November - December 2026

Flint Hills Volunteer Center BULLETIN



common table

Common Table is open EVERY DAY, including Thanksgiving and Christmas! Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and a free meal is served at 6:00 p.m. to everyone, no questions asked! They are always looking for volunteers, especially during the holiday season. If you are interested in volunteering, please reach out to the Flint Hills Volunteer Center, and we will be happy to help you get signed up to volunteer with Common Table!

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@flinthillsvolunteercenter



Brent Sigman, Executive Director



Meghan Loverude, Program Services Coordinator



Lynda Roberts, Volunteer Coordinator

As the holidays approach, we here at the FHVC would like to take a moment to reflect on the past year and express our heartfelt gratitude for the many people who make our mission possible.

Brent would like to start by thanking everyone that has warmly accepted him in the new role of Executive Director. From our staff, to our Board, to our amazing volunteers. Brent realizes he has some very big shoes to fill and appreciates everyone's encouragement and grace as he learns and adjusts to the new role.

Meghan: I would like to thank our wonderful volunteers, Board, and community for their continued support and for giving me the opportunity to be part of such an amazing organization. I feel truly blessed to have a job where I get to meet wonderful people, build meaningful relationships, and see the difference volunteering makes in our community. I am also incredibly thankful for Lynda and Brent. Your hard work, dedication, encouragement, and friendship mean so much to me. I feel fortunate to be part of such a wonderful team and look forward to all we will accomplish together!

Lynda: This Thanksgiving, I'm especially thankful for the incredible volunteers, community partners, and organizations who make my work as Volunteer Coordinator so meaningful. Being able to connect people with opportunities to serve, build relationships, and make a positive difference in our community is truly rewarding, and I'm grateful to play a part in bringing people together for a greater purpose.

During this season of Thanksgiving and the holidays, our Board President, Lindy Lindquist, is grateful for the dedication of over 1,250 volunteers whose commitment to others impacts our community every day.

We all would like to give a special shout-out to our incredible AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers! Your gift of time, energy, and steady dedication is the true heartbeat of our organization. We love how you show up with open hearts and ready hands. We sure couldn't do what we do without you!

Special thanks goes to our Medical Transportation and Neighbor2Neighbor clients. We thank you for being part of your lives by sharing the warm connections and trust you place in our hands, which makes what we do so deeply meaningful.

Deep gratitude to our wonderful community partners. We love how we can all work together to create meaningful volunteer opportunities for our community. It's an inspiring reminder that we can accomplish so much more when we do it together.

None of what we do would be possible without our generous donors and dedicated Board of Directors. The belief in our mission, thoughtful guidance, and continued support are greatly valued as we honor the past, thrive in the moment, and look to build toward the future.

And to ALL of our volunteers. YOU make the difference in our community day in and day out. Thank you for your time, talents, and value you bring to each and every one of the volunteer opportunities in our community.

Last, but not least, Brent wants to give a special shout out to his staff, Meghan and Lynda. They have been invaluable to him in his new role. He appreciates their knowledge, their passion for what we do, their ideas, and their good hearts. Keep up the great work!

From all of us at FHVC, we wish you all and your loved ones a wonderful holiday season!

Brent Sigman, Meghan Loverude & Lynda Roberts
The Flint Hills Volunteer Center Team

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Neighbors 2 Neighbors



Cookie Brigade Volunteers



P.A.C.T. & Elder Justice



Chamber Packet Stuffing



- VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE -

Our wonderful AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers have been busy making a difference throughout our community! Recently, volunteers have helped with Medical Transportation, yard cleanup, packaged cookies for Cookie Brigade, labeled P.A.C.T. and Elder Justice informational flyers, and stuffed packets for the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce. We are so grateful for their continued dedication and willingness to lend a helping hand wherever it's needed!

Follow us on Facebook!
Want to get involved? Contact the Flint Hills Volunteer Center!

@flinthillsvolunteercenter

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities



🎄 Volunteers Needed – 14th Annual Festival of Lights! ✨

Get into the holiday spirit by volunteering at the 14th Annual Festival of Lights on Friday, November 27, 2026, at Blue Earth Plaza! Approximately 15–16 volunteers are needed from 5:00–8:00 PM to help make this festive evening a success. Volunteers will assist at two hot chocolate stands, help in the back parking lot during the drone show, and assist with traffic flow alongside local law enforcement. This is a wonderful opportunity to spread holiday cheer and give back to our community!

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Brad Everett, General Manager of the Hilton Garden Inn & Manhattan Conference Center, at Brad.Everett@hilton.com.

❤️ Center of Hope Ministry Open House and Volunteering! ❤️

Center of Hope Ministry invites the community to an Open House on Monday, November 16th, from 3:00–6:00 PM!
This is a wonderful opportunity to tour the shelter, learn more about the ministry and its mission, and see the facility before it officially opens that evening at 7:00 PM!

Interested in learning more about Center of Hope Ministry or finding ways to get involved as a volunteer?

Visit their website for more information:
🌐 https://www.thecenterofhopemhk.com

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities Continued



🎄Volunteers Needed ❤️

Help spread holiday cheer by volunteering at the 15th Annual Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day, Friday, December 25th, from 11:00 AM–2:00 PM! This wonderful community meal will be held at St. Thomas More Parish Hall, 2900 Kimball Avenue. Volunteers are needed on December 24th and 25th to help with meal preparation, serving, and cleanup. This is a great opportunity to give back to our community and help make Christmas special for others!

Volunteer sign-ups are not available just yet but are expected to be ready by Thanksgiving. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved!

🎉 Family New Year's Eve – Thursday, December 31st! 🎆



Help families ring in the New Year with an evening full of fun, excitement, and celebration at the Flint Hills Discovery Center! Volunteers are needed from 5:00–8:30 PM to help make this special event a success. What better way to wrap up the year than by giving back to our community and spreading some holiday cheer? Volunteers must be at least 14 years old by the date of the event.

If you're interested in volunteering or would like more information, please contact Kristen Hoffman at kristen.hoffman@cityofmhk.com.

Upcoming Dates & Volunteer Opportunities

November
- Nov. 12th Cookie Brigade
- Nov. 25th - 29th: Office Closed for Thanksgiving

December
- Dec. 10th Cookie Brigade
- Dec. 21st - 23rd Limited hours 10am - 2pm
- Dec. 24th - Jan. 3rd Office Closed

Cookie Brigade
Upcoming dates: November 12 and December 10
Cookies should be freshly baked within 24 hours of delivery to the FHVC office at 100 Manhattan Town Center, Suite 160. Please deliver cookies by Thursday at 1:00 PM or the Wednesday before. Volunteers will package cookies before delivery to Fort Riley units or local community service agencies.

Ogden Friendship House of Hope
Ogden Friendship House of Hope is looking for additional volunteers to help serve the Ogden and Fort Riley communities. Volunteers are needed to assist with food pantry operations, sorting clothing donations, helping customers, organizing and stocking shelves, and providing a friendly face to those visiting. Volunteer opportunities are available Tuesday through Friday from 1:00–4:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Volunteers are welcome to help as often or as little as their schedules allow. If interested in volunteering or for more information, please contact Jackie at jackieofhoh@gmail.com, call the store, or reach out through their Facebook page.

Friendship Meals (Meals on Wheels)
Friendship Meals at the Senior Center is looking for AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers (ages 55+) who are able to commit to a regular volunteer schedule. They are currently in need of 5–6 meal delivery drivers, 2–3 meal preppers, and 2–3 dining room servers to help provide meals and support to seniors in our community. If interested in volunteering or for more information, please contact Keri Dutch at the Friendship Meals Office on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. by calling 785-587-2462 or emailing rcsscdrivers@gmail.com.





We're excited to welcome 84 new volunteers who joined us in August and September! Together, our volunteers have already reported almost 5,000 hours of service during those two months.

FHVC MONTHLY DONATION DRIVE



YOUR GENEROSITY IS CHANGING LIVES

The Flint Hills Volunteer Center is proud to host a monthly donation drive supporting a different community partner each month!

During November, we are collecting much-needed items for Center of Hope Ministry. We would love your help in supporting this wonderful organization!

Items Needed:

1. Earplugs
- Adult body/bathing wipes
- Individually wrapped snacks
- Breakfast bars and granola bars
- Oatmeal
- Sugar packets and coffee creamer
- Coffee
- Cough drops
- Lysol spray/disinfecting wipes
- Large Trash Bags (30-50 gallon)
- Swiffer PowerMop cleaning solution and refill pads
- Disposable coffee cups
- Disposable microwave-safe bowls
- Twin-size mattress protectors
- Standard-size pillow protectors
- Men's and women's undergarments
- Bed pads
- Paper towels

The Center of Hope MINISTRY

Flint Hills Volunteer Center

Flint Hills Volunteer Center

100 Manhattan Town Center, Suite 160
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 776-7787
fhvcmhk@gmail.com

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

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

AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP 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 County and Manhattan areas. If you are not currently enrolled with out program and would like to learn more about how to help, please contact us for more information.

785-776-7787
fhvcmhk@gmail.com
www.flinthillsvolunteercenter.com

Our communities depend on great volunteers like you!