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# The FGP Monthly

*An update from the Foster Grandparent Program of Southwestern Pennsylvania*

## November 2021

This year, we are thankful for you -- our volunteers, our supporters, our community!

Please read on for this month's news.



## National Gratitude Month

We all know that Thanksgiving in the United States takes place every November, but the entire month is also dedicated to expressing gratitude to the people and things in our lives. Here are just a few of the things that our volunteers are grateful for this year.



### **Myrann Adger, Allegheny County:**

"When you have a heart full of gratitude, it leaves no room for complaining. I am grateful for every day."



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"I feel grateful (very, very grateful) for being a part of the Foster Grandparent Program and bonding with a wonderful staff of caring people."



**Cheryl Coleman, Allegheny County:**

"I'm grateful to still be a Foster Grandparent through all we have been through with the pandemic."



**Cynthia Davis Dozier, Allegheny County:**

"I'm so glad to be able to be here, doing what is good for people, making them smile and laugh. So glad I'm healthy and able to love myself and others."



**Mary Goosev, Beaver County:**

"I am grateful for the extra time I got to spend with my grandchildren. It softens the world's negativity."



**Louise Kulakowski, Washington County:**

"That activities are starting up in my apartment building after being cancelled for over a year because of COVID-19."



**Marlene Paige, Allegheny County:**

"Being able to wake up each morning and being able to give someone a helping hand or call to see how they are doing."



**Phylis Petrosky, Washington County:**

"I am grateful that at 84 I can still be a Foster Grandparent!"

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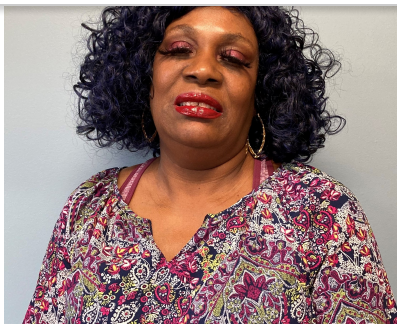
**Julia Solomon, Allegheny County:**

"Just living - what a blessing!"



**Gladys Morton**  
**Allegheny County**

One of our two newest volunteer is Gladys Morton from Allegheny County! Ms. Gladys is already very active in her community, having worked for 30 years with the youth in her church. She wanted to become a Foster Grandparent because "It would be good for the child plus myself. It's amazing how older people can relate to younger ones." Ms. Gladys resides in Penn Hills.

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## **Denise Williams Allegheny County**

Our second new volunteer this month is Denise Williams! Born and raised in the Hill District neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Ms. Denise heard about the Foster Grandparent Program from a friend and current volunteer. She wanted to become a Foster Grandparent because "I have grandchildren of my own and would love to give some love and attention to children without that support." We can't wait to see Ms. Denise and Ms. Gladys continue to serve their communities.

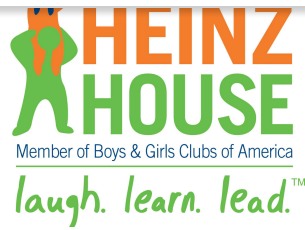
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## **Salvation Army Westside Pittsburgh, Allegheny County**

One of our two new stations this month is Salvation Army Westside, located in the Fairywood neighborhood of Pittsburgh. For more than 150 years, the Salvation Army has been supporting those in need through a variety of services in almost every zip code in the United States and over 100 countries. FGP volunteers will be serving students in Salvation Army Westside's after school program.

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## **Sarah Heinz House Pittsburgh, Allegheny County**

Sarah Heinz House, on the North Side of Pittsburgh, is the second partner added to our station roster this month. Sarah Heinz House, founded as the Covode House by the son of H.J. Heinz in 1901, was the first club of its kind to include both boys and girls. Today they provide a wide variety of programs for children that include life skills, arts, leadership development, and sports. We are excited to have them on board!



### **Audrey Harris Allegheny County**

This month's volunteer spotlight is Audrey Harris of Allegheny County! Grandma Audrey has been with the Foster Grandparent Program since 1998, making her our region's second-longest tenured volunteer. She became a Foster Grandparent "to love and teach and help children grow."

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students at Linden K-5 in the Point Breeze neighborhood of Pittsburgh. She currently resides in Homewood.

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**We are continuing to expand our network of community partners!** If you know of any nonprofit daycare, school, or after-school program in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, or Washington County that could use the help, guidance, and assistance of a Foster Grandparent, please contact FGP Coordinator Shelby Parisse at 412-660-7303 or [shelby.parisse@wfspa.org](mailto:shelby.parisse@wfspa.org).



Happy birthday to our volunteers who are celebrating this month:

**Kimberly Burrell**, Fayette County

**Gaynell Ervin**, Allegheny County

**Robyn Miller**, Beaver County

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Until next time,

**Rebecca Maletto-Cornell, Shelby Parisse & Lauren Balot**

*Your Community Resource Team*

*Foster Grandparent Program of Southwestern Pennsylvania*



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