

# Family Eldercare



November 2010

## Holiday Giving Drive

**Make the Holidays Brighter!**

Sponsor and/or deliver gifts to elders and adults with disabilities who would otherwise not receive gifts this Holiday Season.

Join the annual Holiday Giving Drive to help seniors and people with disabilities who have no one with whom to share the holiday season. Sponsors purchase gifts costing about \$30 for one or more individuals. You can personally deliver gifts or drop them off at Family Eldercare's office by December 7th. Wish lists will be distributed in mid-November so you can shop early if you would like!

Cash donations and gift cards are greatly appreciated and will allow staff to shop and fulfill any remaining wish lists. **To volunteer or become a sponsor call (512) 483-3582 or e-mail [Faith](mailto:Faith).**

## Join Us At Jax For Happy Hour

THURSDAY - NOV 4  
5:00-8:00 PM  
2828 RIO GRANDE  
JAXJOINT.COM

Join Us At  
**JAX**

FREE LIVE MUSIC  
BLUE BLAZES  
HALLEYANNA FINLAY

PIZZA  
25% OF PIZZA SALES  
DONATED TO  
FAMILY ELDERCARE

BENEFITTING  
FAMILY ELDERCARE  
2210 MARCOCK DRIVE, AUSTIN TX  
WWW.FAMILYELDERCARE.ORG  
FOR MORE INFO CALL 512-483-3579 OR  
EMAIL [BBIDDLE@FAMILYELDERCARE.ORG](mailto:BBIDDLE@FAMILYELDERCARE.ORG)

Come out to Jax Neighborhood Cafe on Thursday, November 4th for pizza and great live music from two local bands. Jax will donate 25% of all pizza sales made during the happy hour. They are conveniently located at 28th and Guadalupe (across from Toy Joy) so stop in anytime between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

For the full event details and to RSVP [CLICK HERE](#).

## Custom Cleaning Service Provides Relief

**Custom Cleaning for Independent Senior Living**

Family Eldercare's In-Home Care Program now offers a Custom Cleaning service for seniors who need a little extra assistance, especially with heavy house cleaning tasks. One client, a sixty five year old man who suffers from a chronic breathing disorder, describes his positive experience: "When I tried to clean my apartment on

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### Meet Our New In-Home Care Director

We would like to welcome Michelle Shaffer to Family Eldercare. Michelle is the Director of the In-Home Care and Caregiver Services Program. She comes to us with over 24 years of experience in the field of aging. Ms. Shaffer earned a Bachelor of Science at Iowa State University and an MBA at St. Ambrose University, IA; she is also a Licensed Bachelor Social Worker. Most recently she served as Marketing Consultant for a company that provides specialized seminars and trainings to families and caregivers of older adults. We are extremely fortunate to have Ms. Shaffer's expertise on the Family Eldercare team!

### Thanks To One Of Our Long-Time Funders!



A big thanks to one of our long-time supporters,

my own, I'd end up exhausted and out-of-breath. I was embarrassed to have friends and family over because of the state of my apartment. Also, if I tried to get on my knees to get under the bed to clean, I couldn't get back up. Since getting the housekeeping services, everything has changed for me. I still have clutter that I need to find a place for, but someone should have taken a before and after picture of my place. When a representative from Family Eldercare came to assess my services, they couldn't get over how much better it looked. It's been great working with Erick (the housekeeper). He comes three times a week for about an hour. He helps sweep, mop, and clean the bathroom. It makes me feel better to walk into a clean apartment. It helps my stress and anxiety to know I have a clean place. And I'm not worried about inviting friends to my home anymore."

## Golf Tournament Raises Over \$40,000

The 6th Annual "Swinging Fore Seniors" Charity Golf Tournament was held on October 18th at Berry Creek Country Club in Georgetown, TX. It was a beautiful day for golf and thanks to everyone who came out we were able to raise over \$40,000! [Click here](#) to see photos from this year's event.

## News at Family Eldercare

### In-Home Care & Caregiver Services

The In-Home Care & Caregiver Services Program is rapidly growing. Family Eldercare currently employs 150 Care Attendants who have provided approximately 11,000 hours of care each month since July. To show our appreciation for our many wonderful caregivers, a Care Attendant breakfast was held in October.

### Lifetime Connections Without Walls

Congratulations Bruce Mackenzie for one year of volunteer service to the program! Bruce hosts the Armchair Traveling session each week where he shares his traveling stories with homebound seniors. During a recent session, 69 year old Martha talked about her son's upcoming visit for her birthday. She revealed she had been hiding some of her "clutter" because her son always complains that he can't fit in her apartment. Ruth interjected that "it wasn't clutter, it was memories." Everyone had a nice laugh over that.

### Guardianship

Guardianship Services recently received their annual compliance review from the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services. They passed with flying colors! The senior reviewer commented that this was the best Family Eldercare audit ever! A Care Manager recently worked with an elderly client, who has a history of mental illness, to stabilize her behavior by helping her to be more compliant with her medications. As a result she was able to move into a less restrictive assisted living facility for the first time in many years.

### Elders Living Well

The Elders Living Well program provides service coordination at five housing authority properties in Austin. Their goal is to keep residents active and engaged so that they can maintain their independence. In addition, they are also making referrals to help residents work through and overcome depression. One resident recently called in to thank the Service Coordinator at her property for her time listening and for her referral. She says she is not depressed anymore and wakes up feeling grateful for each day. She said she would not have gotten there without the Service Coordinator.

## About Family Eldercare

Family Eldercare provides essential services to elders, adults with disabilities, and those who care for them.

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church. This local church has raised money for the Summer Fan Drive for many years and has also given grants with money raised through its congregation. We are truly grateful for all that they do for Family Eldercare.

## Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

From November 13-19, join the Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (ECHO) and the Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas as they celebrate Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week. This week of events is designed to educate the Austin community on the root causes of hunger and homelessness in Central Texas. In addition to raising awareness, the event brings together policy makers, local business leaders, faith based organizations, and community members to find solutions and prevention methods in Central Texas. For a list of the week's events [CLICK HERE.](#)

## [Join Our Mailing List](#)

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[info@familyeldercare.org](mailto:info@familyeldercare.org)

Please visit our website at [www.familyeldercare.org](http://www.familyeldercare.org).

Please [Click Here](#) to donate to Family Eldercare

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