

# Volunteer Newsletter



Camano Center & 2nd Chance Thrift Shop

## **Celebrating National Senior Center Month**

#### *Powering Connections How will you connect?*

September is National Senior Center Month, and this year's theme, "Powering Connections," highlights the importance of building relationships and fostering a sense of community. As volunteers, you play a crucial role in bringing this theme to life. Here are some exciting opportunities at our Center where you can make a significant impact:

#### Volunteer at Our Thrift Shop

Our thrift shop is a vibrant part of our community, offering quality items at affordable prices. By sorting, cleaning, and pricing donations, you help ensure that our shop continues to thrive. Your friendly interaction with customers and other volunteers creates a welcoming atmosphere that encourages repeat visits and supports our programs.

#### Become a Friend at the Old Friends Club

The Old Friends Club is a fantastic way to engage with older adults with dementia on a more personal level. Whether it's through organizing activities, sharing stories, or simply lending a listening ear, your involvement can brighten someone's day and build lasting friendships.

#### **Enroll in an Exercise Class**

Physical activity is vital for health and well-being, and our exercise classes are a great way to promote fitness and community.

#### **Attend In-Person Lunches**

Our in-person lunches on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays are wonderful opportunities to connect with others over a meal. As a volunteer, you can help with setup and serve food, or simply just come to lunch to join in the conversation. Your presence and friendly demeanor can make these lunches a highlight of the week for many.

#### Assist with Volunteer Medical Rides

Providing transportation for medical appointments is a critical service. As a volunteer driver, you ensure that older adults in our community get the care they need. Beyond driving, you can offer companionship or provide a reassuring presence during the drive to their appointments. Your support can make a daunting experience much more manageable.

#### Sign Up for an Aging Mastery Class

Join us for a 10-week Aging Mastery Class and discover the benefits of aging well! This program offers valuable information on topics such as healthy living, financial security, and staying socially connected. It's a fantastic opportunity to learn practical tips for enhancing your quality of life while meeting new friends and engaging in meaningful discussions. Don't miss out on this chance to empower yourself and enrich your journey through aging.

#### Tips for Making the Most of Your Experience

**Be Present and Engaged**: Whether you are at the thrift shop, in a fitness class, or driving someone to a medical appointment, your genuine interest and engagement make a huge difference.

**Listen and Connect**: Take the time to listen to the stories and experiences of the people you interact with. Building these connections can be incredibly rewarding for both you and them.

**Share Your Skills:** If you have a particular talent or interest, consider leading a workshop or activity. Sharing your skills can empower older adults and bring fresh energy to our Center.

**Spread the Word**: Encourage friends, family, and community members to get involved. The more volunteers we have, the stronger our network of support becomes.

By participating in these activities, you embody the spirit of "Powering Connections" and help create a supportive, inclusive environment at our Center. Your contributions are invaluable, and we are grateful for your dedication and enthusiasm.

Thank you for making a difference and helping us celebrate National Senior Center Month in such a meaningful way!





### **Christmas Garage Sale**

Our recent Everything Christmas Garage Sale was a huge success, and we couldn't have done it without our amazing team of volunteers! Each year, thanks to feedback from our volunteers and community members, we continue to improve and make the sale even better.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the sale—whether you helped set up, continued working at the thrift shop to keep it open, donated items, shopped, or spread the word. It truly takes a team, and we have the best one. Thank you all for your dedication and hard work!



# **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

#### Camano Center Medical Transportation Drivers

Assist Camano Island residents with transportation to necessary medical-related appointments. Mileage reimbursed. Background Check Required. Schedule and destination distance determined by you.

#### Wednesday Lunch Servers

Help with set up and serving lunch at the Camano Center on Wednesdays from 11:00 am -12:45 pm.

#### Gardeners

Camano Center is looking for anyone who enjoys gardening or those interested in helping keep our beds weeded and pruned throughout the growing seasons. Time can be at your convenience and pace.

#### Gala Auction Clean-Up Calling all night owls!!

Many hands lighten the load. We are looking for anyone who would be available from approximately 9:00 pm -10:30 pm on Saturday, September 28th to help with tearing down tables and chairs and cleaning up/resetting the Center at the completion of the Gala Auction.

#### **2nd Chance Thrift Shop**

Available Shifts: Thursdays 1 pm -4 pm Fridays 1 pm - 4pm Saturdays 10 am - 1 pm

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

Camano Center Thursday, September 12 Noon - 2 pm

#### **Gala Auction**

Camano Center Saturday, September 28 5:30 pm doors open Tickets go on sale September 3

#### **Holiday Craft Bazaar**

Camano Center Saturday, November 16 9:00 am -4:00 pm

Would you or someone you know enjoy volunteering either at the Camano Center or the 2nd Chance Thrift Shop? Contact: Lisa Brents, Volunteer Services Manager (360) 387-0222 or email lbrents@camanocenter.org

# CELEBRATE NATIONAL SENIOR CENTER MONTH AT THE CAMANO CENTER spaghetti Lunch

Fundraiser

# SEPTEMBER 12TH 12:00PM - 2:00PM AT THE CAMANO CENTER

JOIN US FOR A

TICKETS ARE FREE. GUESTS WILL BE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE A DONATION TO SUPPORT CAMANO CENTER PROGRAMS & SERVICES. **RESERVE YOUR TICKET AT 360-387-0222** 606 ARROWHEAD RD., CAMANO ISLAND **Camano**Center

## Camano Center & 2nd Chance Thrift Shop Volunteer Facebook group

For those who may not know, we have a Facebook group for volunteers.

The intention of the group is to encourage sharing of what you and your friends are doing during your volunteer assignments with our organization.

This group also lets us reach out to ask for help when we are running short on volunteers in particular areas.

Please post your great pics or comments as often as you would like. Let's keep it fun and lighthearted.

This page is for Camano Center & 2nd Chance Thrift Shop Volunteers only. www.facebook.com/groups/992894578220212/ or scan QR code to join

