

Prov *People* up close and personal with Portland-area employees and volunteers

Stan Keltz, volunteer, Providence Milwaukie Hospital

Providence receives incalculable benefits from the hundreds of volunteers who are drawn to work for our health care ministry. They devote thousands of hours doing jobs that improve the patient and family experience. Stan Keltz, a Providence Milwaukie volunteer, is one of those whose contributions go well beyond any job description. The retired electrical engineer also has volunteered to help Milwaukie seniors with their income tax returns, make any type of home repair for neighbors in need, and minister to residents in assisted living centers. His trademark bow tie is well known to patients in the ED, and he always wears pins of the American flag, Marine Corps insignia and Providence cross. He splits his volunteer time at Providence between emergency and pastoral care, and always makes sure that every patient and family member is comfortable and listened to.



married for over 55 years, and I could not get along without her. We joined St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and we both are special ministers of the Eucharist. That means we can serve communion to parishioners who are shut in at home or are in a nursing home.

Someone from church suggested I do patient visiting at Providence Milwaukie, so the chaplain and volunteer director at the time put me to work right away.

What are your volunteer duties?

On Tuesday mornings I do pastoral work at the hospital. I go to the rooms of Catholic patients and offer them communion. And on Wednesday afternoons I work in the Emergency Department helping the nurses and looking out for the patients, I also bring drinks and snacks to family members in the waiting area.

How do you like working in the Emergency Department?

I think they picked me because I like to talk! A lot of the patients are seniors like me, and sometimes they feel lonesome or forgotten, and I can talk to them about things we have in common.

I'm nobody special – just somebody who likes meeting people and talking to them. It's what God wants me to do.

What career were you in?

After graduating high school in 1948 in Massachusetts, I moved to Texas for a job. I wasn't really enjoying the work, so my buddies convinced me to join the Marines. My enlistment should have been up in 1951, but the Korean War was on and the president decided he needed my auto mechanic skills over there.

After the war I went to Cal Poly on the GI Bill for a degree in electrical engineering.

Following graduation I went to work for Westinghouse, and worked in electrical sales for six years, then went into medical X-ray installation and services.

How did you come to volunteer at PMH?

When I retired about nine years ago, my wife Katy and I moved to Milwaukie to be near our daughter. Katy has been a good influence on me. We have been

Karen Nagao named Spirit Award winner at PCC

Kudos to Karen Nagao, occupational therapist in the Providence Neurodevelopmental Center for Children, who was chosen by the Quality of Work Life Committee as the Spirit Award winner at Providence Child Center.



This is what some of Karen's nominators had to say about her contributions to PCC:

- Karen is very dedicated to bringing the appropriate services to children at CMFC.
- She works effectively with both the neurodevelopmental and medically fragile children.

- Karen always is aware of parents' concerns and addresses them to make the program better.
- She works effectively at problem solving challenges, while providing excellent service to the children.
- Karen remains a positive asset to the PCC team and respects all people for their contributions.