



# FOLKS AT HOME

141 University Avenue • Sewanee, TN 37375 • (931) 598-0303 • folksathome.org

SPRING 2021

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Little did I (or anyone) suspect that the months to follow my March 2020 message to our members would be unlike anything experienced before. The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic led to sheltering-in-place, social distancing, masking, working from home, closing of the Senior Center, suspension of family and social gatherings—the list could go on and on. Telephoning, FaceTime, and Zoom became the norm for getting things done and for getting together.

The *Sewanee Messenger's* March 20th edition let our community know how Folks at Home was planning to respond in the months to come. Folks at Home became, for the first time, an essential 24/7 community resource. Wall and Sarah rose to the occasion, extending operating hours, placing check-in calls to members, providing or organizing such things as meal and mail deliveries for the homebound, medical transportation solutions, and a flu shot clinic for the community. They also registered 31 elders for vaccination appointments! Services almost doubled as new needs arose.

In late summer or early fall, our community can look forward to the return of Folks at Home's familiar range of member services – from essential transportation to restorative programs and classes.

Throughout this pandemic year, Folks at Home has been blessed with funding from memberships, gifts, and grants. As 2021 continues to evolve, this community support continues to be essential to sustaining Folks at Home. As you can, please contribute. Thank you.

**Craig Stubblebine, President**

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



2020 and 2021 have provided Folks at Home with new opportunities to lend a hand. With the help of community volunteers, we delivered meals to homebound folks, mail to high risk community members, and provided assistance with COVID-19 vaccination registration. With the help of an SCCF philanthropic grant we

have been able to provide a safer alternative for essential medical transportation to our elders. We have also greatly enjoyed our regular member check-in calls. Despite suspending some services, total service calls almost doubled in 2020 from 2019. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve you in this time of challenge and opportunity. Stay healthy and safe!

**Wall Wofford, Executive Director**  
**Sarah Doyi, Services Coordinator**

*My husband and I are in our 80s and are unable to drive a car. Our children live in another state. Thanks to Folks at Home, we can continue living in our home in Sewanee. Folks at Home keeps up with us. They are eager to provide help as needed, such as driving us to necessary appointments. They also keep in touch and make us feel comfortable to ask for assistance when we need it. We would not be able to remain in our home if we could not count on Folks at Home's being there when we need them.*

FOLKS AT HOME MEMBER



*Folks at Home is fantastic for those of us who have needs, and Folks at Home has always been very helpful to me. I recommend them to anyone. The transportation service has been very well coordinated.*

FOLKS AT HOME MEMBER

## F@H Assists Sewanee Senior Center During COVID-19 Closure

When the Sewanee Senior Center (SSC) had to close last April 2020, its lunch delivery program stopped. Thankfully, Folks at Home and a team of community volunteers stepped up to continue delivering lunches to the Center's regular recipients and anyone else who wanted one in the community. The University's dining services graciously provided the lunches that Folks at Home delivered,

while SSC was closed.

Folks at Home was also able to collaborate with Walgreens Pharmacy to offer a safe setting for senior community members to get their flu shots.

Folks at Home remains diligent in making sure folks at the Center (now open) are aware of other helpful services. Information about an SCCF-funded medical

transportation assistance program and how to get help from Folks at Home to sign up for the COVID-19 vaccination is posted at the Center.

A big *thank you* to Folks at Home for working with the Sewanee Senior Center to make sure our seniors stay informed and healthy!

**Susan Horton,**  
SSC Board Member



### COVID-19 Vaccination Assistance —Spring 2021—



68

The number of episodes of assistance with 31 persons over age 70 registered for vaccination.



31

The number of medical transports (so far)—many for COVID-19 vaccinations—funded by the SCCF Philanthropic Grant.

### Call Data + 2020

1,937

Total Service Calls  
(Almost twice the volume of 2019)

786

Meal Deliveries  
(With Community Help)

511

Pro Bono Calls

213

Mail Deliveries  
(With Community Help)

496

Phone Check-ins

79

Errands Run

70

Home Check-ins/Visits (Safely)

56

Tech Support

53

DME Checkouts



*Folks at Home is a real lifeline to senior citizens in so many ways. Several times they have provided free transportation for me to a retinal specialist in Nashville, have gotten us scheduled for our two COVID-19 vaccinations and provided us a ride there, have arranged for a sorority to do challenging gardening for us, have picked up our recycling materials, and have called regularly to make sure we are doing well, etc. Folks at Home is a big blessing to the Sewanee community.*

FOLKS AT HOME MEMBER

Thanks to these sponsors  
for their support!



SEWANEE

The University  
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### Folks at Home MISSION STATEMENT

Empowering folks to remain in their homes  
with dignity in the community they love.