



Missing You All at Circles of Caring!

Who would ever have thought that we at Circles of Caring would be missing you—our participants, volunteers, home care providers, and loyal donors—in this particular way? Almost three months of meeting the protocols of preventing infection from COVID-19 have seen our ways of caring, planning, implementing the many things we do to enrich the lives of our participants, change in ways we would have never thought necessary—or maybe even possible.

Carrying On

But we—with your great help—have been able to do many good things to maintain our commitments to provide stimulating, encouraging, and healthy activities that help enrich all of our lives. Procedures such as blood draws and follow-up care recommendations, normally done here, have happened once or twice a week at participants' homes—thus permitting consistent care, advice, and referrals, as well as benefits of some much needed (though careful) social interaction.

Familiar Fun, Done Differently

Then there are the more fun things! How about a **coloring contest** accomplished by mail? We asked our participants to color blank outlined spaces with whatever color and life they personally could imagine and create. They took this on with great energy, and they mailed back so many wonderful colorings, we awarded prizes in numerous categories, much to everyone's delight. It was a really good time for all of us. *See our website for several of our winning entries.*

And here's the real winner! **ZOOM BINGO!** We were able to stage a Bingo game again, one of our most popular activities for almost all of our participants, through the now popular medium of Zoom. We first wrote

participants and their home care providers to invite them to take part and included the bingo cards and markers. With the help of home and some staff care providers, and for some participants at Regency Pullman whose providers helped out with use of their big projection screen, we got participants set up on Zoom and played a very successful, enthusiastic Bingo game—one unlike any other, but one highly prized and praised, and likely always to be warmly remembered.

Moving On

Thanks to your loyal support in helping upgrade our computer and technology systems, we have moved forward with our critical services. And with that we have also realized some certainties and uncertainties for the future. One of the certainties, unfortunately, is the cancellation of our annual, very successful tennis tournament held on Lentil Festival weekend. Both crowd and personal social distancing restrictions will prevent us from staging the tournament, and we will surely miss the social, physical, and financial benefits that have made the event a centerpiece of our early fall activities.

This, too, is linked to an unavoidable uncertainty: the time that Washington state's Phase 4 Re-Opening will happen. We can't open our doors for regular services until that time, which is now predicted for only some time early in the fall. But we remain optimistic and hopeful for the maintenance of our efforts, and with your continued generous donations online at circlesofcaring.org or by writing us at 588 SE Bishop Blvd., Suite D, Edison Center, Pullman, WA 99163, we will succeed! Thank you!

*Please remember to follow us on Facebook & check our website for Circles of Caring updates.

Gratefully,
Hollie Mooney
Executive Director

Marcia Saneholtz
President, Board of Directors