

## Recognizing the value of volunteers

**By Sarah Rachac**

Volunteers at RiverStone Health are at the heart of our mission to improve life, health and safety every day. The volunteers at RiverStone Health come from a variety of backgrounds and life journeys. Despite their differences, they have a shared passion to serve others for the betterment of the community.

Volunteers serve our organization in many ways. They may answer the phone in the Home Health and Hospice office, help a customer to find their way from the main clinic to the pharmacy, or perhaps they greet a customer who stops in to receive care at the Healthcare for the Homeless clinic. In everything they do, they make a positive impact on the experience a patient or customer has at RiverStone Health by making them feel welcome and important.

We believe that when patients and customers come to receive services at RiverStone Health, they would like their healthcare needs met first and foremost. Our volunteers can keep this flow moving quickly by wiping down wheelchairs or exam rooms while our staff can address a patient's clinical needs. These tasks also allow our staff to stay on schedule and not run behind.

Whether they walk a patient to the lab in the clinic to ensure the patient finds their way, or hand a book to a pediatric patient, or stuff envelopes or patient education folders, our volunteers are very helpful when it comes to getting the job done.

Even though there our volunteers are not required to work a certain number of hours, they are always happy to volunteer multiple times per week or even daily if needed. While some volunteers prefer to stick to one area like the clinic or the Healthy By Design Gardeners' Market, others prefer to help within multiple departments. This sometimes requires additional training, but our volunteers willingly take this on without hesitation.

Last year, RiverStone Health volunteers tallied 4,497 hours of service. In honor of National Volunteer Month, RiverStone Health would like to give a very big thank you to our volunteers. Whether you have volunteered one hour in your lifetime or 1000 hours in a year, you have helped us advance our mission while spreading kindness and joy. We could not carry on this important work without you.

RiverStone Health is always looking for new volunteers with a passion for working on a team and helping others. To become a volunteer at RiverStone Health, learn more an complete an online application at [RiverStoneHealth.org/volunteer](https://RiverStoneHealth.org/volunteer). A background check, TB screening and references are required.

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