

Breath of Life Adult Day Care Celebrates 20 Years of Service

Twenty years ago, Bob Schricker founded Breath of Life Adult Day Service for special-needs seniors and offer relief to their caregivers. The program, housed at Woodland Good Samaritan campus on Brainerd's south side, has served thousands over the past two decades.

Providing daily care for relatives suffering from dementia, recovering from strokes, Alzheimer's or Parkinson's diseases is a 24/7 responsibility. Even a day or two a week at Breath of Life provides respite for caregivers.

Schricker said, "This stimulating program of activities serves both those who require special care and those who take care of their needs at home." While at Breath of Life, visiting, puzzles, games, cards, crafts, singing, exercise, friendships, and personal care generate smiles on client's faces. "Love, joy and happiness is what Breath of Life staff and volunteers strive to provide," he said.

Celebrating their 20th anniversary last month, current director Paul Welch thanked the community support from the Otto Bremer Trust, Crow Wing Power Community Trust Operation Round-Up, Lakes Area United Way, Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union, Essentia Health St. Joseph's Foundation, Brainerd UPS employees, Walmart, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, LeadingAge Minnesota and many more companies, foundations and individuals.

Breath of Life continues to grow their home-like environment to meet the needs of additional regional folks. Like so many other businesses, additional volunteers and staffers are needed. One of the key attractions of this "home-away-from-home" is that transportation (pick-up and take home) is provided.

Breath of Life Adult Day Service: 200 Buffalo Hills Lane, Brainerd, MN 56401 (218-822-3296) Prospective caregivers contemplating these services are encouraged to call or visit any time.