

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Fara Waugh

When SourcePoint was founded nearly 31 years ago, it was founded through the kindness of community members like yourselves who recognized the need for and importance of coordinated aging services in our county. It was volunteers who helped us put the first senior services levy on the ballot in 1994. It was volunteers who led

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THE SHARING ISSUE

This is a "Sharing Issue" and by that we mean, *please forward this link to others you know who might be encouraged to volunteer at SourcePoint.* Although only one person in our organization has the official title of "volunteer recruiter" the role of recruiting volunteer talent is a job shared by everyone engaged in our mission. As always, our best scouts are our volunteers! Who better to speak about serving in a capacity that works toward the goal of creating a healthy, happy, and thriving senior community? The pandemic not only upended life as we know it, but also changed the way people volunteer. Since the pandemic started, the interest in "informal" volunteering – like making lunch for an older neighbor – has increased over "formal volunteering" – like delivering meals under the umbrella of SourcePoint's Meals on Wheels program. Currently, 65% of nonprofits report that their volunteer numbers are lower than pre-pandemic levels.

www.civicchamps.com/post/the-state-of-nonprofit-volunteerism-2023

While SourcePoint's new volunteer numbers have maintained a steady pace, we've seen a decrease in interest in roles that require serving outside of the building. According to Meals on Wheels America, the fastest growing segment of the population in America is the 85+ age group. The number of American citizens over aged 60 is projected to double in coming decades and the two-million-member volunteer meal delivery pool cannot keep up. As the older population rises, the need for services rises, and the need for volunteers rises.

Spread the word! Now is the time to boast about the good work you do and the benefits of partnering with a nonprofit organization so others will want to follow you into service!



Sandy Coffee sharing her love of volunteering.

MEALS ON WHEELS IN A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD



Thanks to the work of hundreds of volunteers, SourcePoint's Meals

on Wheels program never missed a beat during the pandemic and, in 2022, our home-delivered and community café meals combined grew by 20%. In 2023, growth through April was up another 17% over the 2022 figures. "Because of the growth in our county, we are serving more clients than ever," says Karen Pillion, SourcePoint's Nutrition Program Administrator. "Which means our routes are growing and the only way we have to control route growth is by dividing them into smaller routes." In the last year, four new meal routes were created after dividing four existing routes, two in Southern Delaware County and two in Sunbury.

"We would like to divide more routes, but we can't until we have more volunteers" says Karen. Each new route requires at least five new volunteers.

Increasing populations not only brings increased clients, but increased traffic, further complicating

the creation of manageable meal routes. "We want to give the volunteer the best possible experience, and that means making sure routes are both a reasonable distance and timeframe."

Volunteers deliver a hot lunch, an optional cold dinner, provide a safety check, and a friendly greeting to homebound seniors. Most routes pick up and drop off at SourcePoint, except for Sunbury routes which have the option of picking up/dropping off at Rainbow Place Apartments in Sunbury. While no senior has ever missed a meal due to lack of volunteers, staff frequently step in to cover meal routes when a volunteer calls off with short notice. Volunteers needing to cancel their scheduled service just leave word of the dates they will be away and staff members handle finding a substitute.

SourcePoint is more than just the start and end point for volunteer meal drivers. The facility houses a commercial kitchen where handcrafted meals are created by chefs and packed by volunteers. Seven volunteers per day volunteer once a week, Monday – Friday from 7-11am, packing 800 meals into trays. Meanwhile, SourcePoint's onsite senior lunch spot, Café 55, has seen growth from serving an average of 111 diners pre-pandemic to 150 diners per day, today; an indicator that the café's focus on improving the dining experience by adding made to order salads, beverage service, fresher food, prepackaged silverware, and more menu options has been a success. Volunteers provide customer service in the café in two-hour shifts between 10am-2pm Monday - Friday.

"There would be no home delivered meals for homebound seniors or community cafes to combat senior isolation without our volunteers." Karen Pillion says. "The success of Delaware County's Meals on Wheels program is on the shoulders of our community members to step up and pay it forward."



Watch the heartwarming story of a Deaf client and volunteer, Debbie Rickabaugh, here:
<https://fb.watch/kMyqIKTFj2/>



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BRANDISH YOUR BLUE SHIRT!

In the coming months, there are multiple opportunities to don your blue shirt outside of volunteer time for a bit of socializing with fellow volunteers while promoting a program we all love. SourcePoint is hosting three Community Music Festivals that are sure to be lots of fun. The first one is Thursday, June 29 and features two popular local bands, NOVA and Blue Limestone Project and two food trucks. The second is Wednesday, July 19 with the MEEK Quartet and Of Sound Minds, as well as two food trucks. Thursday, August 24 is the final festival with the OWU Marching Band, the Delaware Community Band, Ken Swartz Music, and another great food truck! The timeframe for all these events is 5-7:30pm.

In addition to music festivals, we will be hosting another casual volunteer get-together at **Henmicks Farm & Brewery** on Thursday, Aug. 31 from 4:30-6:30pm. As always, the purchase of beverages or food is the responsibility of each attendee.

For our fall volunteer appreciation event, on Friday, Oct. 27 from 5-7pm, leave the blue shirt at home but bring your cowboy boots! We're hosting a Hoedown that's just for volunteers! There will be square dancing and chili and cornbread! Get ready to do-si-do!



JOIN A WINNING TEAM



Our current volunteer opportunities include the following:

Enrichment Center:

- A Bowling league facilitator one Sunday afternoon a month
- An off-site leader of social activities, times vary
- A pool monitor on Tuesdays from 11am-2pm
- Concierge volunteers to give facility tour, various shifts
- Gift shop volunteers on Tuesdays or Thursdays, 2-hour shifts

Nutrition Program:

- Meals on Wheels drivers, 10:30am-12:30pm, multiple days to choose from
- Kitchen tray packers on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays 7-11am
- Café 55 hosts to help create a great dining experience, times vary
- A substitute "runner" to load coolers into volunteers' vehicles, days vary

In-Home Care

- Medical Transportation drivers to take seniors to medical appointments
- Home Helpers to assist with indoor and outdoor chores

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VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF SENIOR SERVICES

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SAVE THE DATE

Health & Wellness Expo

Saturday, June 3,
9-11:30am

- 40 vendors
- Free health screenings
- Wellness information
- Demonstrations

Community Music Festivals

Thursday, June 29,
5-7:30pm

- 2 bands
- 2 food trucks

Wednesday, July 19,
5-7:30pm

- 2 bands
- 2 food trucks

Thursday, August 24,
5-7:30pm

- 3 bands
- 1 food truck

Henmick Brewery Volunteer Gathering

Thursday, Aug. 31,
4:30-6:30pm

- Social event just for volunteers
- Meet other volunteers!

Senior Day at the Fair

September 19

- Free admission if over 55
- Visit the SourcePoint booth!

Volunteer Hoedown

October 27, 5-7pm

- Square Dancing!
- Chili & cornbread!
- Just for volunteers!

COAAA SENIOR CITIZEN HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Congratulations to Delma Jackson on her recent nomination into the Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging Senior Citizen Hall of Fame! Delma was recognized for her nearly 15 years of service to SourcePoint's Ensure Deliveries program. By delivering these cases right to the door – or the kitchen table – Delma and her fellow Ensure Delivery volunteers provide an essential service to homebound seniors. **Hall of Fame - Inductees (coaaa.org)**



FARA WAUGH (continued from pg.1)

programs at the Park Avenue center. It was volunteers who delivered Meals on Wheels from Grady Memorial Hospital's kitchen.

Fast forward to the present—when hundreds of you support nearly every department in our organization. Last year alone, **643** volunteers contributed **48,116** hours of their time.

Each of you has had a profound and lasting impact on those we serve in Delaware County. Choosing SourcePoint as the organization to which you give both your time and talent says a lot about you and how you feel about our community. Your commitment to share the most precious of resources—your time—results in making life better for those who are in need.

The fruits of your labor make a substantial impact in our community, and I am especially touched by the kindness and care behind your choice to volunteer with SourcePoint. As we struggle to fill critical volunteer positions, hopefully you can help us find others like you to volunteer for SourcePoint. By sharing the reasons and benefits you gain by volunteering with your friends, neighbors, and community members, you might inspire them to do the same!

I want you to know how deeply your dedication is appreciated by every team member at SourcePoint and we recognize that we could not achieve our mission without you.

Your volunteerism is recognized, appreciated, and valued at SourcePoint. We thank you and hope you will help us find others to continue our work to make our community the best place to thrive after 55.

Warm regards, Fara Waugh, CEO