

## Volunteer Update

A publication for Partners and Volunteers

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Happy Summer Partner Volunteers!



What a difference a year makes! This past year is a true testament to that statement as last year at this time volunteer service was still suspended. I think we all can agree that things are definitely looking up when we think of how far we have come since this time last year.

As we continue a phased return of volunteers to service, I am excited to share approval has been given for the return of our Phase III, direct patient care volunteers. These include volunteers in the Emergency Department, Cardiac Rehab, Breast Center, Cancer Center, Cuddler volunteers, patient companion volunteers and those who provide transport duties.

While the return of Phase I and II volunteers went relatively smooth once approval was given, Phase III will take some time since it involves direct patient care areas. We ask that you please be patient as we work with department leaders and staff on reviewing volunteer roles and duties for updates that might be needed given the length of time. We also need to identify any department-specific education that may need to take place for Phase III volunteers as they re-enter their service areas. If you are planning to return to service, there is no need for you to reach out, we will contact you to schedule your return. If you previously served in one of these areas and are not planning to return, please send Keri Schwartz an email at [keri.schwartz@froedtert.com](mailto:keri.schwartz@froedtert.com) to let us know of your decision. We will then remove you from your volunteer service.

In a recent review of membership, unfortunately we have a number of volunteers who have decided not to return to service. We have shifted from 149 volunteers just prior to the start of the pandemic to 99 volunteers this month. As you can imagine, this decline in membership affects our ability to fill shifts and support our patients and hospital departments. Volunteers are needed to help fill shifts at the hospital greeter/transport desk, the health center greeter desk and in the Gift Shop. If interested, please let Keri Schwartz know.

A couple of quick reminders with summer upon us:

- ◆ Please make sure to review the dress code information in the volunteer handbook to read more about clothing and footwear that is/is not appropriate for a health care setting.
- ◆ Preparations are already underway for mandatory annual education. Stay tuned for more information about when the packet will be mailed to your home and the deadlines for completion.

Thank you for continuing to be a part of our TEAM and for the wonderful service you provide. Your excellence drives our success.

Keep doing the great things you are doing and I wish you a safe and enjoyable summer!



Ann Johnson, Director  
Volunteer Services  
Froedtert West Bend Hospital

***Spread the word about volunteering and invite family members and friends to join you!***



**PRN Shoe and Scrub Sale :**

Wednesday Aug 11, 2021      7:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
10:30 to 2:30 p.m.  
2:30 to 4 p.m.

Anyone interested in helping, please contact Lori Keon at 262-836-8391 or [lori.keon@froedtert.com](mailto:lori.keon@froedtert.com)—  
THANK YOU!!!!!!

### 2020 Volunteer Service Award Milestones

CONGRATULATIONS to the following Partner Volunteers of Froedtert West Bend Hospital on these important milestones. While 2020 was unprecedented, we were still able to award some volunteers for hours accumulated prior to COVID.

100 Hour Pin	Sharon Klenner	105.50
	Theresa Peil	101.54
500 Hour Pin	Jean Beck	553.12
	Doris Rosenthal	539.79
	Mary Whitney	557.54
6,500 Hour Pin	Deb Wolf	6,601.36

For those that have not received their pin from 2019 or 2020, we will get those to you soon. Thank you again, everyone, for all you do for Froedtert West Bend Hospital and the community.



## FACTS ABOUT COVID

As pandemic continues, we are finding that coronavirus is not just a respiratory illness, but a vascular disease that can affect many organ systems.

Most people who fall ill with COVID 19 recover quickly and without long lasting health issues. There are some, however, who experience symptoms lasting several weeks or months, even though they tested negative. An April 7<sup>th</sup> report stated that one in three COVID survivors develop neurological and psychotic problems.

“Long haul COVID 19” was defined as symptoms persisting for more than six weeks, with consensus that most patients fully recover from it in four to six weeks.

Brain and nervous system symptoms are common in “long haulers”. Research studied these patients and found 85% had 4 or more lingering neurological symptoms, even though their illness wasn’t severe enough for them to be hospitalized.

Most common complaints among study participants experienced:

Cognitive dysfunction 81%	Headache 68%
Numbness or tingling 60%	Loss of taste 59%
Loss of smell 55%	Muscle pain 55%
Dizziness 40%	Blurred vision 30%
Tinnitus (ringing in ears) 29%	

In addition, non neurologic complaints:

Fatigue 85%	Depression or anxiety 47%
Shortness of breath 46%	Chest pain 37%
Insomnia 33%	Gastrointestinal complaint 29%

A new study adds to mounting evidence that COVID patients have an added risk of stroke. A report on 4/1/21 shows Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are 90% effective after 2 doses and 80% after one dose.

The first large study of its kind reveals that coronavirus reinfections are rare, but people over 65 have a higher chance of catching it again.

Early in Pandemic, some reports suggested people with A type blood were more susceptible to COVID 19, while those with O type were less so. A new review has shown no link.