

# **Volunteering with Northampton Neighbors**

Thank you for your interest in being an NN volunteer. At the heart of our mission are people like you who volunteer their time and talent so that NN members can continue to lead rich and engaging lives. We invite you to apply your skills, interests, and life experiences to support our community.

## **How You Can Help**

We find when people volunteer in ways that are meaningful to them, they get as much from giving as our members receive. As a volunteer, you can choose to offer direct services or help in other ways to support NN's mission.

### **Becoming a Direct-Service Volunteer**

You are ready to begin direct-service volunteering once you have:

- Returned your volunteer application with a copy of your government-issued photo ID
- Registered as an NN member
- Attended a volunteer introduction
- Had a conversation with our volunteer coordinator
- Provided a copy of your driver's license and auto insurance showing liability coverage (if you plan to offer transportation).

#### **Direct Services**

Following are just some of the ways volunteers support our members.

- Call Managers: Connect members and volunteers
- In-Home Services: Small fixes like changing a bulb or flipping a mattress
- Neighborly Calls and Visits: A regular check-in, by phone or in person
- Pioneer Valley Memory Care Initiative: Person-centered support for people living with memory loss

- Tech Help: Set up phone, Zoom, smart speakers, and thermostats;
   join our Laptop Program team
- Transportation: Short trips around Northampton and no-contact errands and food delivery

## Other Ways to Get Involved

- Fundraising and Development
- Community Partnerships
- Special Event Planning
- Neighborhood Circles
- Interest Groups
- Outreach: Our mission is to serve all our neighbors. We especially
  welcome bilingual volunteers, and those interested in working with the
  LGBT community and low-income communities, and on
  intergenerational projects.

## **In Summary**

NN runs on the power that comes from connecting people who have abundant energy, creativity, knowledge, and determination to make the world a better place. To make the most of your volunteering experience we ask that you:

- Tell us about your skills, interests, and life experiences.
- Consider what you want to get out of volunteering.
- Give and take honest feedback.
- Respect the confidentiality and autonomy of all our Northampton Neighbors.
- Contact NN when you have questions or need resource information.
- Most important of all: bring your heart and sense of humor to your volunteer service, along with an enthusiastic spirit, which is itself a priceless gift.