openarms A newsletter for our clients & their loved ones

APRIL 2025

HAPPY GLOBAL VOLUNTEER MONTH!

Happy April from Open Arms! Did you know that April is Global Volunteer Month? We are so excited to celebrate the amazing Open Arms volunteers who make it possible to provide nourishing medically tailored meals to you, our clients. Our 6000+ volunteers are the heart and soul of Open Arms. They take part in nearly every aspect of our operations to ensure that our meals arrive at your front door each week. Here are a few of the ways our volunteers help:











Open Farms

Volunteers help grow, tend, and harvest some of the organic produce that is included in your medically tailored meals. We operate 5 organic farms (called Open Farms) across the Twin Cities metro and Afton.

Kitchen

Volunteers are hard at work cutting vegetables and packaging medically tailored meals at both our Minneapolis and St. Paul kitchens Monday through Saturday!

Bakery

Volunteers and bakers are busy creating delicious baked goods throughout the week, including cookies, baguettes, dinner rolls, dessert loaves, and our decadent chocolate cakes!

Client Meal Packaging

Volunteers work closely with our logistics team to combine all the meals and snacks included in your weekly delivery into one bag and sorted onto the correct route. This assembly-line process happens in the morning Monday through Friday!

Client Meal Delivery

Volunteers deliver meals all around the Twin Cities! Drivers arrive at Open Arms at 10:30am to receive their delivery bags and route sheet. We stock them up on coffee and cookies, then send them on their way. Many volunteer delivery drivers say that meeting clients is their favorite part about volunteering!





Client Meal Shipping

Volunteers play a key role in supporting our shipping program out of the St. Paul Kitchen & Campus to serve our clients in Greater Minnesota. Volunteers assemble and insulate shipping boxes, pack in meals, add ice, and seal up boxes for shipment.

Reception

Volunteers staff the front desk at both our Minneapolis and St. Paul locations. Whether they're assisting new volunteers or giving clients their meals for the week, our friendly volunteers always make visiting Open Arms a welcoming experience!

DELIVERY SERVICE REMINDER

Here is a friendly reminder that changes/adjustments to your delivery need to be communicated to Client Services at least TWO days before your scheduled delivery day. This includes cancellations and rescheduling delivery. Give us a call and we'll sort it all out for you!

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT: PEOPLE'S CENTER CLINICS & SERVICES

People's Center Clinics & Services (People's Center) was established in 1971 and became a Federally Qualified Health Center in 2003. We are a nationally recognized non-profit community health center serving vibrant communities in South Minneapolis and the surrounding areas. Our two clinics, located in the Cedar-Riverside and Longfellow neighborhoods, are dedicated to our mission of delivering affordable health care, inspiring hope, and promoting community wellness. Our clinics are conveniently located close to the bus line or light rail.

People's Center focuses on whole person care and offers a full range of medical/primary care, behavioral health, and dental care services. Medical services include preventive care, education, acute, and chronic management of diseases, reproductive health, low-cost pharmaceutical program, lab, STI/HIV testing for all ages. In Dental, we offer preventative care, examinations, x-rays, and hygiene services along with tooth extractions, root canals, fillings, bridges, crowns, and dental sealants to patients of all ages. We take walk-in appointments for medical and dental for urgent visits. We take all insurance, offer affordable prices, with flexible payment plans.

Learn more at www.peoples-center.org

Open Arms meals for clients aged 60 and older are significantly supported by **Trellis** and the **Older Americans Act**. If you'd like to make a donation to help support the meals you receive, please visit **openarmsmn.org/donate**, send a check to Open Arms (attn: Mary Beth Iverson), or call 612-677-2568 for assistance.



Delivery questions? Contact Client Services at 612-767-7333 or meals@openarmsmn.org. **Nutrition questions?** Contact Nutrition Services at 612-540-7759 or nutrition@openarmsmn.org.