

Newsline

Volunteer Mission: Volunteers of UnityPoint Health - Meriter offer their gift of time to enhance the patient and family experience and promote a place of care and healing.

Attend an upcoming TB/Flu Clinic

Mass hospital influenza shot administration and TB Screening will take place at the hospital in Tower A, across from the cafeteria.

Weekday Clinics to be held 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Wednesday, Oct. 10
- Thursday, Oct. 11
- Friday, Oct. 12
- Monday, Oct. 15
- Wednesday, Oct. 17
- Friday, Oct. 19
- Monday, Oct. 22

Evening and Weekend Hours

- Saturday, Oct. 13 6:30 – 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 17 4:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 21 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 22 4:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

You are required to present your Volunteer ID badge at the TB/Flu Clinic.



Important Dates

NOTE:

- CEO Employee/Volunteer Forums
Sept. 25 – 9:30a-10:30a Bolz
Sept. 26 – 10a-11a MBC
- Oct. 3 – 2:30p-3:30p Bolz
- Oct. 4 – 12N-1p Monona Clinic

October

- 1st:** Cuddler Training 8-9a/Monona Conf. Rm.
- 2nd:** Cuddler Training 4-5p/Tower C
5th Blood Drive
8:30a-2:30p Classrm 9 McConnell Hall
- 2nd-5th:** Fire Extinguisher Training (hourly 7a-7p) Volunteers Welcome!

Volunteer Spotlight – Carolyn Carlson



I am Carolyn Carlson, a life long Madisonian. I was born at Madison General as were my three children, and my father was a practicing physician at Madison General, now known as UnityPoint Health - Meriter Hospital. So it is no wonder that I am a volunteer at this hospital.

About 30 years ago I saw an ad in the paper looking for people interested in participating in a cuddler program that was beginning at Meriter. I knew that would be a perfect fit for me and I was lucky enough to be chosen for the first class. Throughout the years, the NICU has been in several locations in the hospital and the cuddlers followed each move. They are a very special addition to the NICU and the program continues to grow and has a long waiting list. Whenever I tell someone that I am a cuddler, the reaction is always the same, "Awww, I want to do that too." To hold a tiny baby is one of the most wonderful experiences ever!

I also have other volunteer activities in my life. I help deliver weekend food for homeless elementary students and their families through a program called Thea's Table. And I do many volunteer projects through my church. But my love is CUDDLING and I say, "I wouldn't give it up for anything."

Don't know how many wee lil ones Carolyn has snuggled, but she has volunteered over 1900 hours since 1988! Thank you, Carolyn!

Welcome to the following 26 New Volunteers who started at Meriter in August:

Samantha Allen	Birthing Center	Jill Hanson	NICU
Nancy Barden	NICU	Shannon Harkin	Emergency Services
Michael Bean	Emergency Services	Julie Jenkins	NICU
Reagan Beyer	Birthing Center	Vicki McCarthy	NICU
Tom Brennan	NICU	Kate McClure	Birthing Center
Angelyn Chartier	Physical Therapy	Bernadine Murvar	Knitter
Matthew Dandan	Infusion Center	Lekha Nelavelli	Team UP
Joan Deshima	NICU	Patricia Plaisted	NICU



Michael Scheibengraber	Team UP
Sarah Schreiber	NICU
Alison Schulz	Birthing Center
Rachel Stanley	Surgical Waiting Room
Valerie Swiecichowski	Emergency Services
Amanda Tanner	NICU
Rachel Thoma	Emergency Services
Daniel Wagner	Birthing Center
Erin Wolf	Emergency Services
Donna Wright	NICU

WHOLETONES Music Therapy and Volunteers:

A gift from the Friends of Meriter will soon allow for WHOLETONES Music Therapy to be offered to HELP patients and for patients on the Heart and Vascular Unit (HVU). Kelli George, RN, HVU and Rick Dahl, HELP Coordinator worked together to submit a request for funding to Friends of Meriter and develop a plan to obtain and secure the Wholetones units. Each small WholeTones unit is loaded with 2½ hours of healing music that has the power to relieve stress and anxiety, break negative cycles, and promote sleep. Two WholeTones units will be kept on HVU and two units will be kept with HELP to be utilized by volunteers during patient interactions. HELP has volunteers present to support elder patients from 7:30am-10:30pm Monday-Sunday. HELP volunteers who are present in the evening from 8-10:30pm are “sleep shift volunteers.” Sleep shift volunteers are present to offer conversation and activities that can assist patients with relaxation and to prepare for sleep.



WHOLETONES Music is a new tool that sleep shift volunteers like Adam Kelly may add to their routine to support patients that they visit.

In Memory of Friends of UnityPoint Health – Meriter Volunteers

A donation of \$20 is made to the Foundation’s Friends of UPH-Meriter Memorial Fund. This fund is used to purchase yarn that Meriter volunteers who knit use to make newborn caps for the Birthing Center. We remember the following volunteers who have recently passed:

Vada B. Jones (2001-2014)	Knitter	8,100 hours
Jane L. Wise (1971-2018)	Bistro, HVU, and many Leadership roles w/FOM	9,246 hours
Florence M. Poole (1992-2012)	At-Your-Service and LoveLights Comm.	3,190 hours
Rodger H. Koppenhaver (1995-2016)	At-Your-Service and Bistro	3,850 hours



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