

Home IN Place

On the *Home* front...

Spring 2023

205.210.9114
www.home-in-place.org

Home In Place is THE place to be in 2023! Why?

We're growing *Villager/ members more than doubled in 2022!*

We're building relationships *12 new volunteers in 2023 already!*

We're helping each other and having fun at it *73% more services!*

Who would have thought that volunteers would be clamoring for an opportunity to walk a little dog named Miracle?



Or that grownups would want to make an old-fashioned Valentine at a community event featuring youth dancers?



Who would have thought that driving someone to an appointment could lead to the discovery of mutual friends in a town in another state?

Or that changing lightbulbs might result a friendship between different generations?



Thank you for joining this innovative and growing community!

The Place to Be in 2023

Becky Embrey
Executive Director

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Valentine Fun

Speaking of Valentine's, our February 9th gathering generated the largest attendance at an event we have had so far! Villagers, volunteers, friends, and supporters were entertained by dancers from Ballet Arts & Fitness. Attendees enjoyed visiting and meeting new people while munching refreshments and creating a Valentine for someone special at the craft table.



What a terrific opportunity to share our story. Watch for upcoming events and join us!

Announcing . . . 2023 Annual Meeting, May 23, 2023 4:00 PM

Dr. Cynthia Warrick, retiring President of Stillman College, will be the keynote speaker for our Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 23. During her tenure, Dr. Warrick's leadership has been a dynamic force, both for Stillman College and for our community.

Coming from a background as a pharmacist and health services researcher and serving 20 years in higher education as both a faculty member and administrator, Cynthia became the first female President at Stillman College in April 2017. Her interest in intergenerational academic and social development makes her the ideal guest speaker for our annual meeting.



Join us as Cynthia shares her thoughts on creating community, caring for others, and enhancing the quality of life for all of us in the Tuscaloosa community.

Meet Volunteer Jordan Foster

She's one busy, hard-working, loving, kind, devoted, etc., etc., young lady. By Gary Creek, Home In Place Board Member

"I love being able to help others. That is what I feel I am called to do as a Christian."

It was a bit challenging just to get Jordan to slow down enough to talk with me. I must confess that when I was in high school I was not very involved—at least not in the things I should have been involved in—and I certainly was not busy serving others like Jordan. The world looks a bit brighter with young people like her on the horizon of adulthood.

Jordan, tell the Home In Place family a little about you.

I am a junior at Tuscaloosa County High School where I serve in five clubs including the SGA and National Honors Society and sing in the choir. I also work after school at an elementary school. I love kids and animals, especially dogs! I want to teach elementary school. I attend Saint Mark Church, which is where I met Becky Embrey who introduced me to Home In Place.



Helping others is what I am called to do as a Christian. My younger sister is my hero. We have been through a lot over the past several years and she has taken it all in stride. She never lost her faith or her smile. I really admire how strong and compassionate she is.

How did you get involved with Home In Place? How do you

volunteer? I saw a request for Home in Place volunteers in a bulletin at my church. I responded and have been volunteering since August 2021. I like the fact that I was trained by Home In Place to become a volunteer. The training was thorough, but it did not take a lot of time, which I do not have much of. Later, Becky asked if I would be interested in assisting (Villager/Member) Ms. Carole Woodman. I assist Ms. Woodman when she walks - once a week, usually on Mondays. She is such a nice lady. We have become friends.



I know Ms. Woodman appreciates you, but how have you benefited from your service? Among the many ways I have benefited from my walks with Ms. Woodman is that she has taught me to persevere and to never give up, even when that would be the easier option.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering? Meeting new people. I love getting to know people and making new friends! Home In Place has given me the opportunity not only to help someone else but also to meet new people and be a part of something good.

I would tell anyone who is thinking about volunteering to do it. It is so rewarding knowing that you helped someone even in just a small way. Volunteering can also get you out of your comfort zone and help you try new things and meet new people.

After getting to know Jordan Foster, this Home In Place board member feels like he needs to step up his game quite a bit!

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Becky at 205-210-9114.

In Memory of Margaret Harman

Margaret Harman, a beloved Villager, died peacefully at Hospice of West Alabama on March 15, 2023. She was 95 years old and remained healthy and active even into the final year of her life. In fact, the first time one of our volunteers took her shopping, Margaret walked her all over Walmart, Dollar General, and Hobby Lobby until they both finally agreed they were pooped!

Trained at the University of Virginia as a nurse, she managed her husband's medical practice, raised four sons, and ran for the Virginia House of Delegates in 1977.

Margaret retained a colorful vocabulary, and her son Jim recounted the fact that his mother and father would often spell out certain expletives rather than say them in front of the children. (As if the kids didn't know!)

At the age of 86, Margaret drove herself to Tuscaloosa and moved into an independent living facility to be near one of her sons and his family. Margaret had a large sense of humor that included laughing at herself, as well as telling amusing anecdotes about her life experiences. Sometimes she would say "Not bad for a 90-something woman!" And then laughing, "Wait! How old *am* I?" She was always a joy and will be missed.



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Members and volunteers working together to redefine aging