



Center Harbor

Meredith

Moultonborough

# Community Caregivers

ISSUE 11 SPRING 2011

## SPRING—A TIME OF HOPE AND FAITH

CHARLOTTE LEAVITT, BOARD PRESIDENT

By the time you receive this newsletter, I hope that you will have a crocus or two in bloom, have heard the song of a robin, and are seeing green grass instead of the white of winter. The signs of spring are a confirmation of hope and faith. Center Harbor, Meredith and Moultonborough Community Caregivers has the faith, that with the continued help of our communities, we will provide the supportive services that our neighbors may need to experience quality of life in their homes.

CHMM Community Caregivers has met the challenges of winter in serving our neighbors. Yes, there were cancellations and rescheduling but the needs have been met. Thank you to the volunteers who have helped our neighbors. You have warmed and brightened a cold winter's day for many.

As we look into the "crystal ball" we see challenges ahead. There are ever increasing needs as evidenced from our 2010 statistics (see below). We see a trend of more people needing supportive services. We see a trend towards longer distances for our neighbors to access their medical care. We see the sign at the gas pump with the price increasing exponentially. What do these trends mean?

### Challenges

- There is more volunteer time involved in providing services
- There is a greater work load for the coordinators
- There is increased expense to cover mileage reimbursement

### Opportunities

- Opportunity for additional people to volunteer – even if for the summer only
- Opportunity for volunteers to serve as coordinators
- Opportunity to participate in fund raisers – Summer Raffle and Mini Golf Tourney
- Opportunity to donate including gift program

The challenges and opportunities are ever changing and the members of the Board of Directors are all very committed to respond adequately thus fulfilling our mission. Come to our Annual Meeting on May 16, 2011 and meet the members of the Board and our volunteers. Join in our summer fund raising activities and volunteer to help your neighbors.

With your help CHMM Community Caregivers will be here for your neighbors who are in need of assistance. This is our hope and we have the faith to sustain us through the challenges.

With special caring,  
Charlotte Leavitt, President  
Board of Directors



1998–2011

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## UPCOMING EVENTS 2011

### Annual Meeting

May 16th

### Fundraisers

2011 Raffle - Will

Include many beautifully crafted  
hand made items

Winnepesaukee Wine Festival

First Annual Fall Invitational Family  
Mini Golf Tournament

## 2010 TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS

OUR VOLUNTEERS WERE VERY BUSY IN 2010! WE HAVE SEEN A MARKED INCREASE IN LONG DISTANCE SERVICES AS EVIDENCED BY THE COMPARISON TO THE 2009 TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL THEY DO.

2009 Transportation Services: Services: 944 - Miles Driven: 34,792 - Hours: 2,206

2010 Transportation Services: Services: 1003 (+6%) - Miles Driven: 49,065 (+41%) - Hours: 3,001 (+36%)

## Community Caregivers All Occasion Gift Cards

Honor a Friend  
Remember a Birthday  
Celebrate a Special Event

Searching for a special gift for that special someone? CHMM Community Caregivers has just what you need. All Occasion Gift Cards are now available from the CHMM Community Caregivers office.

Gift giving just became as easy as one, two, three!

1. Call the office and request a brochure explaining the gift card program.
2. Send the completed form with the names and addresses of those to receive the gift cards along with your check made payable to CHMM Community Caregivers and they will be mailed directly from our office. Or, we will mail the gift cards to you upon receipt of your donation.
3. Make a direct impact in our community with your donation.

To order All Occasion Gift Cards or for more information, call the Caregivers office at 253-9275.



### **CHMM Community Caregivers 2011 Raffle**

We will have a wonderful raffle this year with very special handcrafted items!  
Tickets will be available in May. The five items included in the raffle are:

Handcrafted Flag Quilt wall hanging with hanger, Handcrafted Nantucket Lightship style basket, Handcrafted maple and ebony wood table, Handcrafted piece of stained glass, and a \$1,000.00 Savings Bond from MVSBI!

## **THANK YOU~THANK YOU**

The Altrusa Club of Meredith Community Service Committee has made a generous donation to our organization in support of our mission: to provide supportive services and information for our neighbors to assist them in their daily lives. Both our organization and Altrusa make a positive impact on our community.

Leaders in Service, the Altrusa Club of Meredith, was pleased to help where help is needed. As part of an international community based association of volunteers who share their energies and expertise in projects dedicated to community enhancement, Altrusa Club members support volunteerism, literacy, and service. Several Altrusa members volunteer as Caregiver volunteers sharing their time and talents lending a helping hand to our neighbors while enriching their lives through this one on one community service.

[Lisa Davis](#), Altrusa VP, presents check to [Carol Gerken](#).



We are very pleased to announce that Caregivers has received a grant award from the New Hampshire Electric Co-op Foundation (NHEC). The grant funding will be used for the Volunteer Program to support the recruitment and education of volunteers. Audrey Simpson, Executive Director, shared, "I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Directors approved funding your grant request. The Board wishes you every success in your program."

[Carol Gerken](#) and Board members [Charlotte Leavitt](#) and [Mary Anne Skawinski](#) gratefully accept the grant donation from NHEC.



The NHEC Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) foundation founded in 2005 that provides grants to charitable organizations, community programs and projects, and economic development projects and is funded primarily through the voluntary contributions of NHEC members whose monthly bills are rounded up to the next dollar. Caregiver supporters who belong to the NHEC are encouraged to contribute to this program. Every donation makes a difference.

## CARE AND COMPASSION

CAROL F. GERKEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Every day at the Community Caregivers office, the phone rings, the fax whirrs, and the computer keyboard clicks away. Board Committees meet to discuss issues important to our mission. Volunteers drop by to share concerns and suggestions and to tell us how much they enjoy lending a hand. Neighbors and their families call and write to express their sincere thanks that we are here for them.

Someone I respect and admire often begins a presentation with these words, "Let me tell you a story!" This phrase seems to capture the attention of the listeners as they sense that the story is just for them. So "Let me tell you a story" about our volunteers and the neighbors who benefit from their care and compassion.

One of our volunteers noticed that the Coordinator had not called her to assist a particular neighbor. This was someone she helped on a weekly basis

both for Community Caregivers and E.M. Heath's "Store to Door" program. She called the office to express concern. After checking the weekly activity sheets, it became apparent that the neighbor had not called in recently. After calling the emergency contact, she learned that the neighbor had been ill, was improving, and would return home soon. She updated the office and we look forward to lending her a helping hand.

Another volunteer agreed to drive a neighbor to Concord for a long distance medical appointment. She made several attempts to confirm the appointment the day before without success. After calling the emergency contact, she learned that the neighbor was in the hospital. She contacted the office to report this information, the Coordinator was alerted, and changed the neighbor's status...completing the circle of caring.

These "stories" demonstrate the care and compassion of our volunteers who experience the rewards of sharing their time and talents and enrich their lives through community service.



On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Staff, our Volunteers and our Neighbors, thank you for helping our neighbors enjoy the caring support of their community. Simple acts of kindness make a direct impact in our community.

### Wanted: Long Distance Drivers

- Every volunteer organization has a wish list. High on the list for CHMM Community Caregivers are Long Distance Drivers (LDD). Meeting the needs of our neighbors is a challenge. In 2010, the number of miles driven by our volunteers in their own vehicles providing transportation for our neighbors to medical and personal appointments increased dramatically.
- If you love to drive, enjoy the opportunity to visit with neighbors who have interesting stories to tell, and want to make a difference...long distance driving is for you.
- Volunteers are invited to the May 26, Caring and Sharing discussion, 10-11 in our office. May's topic will be LDD. If you drive long distance, would like to learn more from those who do, or would like to share comments and suggestions, please plan to attend.

Save these dates -  
mark your calendars now!



**6th Annual Winnepesaukee Wine Festival**  
**Thursday, June 23rd at Church Landing in Meredith**

To benefit CHMM Community Caregivers, Inc. and White Mountain Dog Rescue  
Celebrate what can be achieved when caring and community unite to make a difference.

**First Annual Community Caregivers Family Mini Golf Tournament**  
September 10th, 2011 at Paradise Falls Miniature Golf Course in Moultonborough

Bring the family for an afternoon of fun, food and competition.  
Details to follow after the snow melts!





CHMM Community Caregivers, Inc.  
P.O. Box 78  
Center Harbor, NH 03226

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CHMM Community Caregivers Annual Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation Event  
Tuesday, May 16th—6:30 p.m. at the Center Harbor Congregational Church

- Short business agenda
- Refreshments
- Keynote Speaker: Carl Lindblade—"New Hampshire, A State of Mind"

GO GREEN

- We will recycle your used ink cartridges. They can be left in our mailbox by the rear entrance of the Century 21 bldg. or come upstairs and say hello. For each cartridge returned to Staples, we receive a credit toward office supplies.
- Consider receiving this newsletter by email instead of receiving a hard copy. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email please let Hilda know, see her contact info below.

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**Visit us on the web at**  
[www.chmmcommunitycaregivers.org](http://www.chmmcommunitycaregivers.org)

Feel free to contact us at any time with any feedback, questions or needs; we welcome your input.  
Office phone: **253-9275**  
Email: [hilda.caregivers@gmail.com](mailto:hilda.caregivers@gmail.com)