“I've seen the difference that volunteering efforts can make in people's lives.”

Jimmy Carter, US President, Nobel Peace Prize Recipient

2013-2014
New College of Florida Volunteering Guide

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New College of Florida
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Animals & Veterinary

Pet Therapy Inc.
Kathy Alexander, Executive Director
2128 Hyde Park Circle
Sarasota, FL 34239
Tel. (941) 358-2225
Email: pettherapyinc@yahoo.com
Website: www.pet-therapy.org
This organization pairs students with Bichon Frise dogs to make weekly visits to Nursing Homes & Assisted Living facilities to brighten the lives of elders, the handicapped and those confined to facilities. Our mission is to brighten the lives of our elders that are confined to Nursing Homes & Assisted Living facilities while educating the community on the importance of volunteerism. The way we do this is by providing consistent weekly visitations with puppies/dogs using the services of children and adult volunteers. Pet Therapy has a positive effect on the resident's physical, emotional and social interactions with others. It reduces stress and helps patients have a pleasant and meaningful stay and/or recovery. There are various volunteer opportunities available, including office help, fund raising and special events, dog washing, grooming and care, veterinary assistance and animal-loving board members. For additional information on volunteering and/or upcoming fundraising events, call 941-358-2225.

Sarasota/Manatee Association for Riding Therapy (SMART)
Gail Clifton, Executive Director
4640 CR 675
Bradenton, FL 34211
Tel. (941) 322-2000
Website: www.smartriders.org
A North American Riding for the Handicapped premier center that provides therapeutic horseback riding to individuals with special needs. Our mission is to enhance the physical, emotional and cognitive growth of individuals with special needs through a quality educational and recreational therapeutic horseback-riding and carriage-driving program. Volunteer opportunities include horse handlers, side walkers, administration, maintenance, marketing and fund raising. All volunteers must complete an application, which is on the website, and a training session. For additional information on Volunteering and/or Fundraising events, please check the website or call 941-746-1493.

Humane Society of Sarasota County (HSSC)
Karie Hajek, Director of Volunteers
2331 15th Street
Sarasota, FL 34237
Tel. (941) 955-4131 Ext. 104
Website: www.hssc.org
Email: volunteer@hssc.org
HSSC relies on community funding to pursue our mission of promoting responsible pet ownership and securing permanent homes for all adoptable animals. We provide abandoned pets with compassionate care and shelter, offer pet adoptions, humane education, affordable spay/neuter services and programs for children, seniors and those with special needs. HSSC shelters nearly 4,000 pets each year. Volunteers assist all departments in achieving our Mission. HSSC's tail-wagging opportunities include: Dog walking, Cat cuddling, Feline fanciers, Matchmaking, K-9 coaching and Offsite adoption days. Other volunteer opportunities include distributing Mandy Banks, helping with special events, providing clerical/office help and welcoming adopters. Your first step in becoming a HSSC volunteer is to check out our website www.hssc.org, review Program Opportunities, then click 'Become a Volunteer' to begin the application process.
For additional information, call 941-955-4131.

Cat Depot
2542 17th Street, Sarasota, FL 34234
Phone: (941) 366-2404 Email: info@catdepot.org Website: www.catdepot.org
Cat Depot's mission is to save lives, find loving homes, and provide the resources and education to improve the destiny of homeless cats. Our goals for 2012 are to meet and exceed the sterilization goals of previous years through grant and donor support, place 1,000 cats into loving, permanent homes, provide 3 weeks of summer camp with full scholarships for 17% of attending children, purchase medical equipment for a second operating table, and increase grant funding and donations for operational costs and medical care. Volunteers help with cleaning, laundry, dishes, animal transport, off-site events, fundraising events, clinic assistants, medical data entry, reception, retail sales, cat socialization, adoption assistants, foster families, food bank, coin bank, committees, photography, food prep, and education/lectures.

InStride Equine-Assisted Therapy
Donna L. Blem, Executive Director
P.O. Box 365, 1629 Ranch Road, Nokomis, FL 34274
Tel. (941) 412-9333
Website: www.instridetherapy.org
The Hippotherapy program offered through Sarasota County schools and to private clients, serves over 150 children and adults, ranging in age from age 2 to 82, from Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties. Our Mission is to provide therapeutic horseback riding to qualified children and adults with a broad range of physical, developmental and emotional disabilities. Volunteer opportunities include hands-on work with riders and horses, barn duties, special events and office assistance. For additional information on Volunteering and/or Fundraising events, call 941-412-9333.

Southeastern Guide Dogs Inc.
Titus Herman, Executive Director
4210 77th St. E., Palmetto, FL 34221
Tel. (941) 729-5665
Website: www.guidedogs.org
Our Mission is to create and nurture a partnership between a visually impaired individual and a guide dog, facilitating life's journey with mobility, independence and dignity. Established in 1982, we currently have more than 800 active guide dog teams across the country and continue to create more than 70 new guide dog teams annually. We provide all of our services, including Paws for Independence, Paws for Patriots, and Gifted Canines, free of charge. Located on 23 wooded acres in Palmetto, Florida, we are accredited by the International Guide Dog Federation in Reading, England and a member of the Council of U.S. Dog Guide Schools. Southeastern Guide Dogs is one of only 10 fully certified guide dog schools in the country. We also operate our own breeding colony, with more than 100 breeder dogs, including Labradors, Golden Retrievers, Goldadors (Labrador/Golden Retriever mix), Smooth-Coat Collies, Australian Shepherds and Hungarian Vizslas. Volunteer opportunities include puppy hugging, dog walking, puppy raising, administrative support, and assisting with special events. To learn more, call (941) 729-5665 or email volunteer@guidedogs.org.

Associations and Foundations (Conditions/Syndromes)

Arthritis Foundation: Southwest Region
Diane Bucholz, Community Development Specialist
410 12th St. W., Bradenton, FL 34205
Tel. (941) 708-3901
Website: www.arthritis.org/chapters/florida/
Our Mission is to improve lives through leadership in the prevention, control and cure of arthritis and related diseases. Volunteer opportunities include Arthritis education, special projects/events, community advocate, clerical duties, fund raising and volunteer instructors to be trained for Arthritis Foundation Exercise or aqua programs, Tai Chi for Arthritis and the arthritis self-help course. For additional information on Volunteer opportunities and/or Fundraising events, please call 800-672-0882.

Prader-Willi Syndrome Association
8588 Potter Park Drive, Suite 500
Sarasota, FL 34238
Tel. (941) 312-0400
Website: www.pwsausa.org
Prader-Willi syndrome (PWS) is a complex non-hereditary birth defect resulting from an abnormality on the 15th chromosome. It occurs in males and females equally and in all races. Prevalence estimates have ranged from 1:8,000 to 1:25,000 with the most likely figure being 1:15,000. Incidence in newborns is unknown.
Volunteer opportunities include office clerical duties, fundraising assistance, special events and marketing.
For additional information, please call 941-312-0400.

Camps

Florida Diabetes Camp **http://www.floridadiabetescamp.org/**
Brandon (Tampa)

Camp Boggy Creek **http://www.boggycreek.org/**

Children and Mothers

Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County Inc.
Jennifer Highland, Executive Director:
1750 17th St., Building A
Sarasota, FL 34234
Telephone: (941) 373-7070
Website: www.healthystartsarasota.org
Public-private partnership of agencies and individuals dedicated to improved pregnancy outcomes and the optimum growth and development of young children. Our Mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of pregnant women, infants and small children. Whether you are from a business or a faith-based organization, or are a student or an individual, we ask that you consider volunteering for us! Volunteer opportunities include Staffing the Pregnancy Resource Center, Representing Healthy Start at area Health Fairs and Community Events and assisting with office support. For additional information on Volunteering and/or Fundraising events, please call (941) 373-7070 or send us a note at: info@healthystartsarasota.org

Children First
1723 N. Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34234
Tel. (941) 953-3877
Website: http://www.childrenfirst.net
Head Start preschool for income eligible children 3 to 5 years old. Early Head Start for income eligible children birth through three years old and pregnant women.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Suncoast
2831 Ringling Blvd, Suite A-201
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 331-4376
Website: http://www.bbbssun.org/
A prevention and intervention program for children from one-parent families. An adult volunteer and child are matched in a relationship which emphasizes the sharing of time and talents.

4-H Youth Development Program
6700 Clark Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34241
Tel. (941) 861-9814 (ask for 4H)
Website: http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu/4-H/4-H.shtml
Provides educational opportunities for youth (8-18) in fields of communication, leadership, environmental science, and agriculture.

Community Youth Development Project
4430 Beneva Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34233
Tel. (941) 922-5126
Website: http://www.cydonline.org/
Positive activities for teens in grades 6 through 12. Activities include recreation, career development, leadership, community service, and character building.

Girls Inc.
201 S. Tuttle Ave. Sarasota, FL 34237
Tel. (941) 366-6646
Website: http://www.girlsincsrq.org/
Inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. Provides researched-based, age-appropriate after-school and summer programs designed specifically for girls ages 6-14.Acvities include educational programs, art, homework assistance, computer classes, sports, swimming and more.

Developmentally Disabled

Best Buddies New College chapter – contact New College Student Affairs Office
This Organization has national and international presence and is dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment. Founded in 1989 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver, Best Buddies is a vibrant, international organization that has grown from one original chapter to more than 1,300 middle school, high school, and college campuses across the country and internationally. Best Buddies programs engage participants in each of the 50 United States.

Community Haven for Adults and Children with Disabilities
Marla Doss, President and CEO
4405 Desoto Road
Sarasota, FL 34235
Tel. (941) 355-8808
Website: www.communityhaven.com
Creates solutions and makes changes in the lives of children, teens and adults with disabilities through education, occupational training, skill training, employment services and community living programs. Our Mission is to empower the lives of children, teens and adults with disabilities, one person at a time. Volunteer opportunities include Selby preschool, plant nursery, CHAC farm project, administration, maintenance, occupational training program, Active Arts. For additional information on Volunteer opportunities and/or Fundraising events, please call 941-355-8808.

Easter Seals of Southwest Florida Inc.
Ladd Waldo, CEO
350 Braden Ave.
Sarasota, FL 34243
Tel. (941) 355-7637
Website: www.swfl.easterseals.com
Provides services for individuals with disabilities of all ages on three campuses. For children, provides interdisciplinary medical therapy, education and support services, including respite care for families. Adults benefit from a community-based education program and adult day training dedicated to improving their quality of life. Our Mission is to create solutions that change lives through high-quality therapeutic, educational and support services for children, adults and families. Volunteer opportunities include assisting disabled or special needs children and adults as well as helping with fundraising events. For additional information on Volunteering, call 941-355-7637, ext. 401

Foundation for Dreams – Dream Oaks Camp
Dream Oaks Place
1611 Dream Oaks Place
Bradenton, FL 34212
Tel: (941) 746-5659
Email: Info@foundationfordreams.org
Website: www.foundationfordreams.org/
The Mission of the Foundation for Dreams, Inc. and Dream Oaks Camp is to provide fun, educational, and recreational experiences in an outdoor camp environment to enhance the lives of children ages 7-17 with physical and developmental disabilities and serious illnesses. Programs take place at Camp Flying Eagle just off the upper Manatee River.

Loveland Center Inc.
Carl Penxa Jr. President and CEO
157 S. Havana Road
Venice, FL 34292
Tel. (941) 493-0016
Website: www.lovelandcenter.com
Provides adult day training, supported living, respite, elderly day care, job coaching and community volunteer opportunities to adults with developmental disabilities. Our Mission is to help adults with developmental disabilities "live their lives to the fullest." Volunteer opportunities include One-on-one tutoring in reading and math, quality control assistance in our workshop program, musical talents for student entertainment (one hour, one day a week). For information on Volunteer opportunities and/or Fundraising events, call 941-493-0016.

Education & Literacy

Family Literacy Program at Girls Inc.
201 S. Tuttle Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 366-6646 ex. 305
Website: http://www.girlsincsrq.org/
English classes and literacy instruction for girls in grades K-8 and their families including siblings and parents. Classes cover: 1. Adult instruction 2. Literacy-based child education.

Girl Scouts
4780 Cattlemen Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34233
800-232-4475 or 941-921-5358
Website: www.gsgcf.org
Seeks reading and schooling mentors. The commitment is for one semester, one hour per week.
Typical placement at locations:

Suncoast School for Innovative Studies, Sarasota
(6.5 miles from New College)

Phoenix Academy, Sarasota
(6.4 miles from New College)

Lincoln Middle School, Palmetto
(13 miles from New College)

Johnson Middle School, Bradenton
(9.3 miles from New College)

Literacy Council of Sarasota
1750 17th St. Suite D
Sarasota, FL 34234
Website: www.SarasotaLiteracy.org
(941) 955-0421
For adults. One-on-one tutoring to acquire English language skills needed in reading, writing, speaking and understanding.

YMCA Reads!
Karen Grybek, Coordinator
YMCA READS! Operation Graduation
Tel. (941) 365-0056 x127
Website: www.The SarasotaY.org
Email: kgrybek@TheSarasotaY.org
Literacy/mentoring initiative targeting first and second graders. Sponsored by the Florida State Alliance of YMCA's The Florida State Alliance leadership. YMCA READS! seeks to close the gap in students' reading performance and the State of Florida's reading performance expectations. The program is limited to K through third graders specifically referred by the participating schools, and the primary focus of the programming will be on improving students' reading grade level equivalency.

Project Light of Manatee, Inc.
1104 14th Street
Bradenton, Florida 34205
Tel. (941) 745-1659
Website: www.projectlight-mc.org/
Our Mission, as a Literacy Center, is to serve people in Manatee County who need help learning to read, write and speak English. Project Light believes every person should be offered the tools needed to escape poverty and to have a fuller life. The Bradenton facility is located about 10 miles north of New College on U.S. 41.

Food Banks & Soup Kitchens

All Faiths Food Bank
Jill Collins, RD, Director of Nutritional Education
8171 Blaikie Ct.
Sarasota, FL 34240
Tel. (941) 379-6333
Website: www.allfaithsfoodbank.org
Solicits, warehouses, processes and distributes food to nonprofit agency partners offering hunger relief. Our Mission is to feed those in need, reduce food waste and educate the community about the issues of hunger in Sarasota and DeSoto counties. Volunteer opportunities include sorting food and assisting with fundraising events.

Our Daily Bread
710 18th Ave West
Bradenton, FL 34205
Tel. (941) 745-2992
Website: www.OurDailyBreadofBradenton.org
A soup kitchen feeding lunch and dinner to the poor. Located about 8 miles north of New College on U.S. Highway 41. For additional information about volunteer opportunities, call 941-746-4088.

The Salvation Army
1204 14th St W
Bradenton, FL 34205
Tel. (941) 748-5110
An organization with an international scope, the Salvation Army Provides social services and shelter to the needy. Ministries serve men, women, and children. Located about 8.5 miles north of New College on U.S. Highway 41.

The Salvation Army
1400 Tenth St.
Sarasota, FL 34236
Contact: M. Bertice Tanner
Tel. 941-364-8845
Website: www.SalvationArmyUSA.org
An organization with an international scope, the Salvation Army Provides social services and shelter to the needy. Ministries serve men, women, and children. Located about 3 miles south of New College on 10th Street.

Hospitals & Clinics

Manatee Memorial Hospital
206 Second Street East, Bradenton, FL 34208
Website: http://www.manateememorial.com/
Volunteer opportunities available in Hospital Nursing Units & Information Desks; Patient Transport, Escorting and Driving; and Special Skill Areas - Crafters create beautiful handmade items for heart, surgery and orthopedic patients, as well as newborn babies. Located approximately 10 miles North of New College on U.S. 41. For additional information on Volunteering, call 941-745-7287.

Manatee Memorial Hospital Affiliates:
In addition to the hospital, volunteer at three of their affiliates. The Auxiliary Thrift Shop, FirstCare Medical Walk-In Clinic, and Rehabilitation & Sports Medicine Clinic.

Their locations are:
Auxiliary Thrift Shop
4517 Manatee Avenue West, Bradenton

FirstCare Medical Walk-In Clinic
3649 Cortez Road West, Bradenton

Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Center
6020 State Road 70, Bradenton

Genesis Health Services Inc.
Contact Dr. James McCloud
3333 North Washington Boulevard
Sarasota, FL 34234
Tel: (941) 957-1970
Website: www.genesishealthservicesinc.com
Provides health care for uninsured or underinsured people who need help paying for prescriptions and services. Sliding Scale fees in a warm, friendly environment. Serving underprivileged populations of the Newtown Community. Several students have worked at Genesis in the past few years assisting with intake of patients and observing physicians as they diagnose and treat patients. A good opportunity for close contact with patients and their families; occasional possibility of assisting with research projects as they relate to public health. For additional information, call 941-957-1970.

Planned Parenthood
736 Central Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236
Tel. (941) 953-4060
Website: www.plannedparenthood.org
Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida, Inc., (PPSWCF) is a non-profit family planning organization that has been helping women, men and teens make responsible choices about their sexual health for more than 40 years. We currently have seven health centers for your convenience. Dedicated to delivering the highest quality reproductive health care services since 1966, PPSWCF is also committed to providing responsible, age-appropriate sexuality education. Protecting a woman's fundamental right to choose is also a major part of this organization's underlying philosophy. For additional information on Volunteering and/or Fundraising events, check out our website or call 941-365-3913.

Roskamp Institute
2040 Whitfield Ave
Sarasota, FL 34243
Website: www.rfdn.org
New College contact: Cuthbertson@ncf.edu
Prestigious research institute devoted to understanding causes of and finding cures for neuropsychiatric and neurodegenerative disorders and addictions. Based in Sarasota, the Institute utilizes a broad range of scientific approaches to understanding the causes of and potential therapies for these disorders with an emphasis on Alzheimer's disease. *Limitations: Open to highly qualified third or fourth-years only*. Apply only through the New College Office of Career Services. A resume or CV is required, must be able to demonstrate a commitment to medicine and research by documenting prior experience. Submit resume and cover letter to: Cuthbertson@ncf.edu.

Sarasota County Public Health Department
2200 Ringling Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34237-6102
Tel. (941) 861-2900
Website: www.sarasotahealth.org/locations.htm

Excellent prospects for volunteer roles in a variety of capacities. Please see http://www.sarasotahealth.org/volunteers/volunteer.htm for full details and descriptions.

Contacts: MRC Coordinator: Tammi Poswiatowsky Ketcham, FAEM (941) 861-2906

Sarasota Memorial Hospital
1700 South Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34239
Tel. (941) 917-9000
Website: www.smh.com

There are limited opportunities for hands-on experiences and connections unless you have a personal contact or know of positions available to you by virtue of acquaintance with hospital physicians or personnel. Signing up for volunteer work is a good bet, but opportunities to volunteer are somewhat limited due to high demand for the positions. To find work in spring for example, it's a good idea to register with their volunteer corps in the fall. Located approx. 5 miles south of New College, on US 41.

Mental Health

Coastal Behavioral Healthcare Inc.
1451 10th St.
Sarasota, FL 34236
Tel. (941) 331-2530
Website: http://www.coastalbh.org/

A not-for-profit behavioral healthcare organization serving children, adolescents, adults, seniors and families throughout southwest Florida. Coastal provides comprehensive mental health, substance abuse, prevention and intervention, and criminal justice services. Our Mission is to provide behavioral healthcare services that exceed expectations for quality, availability, and satisfaction. Provides support services to HIV+ persons, their families and friends in a Drop-in Center. Volunteers to participate as receptionists, food preparation personnel, clerks, fund raising drives, newsletter publication, small group participation, etc.

TideWell Hospice and Palliative Care
Gerry Radford, President and CEO
5955 Rand Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34238
Tel. (941) 552-7500
Website: www.tidewell.org

Independent organization serving patients with life-limiting illness in Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte and DeSoto counties. Our Mission is to provide a total support system for patients and families dealing with a life-limiting illness, providing the highest level of care. Volunteer opportunities: Patient care, office, Hospice House, cooking, gardening. Ministries serve men, women and children. For additional information about volunteering, call 941-923-5822.

Support Groups

Alzheimer's

Alterra Clare Bridge
6101 Pointe West Blvd
Bradenton 34209
Tel. (941) 795-5533

Our Early Stage Support Group provides an opportunity for Alzheimer's individuals and their caregivers to develop a support system of people who understand their concerns and share ideas for coping.

Alzheimer's Association of Sarasota-Manatee

3277A Fruitville Rd., Suite 1

Sarasota, FL 34237

Tel. (941) 365-8883

Website: http://www.alz.org/index.asp

The Association has more than 30 support groups that meet throughout Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Please contact one of our offices for a current schedule of groups' meeting times and locations. Most are for caregivers, but some are for individuals diagnosed to be in the early stages of dementia.

Cancer

Women Living with Cancer
Manatee Memorial Hospital
Medical Office Building, Suite 4G
206 Second St. E.
Tel. 941-745-7539
Website: www.manateememorial.com

Meetings are open to any woman who has experienced any type of cancer. Group meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. For additional information, call 941-745-7539.

Cardiac Support Groups

Happy Hearts Support Group
Manatee Memorial Hospital
206 Second St. E.
Dining Room 2A/B
Bradenton FL 34208
Tel. 941-745-7471
Website: www.manateememorial.com

Provides education and support for cardiac patients and their families. Topics focus on heart disease and coping with cardiac problems.

Caregiver Support Groups

Meals on Wheels PLUS of Manatee, Inc.
811 23rd Ave. E.
Bradenton FL 34208
Tel. 941-747-4655
Website: www.MealsOnWheelsPlus.org
Email: info@mealsonwheelsplus.org

Meals on Wheels PLUS caregiver support groups provide participants with various types of help for their particular circumstances. The help may take the form of providing relevant information, relating personal experiences, listening to others' experiences, providing sympathetic understanding and establishing social networks.

Meals on Wheels / Monthly Support Groups:

Adult Day Center
2703 19th St. Ct. E
Bradenton, Florida, 34208
2:00 PM - Every Thursday
Call 748-3001

Anna Maria Island Branch Library
5701 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach, 34217
2:00 PM - Every 2nd Friday of the month

Renaissance on 9th
1816 9th St. W.
Bradenton Florida, 34205
2:00 PM - Every 3rd Tuesday

Meals on Wheels PLUS -Evening Group
811 23rd Avenue East, Bradenton

Colony Cove Bayshore House Meeting Room
4313 Kings Drive -Ellenton

Parrish United Methodist Church
US 301 and Rutland Road, Parrish

Lakewood Ranch
Northern Trust, 6320 Venture Dr. Ste 100.

Braden River Library
4915 53rd Avenue East, Bradenton

Death & Bereavement

Hospice Bereavement Support Group

Provides a forum for sharing and learning from others who have experienced the similar loss of a loved one. Six-week sessions offered six times yearly, with both day and evening groups. There is no charge for this service.

West Manatee:
3355 26th St.W.
Bradenton, FL 34205
Tel. 941-739-8940
Call to confirm schedule and locations.

East Manatee: 4151 37th St. E.
Palmetto, FL 34221
Tel. 941-721-7515
Call to confirm schedule and locations.

Health-Related Groups

Community AIDS Network, Inc.
1231 N. Tuttle Ave.
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 366-0134
Website: http://www.cccsrq.org/

Medical, social, and educational service essential to the health and well-being of those infected with HIV. Services include: medical and dental treatment, therapy, nutrition, case management, educational programs and volunteer programs.

Deaf Service Center
Tel. 941-758-2539

Provides communication, referral and information, as well as a place for services and socializing. Call to find location and meeting schedules.

Florida Head Injury Association
Manatee-Sarasota Chapter
350 Braden Ave., Sarasota
Tel. 800-992-3442

Provides support, advocacy and education for survivors of head injuries and their families, as well as community education and prevention. For additional information and meeting locations/times, call 800-992-3442.

Cataract Education
The Eye Associates Patient Education Center
Location: 6002 Pointe West Blvd., Bradenton
Tel. 941-792-2020, ext. 158

Educates cataract patients on the latest treatments. Call 941-792-2020 for additional information and meeting times.

Manasota Diabetic Support Group
Tel. 941-794-5340
Offers emotional support to people with diabetes and their families. Education and sponsorship of children with diabetes to diabetes camp. For additional information and meeting schedule, call 941-794-5340.

Mana-Sota Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.
7318 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
Tel. 941-359-1404
Provides services to the blind and visually impaired include training in independent living skills; individual, family and peer counseling; information and referral; advocacy role in the community. For additional information and meeting schedule, call 941-359-1404.

Sara-Tee Ostomy Association of Florida
Easter Seals Happiness House
350 Braden Ave., Sarasota
Tel. 941-355-7637
Helps people who have colostomies do the things they did before surgery. Gives moral support and personal, but no medical advice. Shows patients that they are still normal people, despite their surgery. For additional information and meeting schedule, call 941-355-7637.

Stroke Support Group at Manatee Memorial Hospital
206 Second St. E.
Bradenton FL 34208
Tel. 941-745-6868
Website: www.manateememorial.com
Provides education and support for the stroke patient and their families. Call for more information and meeting times.

Life Controlling Problems

Adult Children of Alcoholics
Pines Shores Presbyterian Church, Sarasota; Unity Church, 800 Coconut Dr., Sarasota.
Tel. 941-329-7461
Helps family and friends of alcoholics. Call to confirm meeting times and locations.

Gamblers Anonymous
Tel. 941-957-7928
Meetings held at Algamus Recovery Center, Holmes Beach
First Presbyterian Church, Oak St., Sarasota
Manatee Memorial Hospital Cafeteria, Room 3. Support for people whose lives are being hurt by uncontrolled gambling. Our 12-step program has helped thousands of people with gambling problems. Call for additional information and to confirm meeting times/locations.

Anxiety Disorder Support Group
Memorial Hospital
206 Second St. E., Bradenton FL 34208
Tel. 941-745-7581
Website: www.manateememorial.com
To help those suffering from anxiety learn how to cope. Call for additional information, meeting schedules and locations.

Gerontology

Senior Friendship Center
1888 Brother Geenen Way
Sarasota, FL 34236
(941) 955-2122
Website: http://www.friendshipcenters.org/

Addresses the concerns of loneliness, health and isolation by providing a continuum of care that extends throughout the aging process.

Services include: Senior Centers, Activities, Classes and Programs, Adult Day Care, Alzheimer's Day Care, Congregate Dining, Home Delivered Meals, Caregiver Education and Support, Care Management and Frail Elderly Services, Health Services, Dental Services, and transportation assistance.