Volunteer Spotlight
Delivering Nutrition and Smiles

Dinah Mouat is a bundle of energy, business acumen, and surprises. She leverages those qualities and more with the Greater Cleveland Volunteers partner organization, Southeast Clergy Meals on Wheels (MOW).

Dinah’s business experience helped prepare her for her role with MOW. Like any nonprofit, Meals on Wheels has to take in as much money as it spends. With Dinah’s guidance, fundraising has succeeded through volunteer/client donations, local service groups, area churches and successful fundraising events, while maintaining a presence in the cities served.

Dinah was raised with the understanding that giving back to the community was the “right thing to do.” “I’m a do-gooder,” Dinah explains, “My mother was a nurse who helped her immigrant neighbors find the care they needed. My father was a union organizer at General Electric, fighting for the welfare of its members. “It’s my obligation to help the guy next door.” And that’s what she does. Dinah believes she is rewarded in relationships developed and satisfaction of an appreciative clientele. “I do what a good neighbor does.”

For prospective volunteers, Dinah invites you to take a ride with one of the current delivery people. “You’ll quickly learn if it is something you’d like to do.” If you pursue the opportunity, they will do a mandated background check, train you, and add you to the schedule of at least one route, once a week. Hours and days are very flexible.

The 43-year-old Southeast Clergy Meals on Wheels is fashioned to serve the Bedford City School District (including Bedford, Bedford Hts., Walton Hills and Oakwood) Sometimes the Meals on Wheels deliverer is the only person a client sees on all day. Dinah reminds us that “it’s this kind of human contact that can make a difference for the volunteer and the client, as well.”

To get started volunteering with this organization, contact Jan at 216-391-9500 x 2124 or jvectirelis@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

PLAYERS ANNIVERSARY
Entertaining for 25 years

The Players, a script-in-hand volunteer theatre troupe managed by Greater Cleveland Volunteers, has dazzled audiences for 25 years. The troupe creates specific scripts for senior audiences that inform, educate and entertain them on various relatable subjects.

The 16 members deliver an average of 50 performances a season (September to May) and has entertained more than 17,500 audience members in their history.

Thank you to this dedicated group of volunteers! To join the troupe contact Nancy at 216-391-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.
What’s happening next?
AARP Foundation Experience Corps Anniversary and Expansion

2018 marks the 20th year of our agency managing a literacy tutoring program. The program was originally called ‘Seniors for Schools’ but is now part of the national AARP Foundation program called Experience Corps. This program has served 41 different schools and our volunteer tutors have helped more than 14,000 students in kindergarten through third grade since 1997. The program serves students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and the Euclid City Schools. We thank all of our dedicated volunteers and staff who have been a part of Experience Corps over the past 20 years! We also thank all of the funders that have supported the program.

We are excited to announce that we have received funding from the national AARP Foundation to expand Experience Corps into the afterschool setting at two Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland locations: A.J. Rickoff School and Franklin D. Roosevelt School. We are looking for volunteers to tutor in these new locations.

If you have an interest in helping a young student learn to improve their literacy skills, contact our Experience Corps Program Manager, Ross Jones at 216-391-9500 x 2119 or rjones@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

Joy Banish
Executive Director

We’re Connected:
One of our partner agencies

In 1858 Eliza Simmons Bryant, arrived in Cleveland from North Carolina. After the Civil War, Eliza’s family helped many needy people for periods of time. The Simmons home on Newton Avenue was known as a place where a warm bed and a good meal were available.

In 1893 Eliza Simmons Bryant and her mother noticed that there were no facilities in Cleveland to care for older African Americans as they became frail with no loved ones to care for them.

The efforts of these dedicated women were fruitful and on September 1, 1896 a home was incorporated – the Cleveland Home for Aged Colored People. Today it is called Eliza Bryant Village and offers a wide range of services to older adults.

Many volunteer opportunities are available including Friendly Visitors, Library Aide and Entertainment. To volunteer: Nancy 216-391-9500 x 2123 ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org

Making things happen:
Meet one of our Funders

We are honored to recognize The Frank Hadley Ginn and Cornelia Root Ginn Foundation for their long-time support of our AARP Foundation Experience Corps program!

In May, our agency received a generous grant award that will help us continue to provide access to comprehensive literacy tutoring to low-income K-3 students in the City of Cleveland.

The Ginn’s passion for the arts, music, and City of Cleveland can be traced back to the mid-1800s. Following their deaths in the late 1930s, Frank and Cornelia’s extensive art collection was passed on to their four children. Over the next two generations, the family decided to sell the remainder of the collection and use the profits to establish a charitable endowment.

In 2000, after the five remaining paintings were sold, the Frank Hadley Ginn and Cornelia Root Ginn Charitable Trust was officially established. Since then, the family foundation has awarded 309 grants to 99 organizations, totaling more than $2.7 million.

We thank the Ginn Family for their support!
Volunteer Opportunities
Offerings from our partner agencies

Helping the Community - Help older adults live safely and independently. Assist senior citizens with unskilled home maintenance tasks in and around their homes. Leaf raking, small painting projects, switching out seasonal clothing and assisting with new technology are a few of the tasks needed in eight east side suburban communities. 2-hour shifts available on weekdays and weekends.
Contact Nancy at 216-391-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

Resale Shop Assistance - If you like garage sales, this is a great fit. Assist at a resale store on the Westside of Cleveland in the household department. You would help with pricing, placement and customer service with all kinds of treasures for the home.
Hours needed Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday until 6:00.
There are 4-hour shifts.
Contact Nancy at 216-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

Become a member of a Disaster Action Team - Assist in providing relief to disaster victims by attending to immediate needs of individuals and families, such as food, shelter, clothing, first aid and other emergency needs. Qualified volunteers need to be 18 years of age, have a valid driver’s license, in good health and complete required training within one year. Must be able to be on-call for 12-hour shifts.
Contact Nancy at 216-391-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

Speak to Kids About Social Justice - Empower and amplify the voices of teens and pre-teens by engaging in interactive discussions centered around social justice. Two volunteer speakers are partnered and lead discussion topics pertaining to self-confidence and values in 6th-12th grade classrooms in Cleveland schools. Speaking can be done once or multiple times and times are flexible. A 2-hour commitment is required. Training is provided for first half-hour and speaking session with students is one hour.
Contact Kirsten at 216-391-9500 x 2114 or contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

High School Students - Mentor or tutor high school students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds who are the first in their family to attend college. Volunteer as a mentor, ACT tutor or writing instructor. Mentors begin with a sophomore mentee and work with the student through their senior year. Groups welcome to volunteer one or more times as ACT tutors with materials provided. Located in Tower City, the program is on Saturdays only.
Contact Kirsten at 216-391-9500 x 2114 or contact@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

Assist at Food Pantries - Unload, sort and distribute produce to those in need. Help carry produce to load in cars. East and west side locations. East side opportunity is every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. West side location is open Monday through Friday from 9:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Contact Jan at 216-391-9500 x 2124 or jvectirelis@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

Entertain Seniors with Music - Perform songs with different genres and eras for the environment and pleasure of seniors in a nursing home and adult day program on the east side of Cleveland. Performances welcomed Monday-Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Contact Nancy at 216-951-9500 x 2123 or ndzurnak@greaterclevelandvolunteers.org.

If you are age 50+, check out the volunteer opportunities available in the Encore Cleveland program on our website.
greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/programs/encore.php
Stillwater Place  
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo  
Friday, September 21, 2018  
5:30 VIP admission  
6:30 Standard admission

Our annual benefit will feature appetizers, dinner, the popular silent auction and  
Community Partner Award to TEGNA Foundation/WKYC  
David F. Leahy Award for Volunteer Excellence to volunteer, Mark Cline

Event and Sponsorship details at  
greaterclevelandvolunteers.org/supportus  
Or: Melissa at 216-391-9500 x 2130

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