

# Hospital Elder Life Program

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## Contact information

Melissa Sedlak, LSW, Elder Life Specialist, Miami Valley Hospital, 1 Wyoming St., Dayton, OH 45409, 937-208-2955

## What is HELP?

The Hospital Elder Life Program is a service designed to provide a safer, more enjoyable stay for patients aged 70 and older, while minimizing the chances of the patient becoming confused or delirious while in the hospital. HELP volunteers receive specialized training, and work closely with hospital staff to carry out activities designed to engage older adult patients and keep them physically and mentally strong.

## HELP Volunteer Requirements

Minimum commitment of 92 hours, which includes:

- 16 hours of orientation
- 16 hours of shadowing HELP staff or experienced volunteer
- 60 hours of additional volunteer hours

Volunteer shifts are currently Monday-Friday 9a-1p, 12:30p-4:30p, and 4p-8p, with weekend opportunities available for experienced volunteers.

\*Please note that HELP does not set a time deadline for when hours need to be completed.

## Required documentation

- Volunteer Application
- Volunteer information sheet – top portion only
- Proof of Immunizations- MMR, Varicella, and HEP B
- Proof of completion of 2 Step TB test (2 tests and 2 readings)
- Proof of flu shot (if volunteering October 1-March 31)
- **ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO STARTING ORIENTATION**

## AFTER TURNING IN APPLICATION YOU CAN EXPECT

- Confirmation of receipt of documents and orientation date
- A call or email to set up an interview (unless preapproved through UD MED220 course)
- Instructions for the day of orientation will be sent within 1-2 weeks via email before orientation

## UD student expectations

- Turn in all paperwork to the UD Community Partners Intern working with Dr. Scheltens
- Dr. Scheltens, Director of Pre-Medical Programs, University of Dayton, 937-229-2225
- Discuss course expectations for MED220 with Dr. Scheltens

## HELP

### **VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS**

- Be prompt and dependable
- Honestly reporting volunteer hours
- Notification of absences at least 24 hours in advance
- Follow HIPPA- Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act
- Notify HELP staff within 7 days when a schedule change is necessary
- Dress code: Green volunteer shirt & tan pants

### **ORIENTATION**

- Orientation is 9a-5p for 2 consecutive days: lectures, discussion, simulation, opportunity to meet professionals in an interdisciplinary team

### **WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING WITH ME TO ORIENTATION?**

- Photo ID or Hospital ID if already volunteering in another program
  - Once you receive your ID on the first day you can swipe your badge to pay for approved items on the days that you volunteer
    - Swipe for meals and snacks (\$10.00)
    - Swipe for parking
      - ❖ Park in the Apple Street or Visitor garage
- Pen/pencil
- A light sweater as the room temperatures vary
- Snacks or beverages from home, also available for purchase at the hospital
- Dress code is business casual with close toed shoes or sneakers

## **Additional HELP TEAM members**

### **VICKIE NOBLE**

- Director of Volunteer Services 208-2618

### **BRENDA AUGSBACH**

- Geriatric Program Manager 208-3772
- Elder Life Nurse Specialist

### **HEATHER AUSTIN-PERRY**

Project Coordinator Volunteer Services 208-3992

### **AMANDA ZEMMER**

Elder Life Nurse Specialist 208-3772