

Calendar donation helps nursing home residents

For the fifth year, dozens of Department of Human Services (DHS) staff members donated wall calendars that will be used to benefit residents of the county's four Kane Regional Centers. About 500 calendars were collected in the annual drive conducted by the Office of Community Relations (OCR) at the request of Gwendolyn Baugh, Volunteer Coordinator at Kane Glen Hazel.



Some calendars are used to make wall hangings.

The calendars' topics range from reminiscences to pets, hobbies, occupations and inspirational thoughts. Gwendolyn and other Kane staff members use the calendars for crafts, to decorate bulletin boards, and in various activities.

Importantly, the calendars prompt conversations with residents. Kane staff put the calendar's colorful photos and artwork into binders to use in talking to patients. Family members also use the binders in talking with their loved ones, and the contents prove especially helpful with Alzheimer's disease patients.

"Thanks for all you do," Gwendolyn said. "The calendars truly brighten up the center and they result in much conversation among our residents."

The Kane Regional Centers, which besides Glen Hazel are in McKeesport, Scott and Ross, provide care primarily for elderly residents but also for people with intellectual disabilities and other conditions requiring skilled nursing.