



beConnected

WINTER SNOW & WINDS DIDN'T STOP THESE AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!

Spring is finally trying to make its way to us! As we move out of a winter filled with snowstorms and brutally cold days, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers for your tremendous dedication and service to Berks Encore.

Throughout this challenging winter season, you continued to show up, deliver meals, deliver groceries, visit our people, check on the neighbors and make sure everyone was cared for.

Thank you for braving the snow, the ice and the cold to make such a meaningful difference.

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

WELCOME ABOARD!!!

We are thrilled to welcome our new volunteers who joined us from November through February to serve our people throughout Berks County:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sabrina Dougherty | Charles Loose |
| Kelly Rapley | Genevieve Adamov |
| Elizabeth Webb | Drew Russell |
| Marti Spezialetti | Vicki Adam |
| Kelly Aurora | Nancy Rogers |
| C2C Design Group | Carey Babczak |
| Alex Eskin | Denise Butkus |
| Marcia Andrews | Veronica Russell |
| Ami Johnson | Shruti Modi (Welcome Back!) |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Holiday Closure Dates:

- Monday, May 25th - Memorial Day
- Friday, June 19th - Juneteenth
- Friday, July 3rd - Fourth of July Observance

UPCOMING EVENTS!

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON: TBA
FURTHER DETAILS WILL BE COMING!




WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOUR STORY!

Have you ever had a moment that touched your heart or reminded you of why you volunteer?

The impact of volunteering goes both ways. We deliver meals and groceries or spend time visiting with our senior population, but the greatest gift comes back to the volunteer. Your experiences help highlight the true impact of the care and compassion our volunteers bring to people each day, as well as the blessing you receive from the people we serve.

So, if a simple conversation or moment has ever touched your heart, we invite you to share your inspirational story with us. If you would like to share a story, please contact:

Michelle Goodhart, Volunteer Engagement Coordinator, at 610-374-3195 ext. 225 or mgoodhart@berksencore.org




Garden Party


MAY 14TH 2026
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

READING PUBLIC MUSEUM
STONE TERRACE TENT AND ARBORETUM
500 Museum Rd, Reading, PA

\$75

 **Hot Club of READING**

Scan QR Code to purchase tickets or mail a check to Berks Encore!



Going Above and Beyond: A Volunteer's Compassion in Action

At Berks Encore, our volunteers are the heart of everything we do—and every so often, a story comes along that truly captures the spirit of service and compassion that defines our mission.

Recently, we received a touching email from a concerned neighbor of one of our grocery shopping and Meals on Wheels consumers, who is 92 years old. What began as a routine grocery delivery quickly became something much more meaningful.

Our dedicated volunteer, Kyle Fox, arrived at the gentleman's home one evening to deliver groceries. As always, Kyle went the extra step of bringing the groceries inside and putting them away.

After assisting with putting the groceries away, Kyle recognized that his client was unsteady on his feet. After speaking with him, the client asked Kyle to contact 911 for emergency medical assistance. Kyle remained with his client, assisting him with his shoes and ensuring his keys and wallet were ready, so the gentleman was prepared when the emergency responders arrived.

Kyle also took the initiative to contact the neighbor who had originally been keeping an eye on his client, making sure she was informed of the situation. His calm presence and thoughtful actions provided reassurance during what could have been a frightening moment.

The neighbor later reached out to express her sincere gratitude—not only for Kyle's extraordinary care, but for the dedication of all Berks Encore volunteers. She shared how deeply appreciative she is of the way our volunteers consistently go above and beyond to support the needs of older adults in our community.

Kyle's actions are a powerful reminder that volunteering is about more than completing a task—it's about human connection, awareness, and compassion. Thanks to his attentiveness and kindness, this gentleman received the help he needed, and a neighbor was given peace of mind.

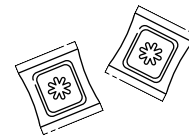
We are incredibly proud to have volunteers like Kyle Fox who embody the very best of Berks Encore.



HELPFUL TIPS & REMINDERS



Do not leave the meals at the door if no one answers unless there is a note in the tablet with instructions to do so.



If notes indicate a cooler there must be 2 ice packs in that cooler or no delivery.



Please make sure you ring the bell, knock loudly and give consumer time to answer. If no answer, call the consumer as last option.

Many of our consumers have difficult time getting to the door. please be patient with them.