



URVC SNAPSHOT

August 2021, Issue 1

Contact us at
urvc@umn.edu
612-625-8016
or visit our website
www.urvc.umn.edu

WELCOME

The University Retirees Volunteer Center invites you to SNAPSHOT, our capsule newsletter. Here you can learn about new volunteer opportunities, University and community projects, volunteer news, and interesting ways volunteers are applying their knowledge and experience.

ABOUT URVC

Since 1987, the University Retirees Volunteer Center has a history of service to the University and our metro community with an ongoing mission to:

1. Provide opportunities for service that are rewarding for volunteers
2. Gather, assess, and deliver relevant information about opportunities for volunteer service within the University and the Twin Cities communities at large
3. Act as a referral service for University units and community agencies seeking volunteers



During the months of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of our URVC projects made a transition from onsite to virtual, online volunteering. More than **174** volunteers continued to actively participate, completing **6,880** reported hours of volunteer work within the past year. Today, URVC has a total of **503** volunteers, and despite last year's unprecedented circumstances, URVC has added many new volunteer opportunities, including **16** community projects and **11** University projects.

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION

Dr. Phil Peterson and Karin Peterson are mentors working with the Retired Faculty Mentoring Program for Undergraduate Research Scholar awardees, offered in association with the Office of Undergraduate Research. This group of scholars are working on projects which focus on, "Climate Change, the Covid-19 Pandemic, and Environmental Injustice: Understanding the Root Causes and Interactions." This summer featured a timely lecture series on climate change.

Also mentors with the Retired Faculty Mentoring Program are Dr. Jonathan Ravdin and Marcie Ravdin, whose Undergraduate Research Scholars are focusing on developing research projects on the topic, "Death and Transition in Minnesota".



The UMN College of Education and Human Development, in collaboration with the Humphrey School of Public Administration, has offered a virtual Leadership Institute for up to twenty-five young African leaders in the Mandela Washington Fellowship Program -- a U.S. State Department initiative. Several URVC volunteers were selected as "focus project coaches". These coaches support Fellows through feedback on project development initiatives and new networking ideas.

Recognition and appreciation for URVC member, David Hunter, who has completed over **300** hours of volunteer service during this last year through projects: A.I.M., Meals on Wheels, Help at Your Door, Injector, and COVID Clinics.

NEW AND NEWSWORTHY

URVC Website

The summer project of revamping the URVC website is now complete. See our makeover at: www.urvc.umn.edu.

URVC Board Members Elections

Last month the URVC welcomed four new Members to our Board of Directors. Congratulations to University of Minnesota retirees David Hunter, Ron Matross, Beverly Moe, and Jerry Rinehart who began their first year of a three-year term. Jerry Rinehart will also be taking on the responsibilities of Board Chair.



David Hunter,
MD,
Professor
Emeritus,
Department
of Radiology.



Ron Matross,
Senior Analyst
Office of
Undergrad
Education.



Beverly Moe,
Office of
General
Counsel.



Jerry Rinehart,
Dean and Vice
Provost of the
Office of
Student Affairs,
CSOM.



UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

These current projects are actively seeking volunteers.

Academic Integrity Matters (A.I.M.)

Based on the principles of restorative justice to address student academic misconduct, a panel of university community volunteers meet with UMN students who have failed to comply with the student conduct code. Volunteer panel members participate in discussions to create an educational plan for students to complete, with a goal of helping these students better understand academic integrity, and the potential effects of academic misconduct. *Eligibility: Current and/or retired UMN faculty and staff who have experience working with students.* Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

Characterizing Ankle Proprioception in Older Adults

Conducted by the University of Minnesota Human Sensorimotor Control (HSC) Laboratory, this study is designed to assist researchers in understanding how the human brain controls movement. The study's goal is to establish a typical dataset of ankle proprioception--the sense of self movement and body perception--so that data can be used to compare against previously gathered data from subjects with Parkinson's disease. Click [HERE](#) to sign up or to find more information on eligibility.

Airport Foundation: Travelers Assistance Volunteer

One of the most visible resources for visitors to the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, this volunteer team provides information and services to more than two million travelers each year. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

St. Anne's Place of Haven and Housing: Tutoring Children K - 12/ Simpson Housing Services: Tutoring Children K-5

School-age children need literacy and academic learning assistance. St. Anne's Place and Simpson Housing Services are emergency homeless shelters. Tutors help with homework via online tutoring sessions-- weekdays, mornings, afternoons, and/or evenings. There are also opportunities for in-person tutoring. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

VOLUNTEER PROJECT DEVELOPMENT INTEREST?



Interested in developing a department, program, or community volunteer project? Contact the URVC office staff for more information or assistance at urvc@umn.edu or call us at 612-625-8016.