

THE FHVC VOLUNTEER BULLETIN

Save the Date: Lori's Retirement Party

April 24th Pottorf Hall 2-4pm.

**Come and go reception with
remarks at 3pm.**



**National Volunteer Week
April 19 - 25**



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@flinthillsvolunteercenter



**Lori Bishop,
Executive
Director**

Greetings Volunteers,

My favorite time of year is coming – Spring! It begins with Daylight Savings Time on March 8th. Don't forget to move your clocks forward one hour. I'm looking forward to warmer weather and getting out and walking in the neighborhood.

This is a tough newsletter to write. It's my last newsletter to you all. After 41 years as the RSVP Director my last day will be April 24th. Although I am sad that my journey has come to an end, I'm looking forward to what is on the horizon. I will be going to Cheyenne, Wyoming at the end of May to spend time with my son and family. My oldest granddaughter will be celebrating her 16th birthday so it will be fun to get away.

I also have some amazing memories of people I've met, volunteers who have given their heart and soul into helping others, and how many of you will be lifelong friends. Oh, the stories I could tell, ha!

April will bring some changes. Hannah will be graduating and moving. Both the new Volunteer Coordinator and Executive Director positions will be announced by the middle of March. In the meantime, please continue to do what you are doing!

National Volunteer Week is April 19-25. As we recognize National Volunteer Week, I would like to extend my deep appreciation for everything you do. You make a difference in our communities. You might not know the impact you make on the life of someone, but we do!

Thank you all again for volunteering and your patience as we make some changes. Thank you for letting me be your director and for making me feel loved!

I am looking forward to seeing you out and about and stopping me to say hi!

Lori

"Volunteering is at the very core of being a human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help."

—Heather French
Henry

Coordinator Update

“Spring is proof that there is beauty in new beginnings.” - Matshona Dhliwayo

Wow, what a spring this will be, bringing so many changes. While I know change can be exciting, I can't help but feel a little sad as Lori and Hannah move on to their next chapters in life. I will miss them dearly. The three of us have made such an excellent team over the past year, and the office truly won't be the same without them. I am so grateful for the time we've worked together, the memories we've shared, and the impact we've made as a team.

But as this quote by Matshona Dhliwayo reminds us, like spring, change can be beautiful. New beginnings open the door for growth, fresh perspectives, and new opportunities. I look forward to continuing to serve all of you as your Program Services Coordinator and to supporting our incredible volunteers as we work together to meet the needs of our community. I'm also excited to begin working alongside our new Director and Coordinator as we move forward into this next season together.

As we turn the page to this new chapter, I'm confident that what's ahead will be just as meaningful as what we leave behind.

-Meghan

First off, I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere appreciation for your unwavering support and dedication to our outreach projects and volunteer efforts. Your commitment to making a difference is inspiring. I am so incredibly grateful for your patience and encouragement as I navigate my first year in this role.

It has been an amazing experience working with the CSC program and getting the chance to engage with the students in our organization. Looking ahead, our office's goal for this year is to deepen the involvement of both the middle and the high school students within the community. I have already started putting these goals into effect by organizing craft days with our Job Corps and IGNITE volunteer groups! These students are extremely excited to help out and learn more about the impact they can make in our community.

-Hannah



**Meghan Loverude,
Program Services
Coordinator**



**Hannah May,
Volunteer
Coordinator**



AmeriCorps Seniors

165 AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers have reported 4,053 volunteer hours for December & January!

Upcoming Events & Ongoing Opportunities

Accord Hospice

Volunteering with Accord Hospice is a meaningful way to serve the community by offering comfort, compassion, and presence to individuals and families during one of life's most important journeys. Volunteers are needed throughout each patient's hospice experience, with care provided in patients' homes, assisted living facilities, and nursing homes. Often, simply being present brings reassurance and peace to both patients and their loved ones. By volunteering, individuals become part of a caring community that believes no one should walk this journey alone. Those looking for a meaningful way to give back please contact Meghan at fhvcmhk@gmail.com

Friendship Meals

Volunteers who can commit to a regular route or who can serve as substitute drivers are needed. Driver volunteers should be available to run their route(s) from 10:30am-12pm.

Medical Transportation Drivers

Our office is in need of volunteers who can help drive local residents to medical appointments within Manhattan. Our rider list and requests for help are growing, but we need you to help this program remain successful! This is a flexible opportunity depending on your schedule, but you must have a safe driving record, insurance, and a reliable vehicle.

Peace-Full Pantry

Monday & Thursday: 4:45 - 7:15pm
Tuesday & Sunday : 1:45 - 4:15pm

Volunteers are greatly needed to help with at least one shift each month to help visitors shop the pantry for food and household items. Help with unloading deliveries and keeping the pantry shelves stocked is also needed.



Learn More:

Contact

fhvcmhk@gmail.com
(785) 776-7787



As I am stepping down from my position this April, I want to highlight some of the most exciting volunteering opportunities I got to share with our incredible CSC program during my time as Volunteer Coordinator for FHVC! These students have really stepped up, and I have learned so much from their enthusiasm to help others in their community and their earnest desire to commit their time to such a great cause.

As I look back at some of my favorite projects I got to organize and watch our CSC students unfold, the ones that really stuck out to me were Delta Chi's putting together teacher appreciation boxes for a few of the elementary and middle schools in our community (top photo), our cheerful volunteers who helped spread awareness at our 9/11 Day of Remembrance Family Event and Picnic in September, by handing out coloring pages and slap bracelets as well as applying temporary tattoos for the kids who attended, and the students who teamed up to put together and organize gift bundles for our Santa City event in December. All of these students, while young, worked together to make great things happen and were truly a wonder to watch.

Ongoing Opportunities

The IGNITE Group is planning on doing a Spring Service Project in the month of March, as well as continuing to volunteer in different areas of craftiness for the CSC operation. Job Corps is also looking forward to working with us on different Spring-themed opportunities to launch their student program into more volunteering experiences where they can give back to the community!

As we continue to gain feedback from students through every new volunteering opportunity we put together, we are not only continuing to prioritize enhancing our current programs but also ensuring that future events will be tailored to the interests and preferences of the students, making them more engaging and meaningful.



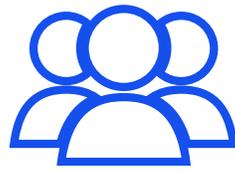
Learn More:

Hannah May
Volunteer Coordinator
fhvc.csc@gmail.com
(785) 776-7787

2025 Highlights



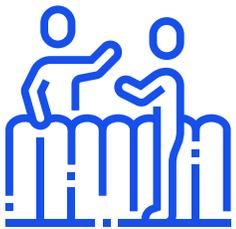
31,000
Hours
Served



1,253
Volunteers & Groups
Enrolled



79
Opportunities
Served



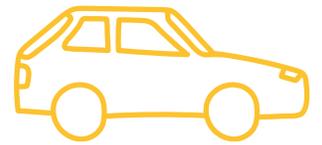
Neighbor to Neighbor
6 Volunteers
37 Neighbors helped
189 hours served



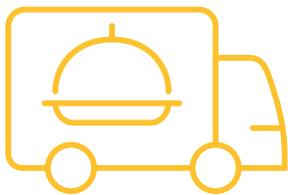
Food Distributions:
Harvesters, Pantries, &
Community Meals
117 Volunteers
2,602 hours served



Community-Supported
Thrift Stores
87 Volunteers
7,383 hours served



Medical Transportation
9 Volunteers
344 hours served
30 clients
194 rides
1,244 miles driven



Friendship Meal Delivery
75 Volunteers
3,048 hours served



Elder Justice
36 Volunteers
274 hours served



Companionship
24 Volunteers
1,173 hours served



Community-Supported
Thrift Stores
87 Volunteers
7,383 hours served

AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteer Impact

Program for volunteers aged 55 and older
321 active AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers
29,245 hours served in **79** different opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities

March:

- 8th: Daylight Savings Time Starts: Spring Forward
- 13h: Harvesters; 3:30pm, Blue Valley Memorial UMC
- 17th: Harvesters; 9:00am, Cico Park
- 24th: Harvesters; 9:30am, Ogden Community Center
- 24th: Harvesters; 11:30am, Downtown Manhattan (by Dillard's)

April:

- 10th: Harvesters; 3:30pm, Blue Valley Memorial UMC
- 21st: Harvesters; 9:00am, Cico Park
- 28th: Harvesters; No Ogden Harvesters
- 28th: Harvesters; 11:30am, Downtown Manhattan (by Dillard's)

Upcoming Opportunities:

3rd Annual MAC and Cheese Festival: Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Manhattan Arts Center, 1520 Poyntz Avenue

Opportunities include:

Assisting with educational activity booths, helping set up and take down event spaces, monitoring traffic flow, helping keep the festival area clean, assisting with the costume garage sale.

Neighbor2Neighbor: We are looking for a few more volunteers who don't mind shoveling snow and would be willing to help some of our elderly neighbors around the community. If this sounds like something you would be interested in helping out with please email Meghan at fhvcmhk@gmail.com.

Cookie Brigade:

March 12

April 9

Cookies should be freshly baked within 24 hours of delivery to our office at 100 Manhattan Town Center, Suite 160 (Thursday by 1pm or the Wednesday before). Volunteers will package the cookies at the office before delivery.

Cookies are delivered to units at Fort Riley or local community service agencies.



*Welcome to
our 82 new
volunteers &
groups who
have enrolled in
January &
February!*

Flint Hills Volunteer Center

100 Manhattan Town Center Suite 160

Manhattan, KS 66502

(785) 776-7787

fhvcmhk@gmail.com



AmeriCorps Seniors, Kansas Volunteer Commission, YES! Fund, Riley County Council on Aging, Greater Manhattan Community Foundation

The Flint Hills Volunteer Center is driven by its mission of connecting volunteers to the needs of our community. As our community grows rapidly, the issues we face continue to increase in providing resources for unmet basic human needs.

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP of Riley County is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and over. Volunteers use the skills and talents they've learned over the years, or they develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities within our community.

Volunteers are needed every day for a variety of opportunities in Riley, Geary, & Pottawatomie counties. If you are not currently enrolled with our program and would like to learn more about how to help, please contact us for more information.

785-776-7787

fhvcmhk@gmail.com

flinthillsvolunteercenter.com

Our communities depend on great volunteers like you!