### EASTERN NEBRASKA OFFICE ON AGING

## APRIL 2022



### **April is National Volunteer Month**

National Volunteer Month is celebrated in April to thank volunteers for the many hours of service they provide to make a difference in the lives of many others in their communities across the globe. Closer to home, ENOA and the SeniorHelp Program staff, would like to thank our SeniorHelp volunteers for truly changing the lives of the older people in our service area with your generous acts of service.

The April issue of <u>New Horizons</u>, a publication of the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, highlighted National Volunteer Month. SeniorHelp Program Coordinator, Karen Kelly, described the program in this way:

"The SeniorHelp Volunteer Program has the unique ability to engage volunteers of all ages, with wideranging educational, social, and occupational backgrounds to provide a variety of services. The program has children as young as preschool age up to 99 yrs. old, and every age in between. SeniorHelp volunteers are some of the busiest folks you'll meet –working, in school, raising families, active military and dynamic retirees. They are go-getters and problem solvers, full of kindness, generosity and compassion. SeniorHelp volunteers contribute valuable personal time directly to those they help. They also frequently donate to ENOA both monetarily and with requested goods and food items for special projects. SeniorHelp volunteers greatly expand ENOA's capacity to meet the diverse needs of older adults in our community."

Here are some of the services SeniorHelp volunteers provide:

- \* Companionship, including in-person, telephone visiting, and telephone reassurance
- \* Escort transportation
- Household Assistance
- ∗ Handyman
- ★ Lawn Mowing
- ★ Meals on Wheels
- \* Painting
- \* Snow Removal
- ★ Yard Work

- Produce Delivery, Holiday Gift Delivery, and other Special Projects

Not mentioned in the list are the many intangible gifts you share with our clients. Thank you, SeniorHelp Volunteers, for always being a listening ear, an open heart, and a advocate for our communities' older adults!

#### Lawn Mowing Season is Here

An email was sent, earlier this month, to those who indicated a preference for lawn mowing. Many of you who have been matched to clients for mowing in the past will be matched again to those same clients for the 2022 season. (We will send out any new lawn mowing requests as we receive them.)



The guidelines for lawn mowing are to mow often enough to keep the client's property in compliance with city codes. Generally, lawns will need to be mowed every 7-10 days on average, with consideration to changes in weather. Volunteers are not expected to trim edges, rake, or do any other yard work unless this is specifically asked, and communicated, in the request.

Free yard waste collection for Omaha residents will be May 2—June 10. Please let us know if you would like to add lawn mowing to your SeniorHelp opportunity preferences.



Please remember to report your time to Melissa (seniorhelp.program@enoa.org) <u>every</u> month, even if your monthly total is 0 hours. Thanks!

#### aadaadaadaadaadaada a **APRIL**

SENIORHELP

VOLUNTEER ANNIVERSARIES

## THREE YEARS

Jeanne D. Dede G. Sarah G. Richard H. Mitch M. Roxanne R.

#### FOUR TO SIX YEARS

Bob B. David D. Michelle E. June F.

#### SEVEN TO THIRTEEN YEARS

Nate B. Nancy K. Andy Q.

### NINETEEN YEARS

д Dave K.

# Notes of Appreciation

New volunteer **Chuck G.** received praise from client *Luella P.* Chuck had responded to his first opportunity to help with yard work for her and her husband.

Luella thanked Chuck for his help weeding two flower beds, which helps the couple have pride in their yard, and helps them stay independent in their home. Thank you, Chuck!

JoEllen H. was very grateful for yardwork that SeniorHelp volunteer *Larry S.* performed for her. She left us this message,

"Larry did some yardwork for me today and he is just fantastic. Would you relay to him my sincere thanks? He raked some leaves around my plants. I am so thankful and thankful to Larry!"

Thank you to all volunteers who helped us deliver produce bags in April! Your generous gifts of your time, your fuel, and your care are very much appreciated!



#### THE SENIORHELP

PROGRAM

EASTERN NEBRASKA OFFICE ON AGING

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SeniorHelp is sponsored by the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging