in their community.

OUR SERVICES

Our core service is providing older adults with safe, accompanied transportation to medical appointments, therapies and life-enhancing errands. We also provide home visits and phone calls to check in on older adults, deliver their library materials, and brighten their days however we can. Through our Petal Pushers program, volunteers and local garden clubs re-purpose donated flowers into bouquets for clients and business partners.

COMMUNITIES SERVED

Broadview - Brookfield - Burr Ridge - Clarendon Hills - Countryside - Darien - Downers Grove - Hinsdale - Hodgkins - Indian Head Park - La Grange - La Grange Park - Lyons - McCook - North Riverside - Oak Brook - Summit - Westchester - Western Springs - Westmont - Willowbrook - Willow Springs