

Friendly Visiting

NEW YORK

Helping The Homebound One Visit At A Time



Friendly Visiting continues to acknowledge the dedication of our volunteers. Our featured volunteer is Barb Morrison. Barb has been visiting her senior friend Rudy for 5 years now! Barb volunteered in the past and was looking on the internet for a new volunteer opportunity, for Thanksgiving Day and came across the Friendly Visiting program.

Barb, who is in her mid 40's, is originally from Upstate, New York and currently resides in Bushwick. Barb is an American recording artist, top 5 billboard dance chart songwriter, and gold record producer, best known as producer for numerous artists such as Blondie, Rufus Wainwright, L.P. and as one half of the production duo Super Buddha. Barb is currently producing records and film scores in her Brooklyn, New York studio. Recent projects include upcoming releases by Blondie and The Cliks, as well as a number of songs featuring Grammy-nominated mixer, Tony Maserati.

Barb decided to volunteer after reading about Friendly Visiting and the services the program provides to our seniors. "It seemed like such an easy thing to do - to just give an hour or two a week to help a senior that needed some company".

Barb loves visiting Rudy who is an 83 year old Korean War Veteran and was also the Grand Marshall for the American Legion in Brooklyn in 2010! Barb and Rudy's visits always start off with Rudy cracking jokes. "He's a funny guy who loves to get a laugh...I could tell he was the same way with the people we'd meet on our walks too. This is why so many people in the neighborhood like him". Since Barb and Rudy have known each other for 5 years, they created a mutual bond. "We've really gotten to know each other through life's up's and down's. We've been there for each other just for talking and listening which is really the basis of a good friendship".

Barb's advice to anyone thinking of joining Friendly Visiting is, "You and your senior friend will change each others lives. It's about being there for each other and helping get through the happy times and the challenging times and even though it seems like a lot to commit to, it's actually very easy. Think about how many hours or two we waste just watching a TV show or being on the internet. That time could be going to helping someone who needs a friend and a laugh".

Barb continues to look forward to her next visit. "He insists I bring him Brooklyn pizza every time I see him. It's a good excuse for me to eat it too, he doesn't have to twist my arm!"

Thank you Barb for being the vibrant and special person you are. We are very lucky to have you apart of our program as Rudy is in his life!

To learn more about how you can make a difference in a homebound seniors' life in your neighborhood please contact us (718) 449-5000 x2205 or l.feldman@jccgci.org.



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3001 West 37th Street – Brooklyn NY 11224 – (718) 449-5000