



Marshfield  
Medical Center  
Beaver Dam

# Volunteer News

July - August - September 2020

## ***Volunteer Strength***

Stay connected to people! In 1987 AT&T ran a commercial on a kid at college calling home to connect with his family. This of course is back in the day when 19" televisions were watched by many with far less channels to choose from and yes phones were on the wall with long cords so you could walk to several rooms of your home while in a phone conversation. Wow, this took life to a new level, dad could sit on his recliner, eat his supper, watch t.v. and talk on the phone all at the same time. I'm sure by now your memory has kicked in with other moments of what the 80's were like. But what is scary is I have recently said things like, "do you remember how good life was in February, yes February of this year!" Not sure about you but I have turned to the phone more than normal to connect with people who I haven't been able to see face to face. So let's try to stay connected the best we can, in the 80's it was the phone and today we have many more options to allow us to be in touch with others.

One of the biggest benefits of volunteering has been the social connection it provides to many. Life as we know it has changed in many ways over the past four months and may continue to change in the months to come. But what can we learn from this experience? Is it perhaps possible that "social distancing" can bring us closer together? Think about it? Is there a silver lining in knowing that when we distance ourselves it can increase added awareness for social connection that leads to intentional time taken to connect with family and loved ones. Maybe through this moment in our lives we will renew our commitment to spend time with those who we may have taken for granted due to busy schedules and lack of focus on what really matters and is important to each of us. Enjoy the people who are important to you during this time!

Volunteers at Marshfield Medical Center—Beaver Dam have been missed and we are all looking forward to their return. During this time of preparing for the return of volunteers, questions have been asked regarding what this process will look like. Below are some answers to some of the questions you may have asked.

### Some frequently asked questions (FAQ'S)

**When will volunteers begin returning?** That answer is based on a number of things, and we have a tentative plan in place for when volunteers with non-patient contact can return. All of our volunteers are important to MMC-BD as we remain focused on safety and using precautions to protect everyone involved. Some volunteers are starting to return and are being trained and placed in areas that have been selected as safe for volunteering with proper precautions taken. COVID training will occur prior to resuming your volunteer role.

**Is it ok if I'm not ready to return to volunteering?** Yes. Volunteers are not obligated to return at this time and we would want every person to make the right decision for them to return based on their own comfort level. Only you can make this decision, taking into account your own health and well-being, the health and well-being of family members, and many other factors. Frequently asked COVID questions can be found at <https://www.marshfieldclinic.org/specialties/infectious-diseases/covid-19-faq>. We look forward to seeing your return when the time is right and will work with you to place you in your regular volunteer assignment.

**Will volunteers be screened when entering the hospital?** You will be screened when coming into volunteer at the hospital at one of two employee entrances. They are located at the front Vita Park entrance which is to the left of the hospital's main entrance and 130 Warren Street entrance B which is on the other side of the hospital's main entrance. Screening symptom questions will be asked and your temperature will be taken.

**Will we need to wear masks?** Yes. It is mandatory that everyone at the hospital wear a mask. Please plan to wear a face mask prior to entering the hospital, if you do not have a face mask one will be provided for you.

**What should I do if I find out I have been exposed to COVID-19?** Call your care provider for direction. If you are scheduled to volunteer contact Volunteer Services at 920-887-5988. If you have had "close contact" with a known diagnosed COVID-19 person, you will need to home quarantine for 14 days. "Close Contact" includes anyone you live with, or have been within 6 feet of their airway for 15 minutes or more (especially if they were unmasked) during their time of communicability.

**Will I have to take a COVID test before I return?** No. You are not required to take a COVID test upon returning. Volunteers comply with the same protocols as employees: social distancing and wearing a mask.

**What if I have additional questions or concerns about returning to volunteering at MMC-BD?** Please contact Volunteer Manager Dan Moritz at 920-887-5988.