



## FACTS ABOUT LITTLE BROTHERS - FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY CHICAGO CHAPTER

**Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly, Chicago Chapter (LBFE)** is part of a national network of nonprofit volunteer-based organizations committed to relieving isolation and loneliness among the elderly. We offer to people of good will the opportunity to join the elderly in friendship and celebration of life.

**Our Motto:** *flowers before bread* expresses our philosophy that people need the special pleasures in life in addition to the basic necessities. We feel that love, dignity and beauty in life are as basic as physical needs.

**Programs and Services:** Our core programs and activities focus on friendship and are free-of-charge. The **Visiting Programs** bring volunteers and staff to visit elders in their homes (including nursing homes) to create long-standing friendships. **Celebrations of Life** include regularly scheduled luncheons, outings, birthday parties (on-site and in-home) and large gatherings on Thanksgiving, Christmas Day and Easter. The **Summer Vacation Program** offers vacation excursions to various destinations in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. **Special Programs & Advocacy** include special interest clubs, a Holiday Gift Program, food bag delivery, case management, expertise and referrals that help elders remain connected, secure, independent and in their own homes as long as possible.

**The Elderly:** In program year 2011, we supported 1,303 Chicago men and women who are growing old alone without meaningful connections or support from family and friends. They are all 70 years of age or older, with an average age of 82. Without Little Brothers, the elders we serve would have two or fewer meaningful personal contacts in a month.

**Financial Sources:** Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly is a nonsectarian organization funded by donations from individuals, corporations and foundations. We do not receive government funding and we are not a United Way member agency.

**The Results:** During the 2011 Program Year:

- ✓ 14,145 personal visits and calls of reassurance were provided to 1,303 elders in Chicago.
- ✓ 2,040 elders celebrated the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holidays with us; attending one of our parties or receiving home-delivered holiday meals in their homes.
- ✓ 1,146 food bags were delivered to our old friends most in need.

Volunteer Opportunities: Because we are a volunteer-based organization, there are many ways to get involved as a volunteer. Positions can fit any schedule and include:

Visiting Volunteer	On-Site Party Assistance	Clerical Assistance
Driver	Food Bag Delivery	Fundraising
In-home Celebrations	Summer Vacation	Special Projects
Phone Visitor	Outing Assistance	Photography

During the 2011 Program Year, **1,459 volunteers gave nearly 47,000 hours of service** to visit, host parties, vacation with our old friends, go on outings, deliver emergency food and provide transportation.

**To volunteer with the LBFE Chicago Chapter**, contact Phyllis Barker, Director of Volunteer Services, at 312.455.1000 or [pbarker@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:pbarker@littlebrotherschicago.org).

**We also offer a wide range of internships, as well as opportunities for groups of students of any age to learn about the senior generation.** Contact Christine Bertrand, Intergenerational Coordinator, at 312.455.1000 or [cbertrand@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:cbertrand@littlebrotherschicago.org).

**To find out how you can refer an elder** contact Rhonda Nanevie Assistant Program Director, at 312.455.1000 or [rnanevie@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:rnanevie@littlebrotherschicago.org).

**To make a contribution** contact Sherri Gorski, Assistant Director of Development, at 312.455.1000 or [sgorski@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:sgorski@littlebrotherschicago.org).

**If you have media-related questions**, contact Cecilia Straney, Chief Development Officer, at 312.604.7232 or [cstraney@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:cstraney@littlebrotherschicago.org).

**Visit Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly Chicago Chapter** at 355 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, or online at [www.littlebrotherschicago.org](http://www.littlebrotherschicago.org). Our general phone number is 312.455.1000 and our general email address is [general@littlebrotherschicago.org](mailto:general@littlebrotherschicago.org).