



# Volunteer Newsletter



Camano Center & 2nd Chance Thrift Shop

## Volunteering During the Holidays

**Our Mission:** We support healthy aging, connection, and well-being for adults 55 and older.

**Our Vision:** A community where older adults are empowered to live their lives to their fullest potential.

**Our Values:** We behave with compassion, respect, and integrity. We foster an environment of inclusion and continuous growth. We act with a heart of service.

The holidays are a beautiful mix of joy, connection, and generosity — but they can also bring extra bustle, full calendars, and a little less rest than usual. For those who give their time to help others, the season can be especially full. At the Camano Center, we see every day how much heart our volunteers bring to each shift, each smile, and each act of kindness. And during the holidays, that spirit seems to glow even brighter.

But it's worth remembering: caring for others starts with caring for ourselves. When you take the time to breathe, rest, laugh, and refuel, you're also keeping the spirit of service alive. Whether you're helping at the thrift shop, greeting guests for lunch, delivering meals, or lending a hand at one of our holiday events, please remember that your well-being matters deeply to us. You don't have to give until you're empty — just showing up with kindness and warmth is already a gift.



For some, the holidays can also bring a mix of emotions — especially if they hold memories of loved ones who are no longer with us, or if this time of year feels different than it used to. If you're feeling a bit tender this season, you're not alone. One of the quiet strengths of our volunteer family is how we hold space for one another — a kind word, a listening ear, or even just a shared moment of understanding can mean more than we realize.

The best part of volunteering this time of year isn't about the number of tasks accomplished or hours given — it's about the connections made. It's about sharing a laugh over coffee before your shift, helping a fellow volunteer find a moment to rest, or reminding someone that what they're doing truly makes a difference. The holidays can be magical not because of the pace but because of the people who fill them with care.

So as we move through the busy season together, let's look out for one another. Offer a kind word, share a cookie, take a breath between projects, and remember — the warmth you bring to others is a reflection of the care you give yourself. Thank you for being the heart of our community and for keeping the spirit of the holidays shining bright in every way you serve.



**ALL VOLUNTEER  
HOLIDAY  
PARTY**

**Drop in for holiday food, drink, friendship, and 50% off shopping!**

Please shop for yourself or close family so everyone can share in the holiday cheer.

**Tuesday, December 16, 2 pm - 4 pm**

**Location: 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Shop  
Carpooling Recommended**



# Holiday Closures

Camano Center & 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Shop

• Week of December 22-27

*Exception: Meals on Wheels will deliver on  
Monday December 22<sup>nd</sup>*

• Thursday, January 1, 2026  
Happy New Year!



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## Current Positions Needing Filled

### Camano Center

Caring, experienced volunteers needed to co-facilitate our Powerful Tools for Caregivers 6-week class!

What we're looking for:

- Someone who's been a family caregiver themselves
- Willingness to team-teach for 6 weeks using the PTC curriculum
- Completion of the PTC Class Leader training (virtual or in-person)

The class helps caregivers build self-care skills, manage stress, and feel more confident while caring for others.

### 2nd Chance Thrift Shop

Available Shifts:  
Fridays - linens area  
Saturdays - pricing/sorting

## UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Mark your calendars for some great upcoming events. For those who enjoy volunteering for special events, please let me know which events you would like to volunteer at this year.

All Volunteer Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 16

2 pm - 4 pm (drop-in)

Location: 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Thrift Shop


Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 17

Location: Camano Center

Seating begins at 11:30 am

RSVP 360.387.0222



**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](mailto:lbrents@camanocenter.org)**

**Webpage:  
<https://camanocenter.org/volunteer/>**



**Camano Center Volunteer Resources Webpage**

**NEW VIDEO UP:** Surviving the Holidays: 5 Unique Strategies- Cole James (The Grief Recovery Method)

# 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/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/992894578220212/)  
or scan QR code to join*





# Become a Powerful Tools for Caregivers Class Master Trainer!



We're looking for compassionate volunteers to co-teach our Powerful Tools for Caregivers (PTC) 6-week course.

## ★ Why Volunteer?

Help caregivers build confidence, reduce stress, and strengthen their self-care skills. Your experience can make a meaningful difference.

## 🔍 What We're Looking For

- Previous experience as a family caregiver
- Willingness to co-teach a 6-week PTC class at least once per year
- Commitment to completing the PTC Class Leader Training (virtual or in-person)

## ❤️ We Provide

- Official PTC leader training
- All teaching materials and curriculum
- Ongoing support from our team

## ✉️ Interested?

Contact: Karen Conway or Lisa Brents

360.387.0222

[kconway@camanocenter.org](mailto:kconway@camanocenter.org) or [lbrents@camanocenter.org](mailto:lbrents@camanocenter.org)

**Help empower caregivers in our community – become a PTC Master Trainer!**

# 55 OR OLDER, UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK?

## WE CAN HELP!

*For more than 50 years, AARP Foundation Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) has provided people over age 55 with opportunities to fill entry-level and mid-level positions with employers in their communities.*

### HOW IT WORKS

SCSEP trainees are placed in a variety of community service activities at nonprofit and public facilities like day care and senior centers, schools and hospitals. This on-the-job training experience can be a bridge to find employment opportunities outside of the program. Participants work an average of 20 hours a week and are paid the highest federal, state or local minimum wage.

### WHO'S ELIGIBLE?

You must be age 55 or older, unemployed and financially qualified. Please contact your local office to learn more about the financial qualifications.

*SCSEP is funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.*



### OTHER BENEFITS

We provide participants with training and support services that are important for funding future employment. The services include Individual Employment Plan (IEP) development, specialized training to prepare for placements, wages and fringe benefits, annual physicals and assistance in securing future employment.

### WHAT KINDS OF JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?

You could be placed in a wide variety of community service positions at both nonprofit and public facilities including day care and senior centers, governmental agencies, schools, hospitals and libraries. These training assignments help build the skills and experience needed to obtain future employment. Additional training through lectures, seminars, one-on-one instruction, training programs and community colleges may also be provided

Learn more at [aarpfoundation.org](http://aarpfoundation.org)

**AARP Foundation**<sup>®</sup>  
For a future without senior poverty.



**2nd Chance Thrift Shop  
is a host agency for this  
great program.**

**Please inquire if you or  
someone you know can  
benefit from this  
program.**

# INTERESTED?

Contact your local SCSEP

Office (425) 366-4457

email [ccrosno@aarp.org](mailto:ccrosno@aarp.org)

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