



Faith in Action

Spring 2024

FIA Staff

Jennifer Plyburn,
Executive Director

Blair Gardner,
Admin. Assistant

Contents

Executive	2
Director's Letter	
FIA "Out and About" & Paint Party Fundraiser	3
Our "Faith"ful Supporters	4
Volunteer Month, Special Thanks	5

Since November 2023, Faith in Action of the River Cities has

- ◆ Provided 413 hours of services to care receivers
- ◆ Served 55 care receivers
- ◆ Added 9 new volunteers
- ◆ Added 23 new care receivers

***Faith in Action
Of the River Cities***
1900 3rd Avenue
Huntington, WV 25703
304 -697-1274
E-mail:
office@fiarivercities.org
www.fiarivercities.org



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FIA Volunteer, Mitzi Cyrus, was happy to provide transportation for one of our Care Receivers and "Jack" to the Help for Animals Clinic.

THANK YOU!!!

*It is not how much we
DO,
but how much
LOVE
we put in the doing.*



*It is not how much we
GIVE,
but how much
LOVE
we put in the giving.*

MOTHER TERESA



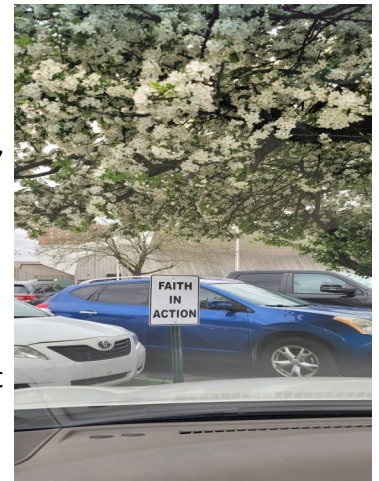
A food box prepared for a Care Receiver with special dietary needs.

Faith in Action of the River Cities is an inter-faith ministry that provides non-medical assistance to elderly and chronically disabled adults in our communities. Faith in Action of the River Cities is a member of the National Volunteer Caregiving Network.



Hello!

Happy Spring! I have now experienced every season with Faith in Action, as I just recently celebrated my first anniversary as Executive Director. What a year it has been! Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter...each season beautiful, busy, and blessed! Every morning, as I arrive at work and park my car, I send a photo and brief text message to my husband to let him know that I have arrived safely. He responds with an encouraging message and good wishes. It's a great way to start the day! A typical day in the office involves answering and returning many phone calls, responding to emails, scheduling appointments for Care Receivers, coordinating that schedule of appointments with our Volunteers, processing applications, and taking care of necessary business—paying bills, sending out cards and other correspondence, training new volunteers, making bank deposits, preparing for board meetings and public presentations, ordering supplies, making trips to the post office, and always brainstorming ways to better meet the needs of those we provide services to in our community, while also hoping and praying for the people and resources to help make that possible. There are grants to be written and deadlines to meet. There's a lot going on IN the office, and also OUTSIDE the office, as our wonderful Volunteers crisscross the community from the country roads of rural eastern Cabell County to the gently rolling hills of Wayne County...over the river to Lawrence County, Ohio,...up and down the streets of downtown Huntington and in and out of neighborhoods from Lavalette to Milton, and C-K to Barboursville! They have provided our Care Receivers with transportation to doctor and dental appointments, physical therapy, hair appointments, grocery shopping, libraries, and banks. They have accompanied them to medical procedures that require someone being present with the patient. Food boxes are often picked up and delivered, as well as other personal items that a Care Receiver may need. Reassurance Calls are made to provide friendly conversation and to let our Care Receivers know that someone cares about them. Many times, we receive requests for someone to help with simple household chores. Recently, a Care Receiver needed help getting his dog to the veterinarian for shots. Our Volunteers have met these needs and more. They are truly living up to the name FAITH IN ACTION, as they serve others. I recently spoke with our founder and first Executive Director, Laura Gilliam, who shared memories of her time with Faith in Action of the River Cities and expressed her gratitude for being able to help organize and “lay the groundwork” to assist in bringing together those who need help and those who want to help others. Those early efforts have allowed us to build on “solid ground,” thanks to the wonderful work and faithful service provided by Laura and countless others in our 28 year history! Like Laura, I too, took a “leap of faith” in accepting this position with Faith in Action. We both agreed that serving in this position was an answer to a calling. It has been a blessing to witness the many ways Faith in Action has made a difference in the lives of not only those being served, but also those who serve. The dream and vision that Laura Gilliam had in 1996 continues today. With your continued support, we can help enhance the quality of life for older adults and chronically disabled individuals within our communities for many years to come!



Blessings!

Jennifer Plyburn



FAITH IN ACTION "Out and About" in our community...

It's always a joy to have an opportunity to share about Faith in Action! Jennifer and Blair attended the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Party at City National Bank and participated in the Woodlands Christmas Bazaar in December. Jennifer was the guest speaker for the Milton Community Lenten Luncheon in March and for the Marshall University Emeritus Club Luncheon at the Woodlands and the St. Joseph Catholic Church Women's Guild in April. If your group would like to schedule a presentation, please call our office at 304-697-1274. We would be very happy to come share about Faith in Action!



Rev. Nancy Henderson White, Milton UMC
and Jennifer Plyburn, Faith in Action



COMING SOON...SPRING WREATH PAINT PARTY!

12" x 12" Spring Wreath Painting \$30.00/person

Monday, May 6th 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.

Pea Ridge United Methodist Fellowship Hall

5747 East Pea Ridge Road, Huntington, WV



Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a fun evening of fellowship and an opportunity to support Faith in Action while creating your own masterpiece! Artist Julia Conley will provide all of the supplies and guide us through the steps to create a beautiful Spring Wreath painting! These will be perfect for your home, office, or to give as a gift! Mother's Day is the following Sunday! Please invite your family and friends to participate! Space IS limited, so call the office soon at 304-697-1274 and get on our Spring Wreath Paint Party list! We look forward to seeing you there!

ALL PUZZLES ARE NOW ON SALE FOR \$10 EACH!

Area Churches and Marshall Tribute

puzzles make great gifts!

Your puzzle purchase supports

Faith in Action!

Call us today or stop by our office!





Our “Faith”ful Supporters

Mike & Pauline Nuce
Barbara E. Ladner
David & Jane Pancake
Arthur & Myra Lydick
Peggy & Rick Brown
Margaret Stone
James & Jean Hosier
William & Suzanne Ellis
Chris Maniskas
Nat & Debra DeBruin
Jack & Susan Welch
Judith Hayes
Rev. Jim & Jennifer Plyburn
Bill & Blair Gardner
Ora Muth
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Lois Broyles
Judy Eblin
Tom & Nancy Hanshaw
Antoinette Paas
Mary Jeffrey
Bob Palmer
Nick & Mary Reynolds
Harriett Harless
Rev. David & Janice Erenrich
Katrina Childers

Betty Oquich
Julia Schreiber
Richard & Peggy Adkins
Carolyn Stone
Marian Tissenbaum
Josephine Fidler
Carolyn Bagby
Suzanne Jones
Sidney Barton
Randy Doss
Lois Bickerton
Pamela Maynard
Carol & June Eiselstein
Linda Turner
Suzi Brodof
Diana Maue
Elsa Mangiaura
Kelly Carothers
Mike & Debbie Conley
Chyrl Budd
Debra Coleman
Irvin Scarberrry
Mary Lind Zitter
Karen Turman
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Don Williams

Neighborhood Investment Partners

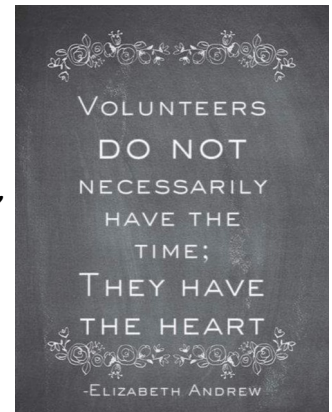
Ron & Susan DeTemple
Wallace B. Harris
Larry & Linda Pittman
Donald & Sandy Williams
Sue D. Woods
Peggy Saunders
Jimmy and Melony Fitzwater
Thomas Cannon
Ed Seiler
Joye Martin
Frank & Judith Hayes

Pilot Club of Huntington City National Bank
Network for Good Kroger Vivid Salon
Booktenders Glenn's Sporting Goods
Beverly Hills United Methodist Women
Dillon Chapel United Methodist Women
Cabell County Commission, Senior Excess Levy
Heritage Farm Museum & Village
Wildflower Gift Gallery Red Caboose



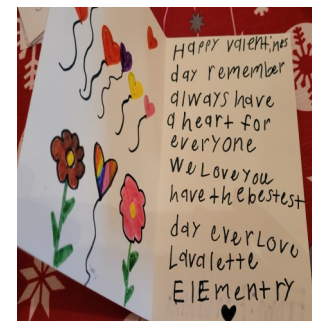
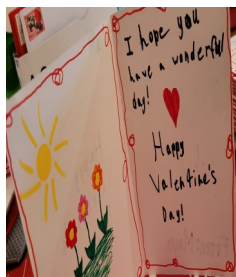
April is Global Volunteer Month that recognizes the profound impact each of us can make through volunteering. It's also National Volunteer Month. Established in 1974, the United States celebrates throughout the month and also with a Volunteer Appreciation Week the third week of April. This year's theme is "Celebrate Service" - an opportunity to shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve. Faith in Action is very grateful for our Volunteers who provide a variety of services to our Care Receivers. They are truly the heart of our organization and we wish to "shine a light" on these special folks! The following persons have served as active volunteers in the past year...

Cassie Bailes, Nancy Bandy, Amer Bashadi, Lois Broyles, Mitzi Cyrus, Debra DeBruin, Nat DeBruin, Norma Denning, Randy Doss, Suzanne Ellis, Roberta Ferguson, Kathy Jackson, Robert Jackson, Alexander Lee, Lexa Lewis, Selby Litton, Margie Longfellow, Chris Maniskas, Megan Morral, Tim Muth, Cheryl Parsons, Jim Plyburn, Tom Pressman, Margaret Reichenbecher, Vernon Reichenbecher, Sally Summerfield, Ann Thornburg, and Cathy Twedt **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!**



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE STUDENTS OF LAVALETTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

The students of Lavalette Elementary School partnered with Faith in Action to create Valentine's Day cards that were mailed to our Care Receivers. Principal Allie Brewer, Art Teacher Madison Perdue, and the staff of LES provide wonderful guidance, instruction, and support to their students. The children enjoy doing projects that involve caring for others and volunteering in their community. We received so many calls, messages, and cards of appreciation from Care Receivers who were so thrilled to receive these sweet cards!



Faith in Action is very grateful to all who support us with gifts that enable us to provide the services so greatly needed in our community. When you make a financial contribution, volunteer your time, tell others about FIA, or share your talents, you are providing Faith in Action with a gift! Please use the enclosed envelope to mail your donation to Faith in Action today or call and ask how you can put your faith in action! Your support is a gift that we truly appreciate! THANK YOU!!!

FAITH IN ACTION of the River Cities
1900 3rd Avenue
Huntington, West Virginia 25703

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

If you would prefer to receive future newsletters by email, please contact the Faith in Action office by phone at 304-697-1274 or by email at office@fiarivercities.org.

"The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

– William Shakespeare