

# Neighbor to Neighbor

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## The Rewards of Doing for Others



“I always told myself that after retirement I wouldn’t just sit around and watch television. I told myself I would get out and do things,” recalls Martina Quillen.

When her husband passed away she decided it was time to take her own advice. Not wanting to go back to work, Martina turned her attention to volunteer opportunities.

She started by donating time to her church, then, when the head of

Samaritan Caregivers invited her to a meeting at the local library, she didn’t hesitate to sign on as a driver. “I loved driving, helping people get groceries and taking them where they needed to go.”

These days Martina can be found manning the Samaritan Caregivers office on Thursday afternoons, greeting people with characteristic warmth and enthusiasm.

Her favorite part is “the involvement with people – seeing their faces as you meet their needs and do what they need done.”

Even over the phone Martina says she can hear something change in

people’s voices as she answers their questions and directs them to the resources they need. “It’s wonderful to see people’s faces and hear their voices when you help them. It’s hard when you can’t always help, but wonderful when you do.”

After roughly five years of service with Samaritan Caregivers, Martina still can’t quite find the words to describe how rewarding volunteering has been for her: “It’s hard to explain, but you get so much out of what you give. [Samaritan Caregivers clients] give as much back as you give to them. I feel everyone should [volunteer] at some point. It’s a wonderful thing to do for others.”

Megan L. Anderson  
Freelance Writer

## Ways to “do something” for others

- **Are you a people person? Have basic computer skills? Immediate openings for office volunteer subs. Not a snowbird? Ofc volunteers also needed when the “regulars” leave for the winter. You’ll look as happy as Martina when you help others!**
- **Are you Catholic? A 96 yr. old woman near NW Plaza is asking for some-**

**one to share her love of board games & reading.**

- **Could you visit a 67 yr. old woman with failing eyesight? She lives on S. Bell & is an artist who loved to paint.**

**Call the office or sign up online & help needy older adults just by being you!**

**[www.samaritancaregivers.org](http://www.samaritancaregivers.org)**

**765.453.7611**

### OFFICE NEEDS

- First class postage stamps
- Kleenex
- Copy Paper
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Tissue
- Swiffer wet & dry cloths
- 3/4” tape dispenser refills