

TheFriendShip

2017-2018 Annual Report

1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018



THE FRIENDSHIP'S MISSION IS TO SUPPORT OLDER ADULTS WHO CHOOSE TO LIVE IN THEIR OWN HOMES
WHILE MAINTAINING HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT, ACTIVE AND ENGAGED LIFESTYLES.

Overview of The FriendShip

The FriendShip is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping older adults lead healthy, independent, and active lives in their own homes and communities. By joining The FriendShip, members have access to:

Personalized Assistance Provided by Trained Volunteers

Volunteer services include transportation, errands, home maintenance support, technology assistance, appointment support, home repair, and social engagement.

Activities & Programs

To support member interests and to facilitate friendship, social connection, and engagement in the community, The FriendShip offers an array of activities and programs including lunch gatherings, special events, cultural outings, expert guest speakers, and discussions of topics of interest.

Preferred Provider Referrals

Members can obtain referrals to member-recommended businesses that have been checked for licenses, insurance, bonding, and ongoing member feedback.

The FriendShip opened on October 1, 2015 and is now an ever-growing, vital part of the Columbia community serving the over-50 population. By bringing together members and volunteers, The FriendShip has built a strong network of support to empower older adults to age in place.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

One day early in the 2017-2018 year, it became clear to me that The FriendShip faced two challenges: 1) to carry out the mission of the organization by providing volunteer services and support, and 2) to manage the organization both financially and procedurally. Thanks to our Services Coordinator's commitment and care, the members have been served and the volunteers supported. The chairs of the Member, Volunteer, and Program Committees worked collaboratively with Eleanor Stein, the Services Coordinator, and together they found new members, trained new volunteers, and provided a variety of interesting programs and activities. Thus, the first challenge was met.

The Board of Directors is charged with assuring the well-being of The FriendShip through thoughtful and careful governance. Thanks to the Board, our donors, and our fundraising committee, the second challenge has been met and The FriendShip is currently in good health. But, the long-term sustainability is not assured. It has been an honor to lead the Board as president. The 2018-2019 Board will elect a new president who will I am sure find purpose and joy in meeting the future challenges.

Sincerely,



Jane Blair
President
2016-2018 Board of Directors



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The FriendShip is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, registered in the state of South Carolina, and is governed by a nine-member board. The Board acts as the executive director of the corporation and meets monthly (the second Tuesday of each month) to attend to the business of The FriendShip.

Although the Board decides on policy and procedure, much of the work and discussion is done by standing committees, which results in recommendations to the Board. These committees are: the Member Committee, the Volunteer Committee, the Program Committee, the Outreach Committee, the Preferred Provider Committee, the Fundraising Committee, and the Finance Committee. Various ad hoc committees are formed as the need arises. As stipulated in the by-laws, each committee includes a Board member.

BOARD ROSTER

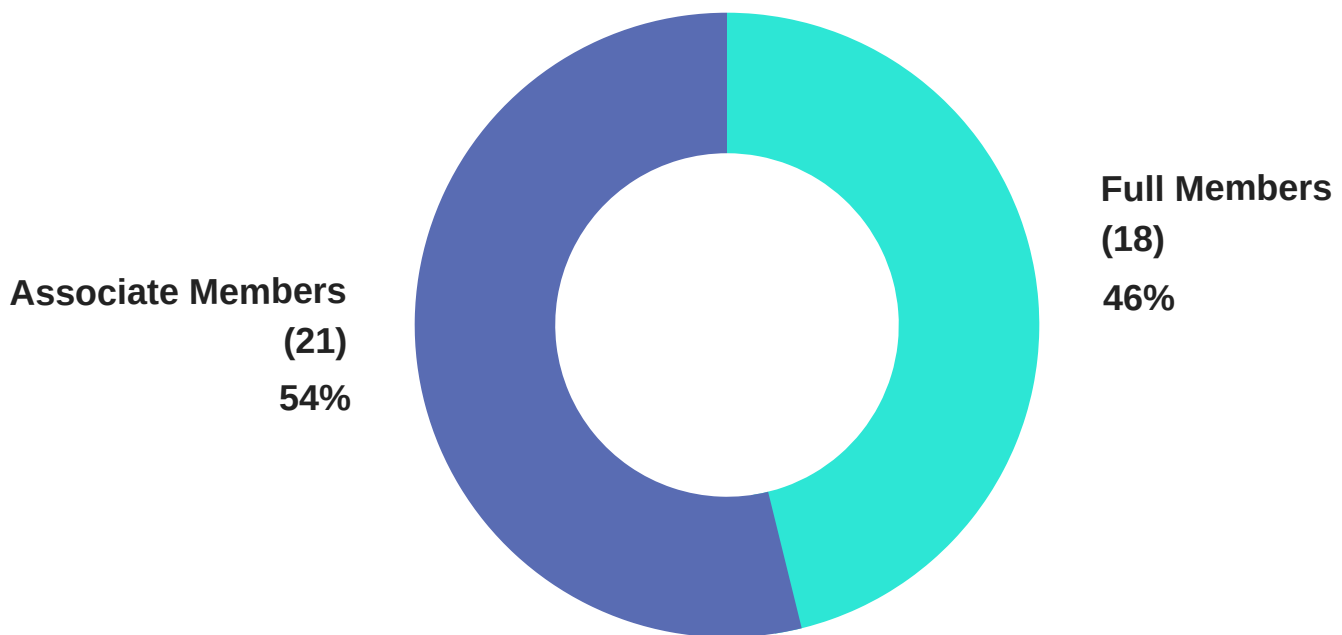
Jane Blair, President & Secretary	July 2015 – June 2018
Paul McCullough, Vice President	July 2016 – June 2019
Pat Blackwell, Treasurer	July 2014 – June 2017
Will Amick	October 2017 – June 2018
Mary Kessler	July 2016 – June 2019
Shaun Owens	July 2016 – June 2019
Gloria Prevost	July 2017 – June 2020
Donna Ray	July 2017 – June 2020
Patricia Rock.....	July 2015 – June 2018

Dana Turner and Eileen Schell	Clerks to the Board
Roger Wilson	Historian and Photographer

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The FriendShip increased its number of members and volunteers over the course of the year.

MEMBERS - 39



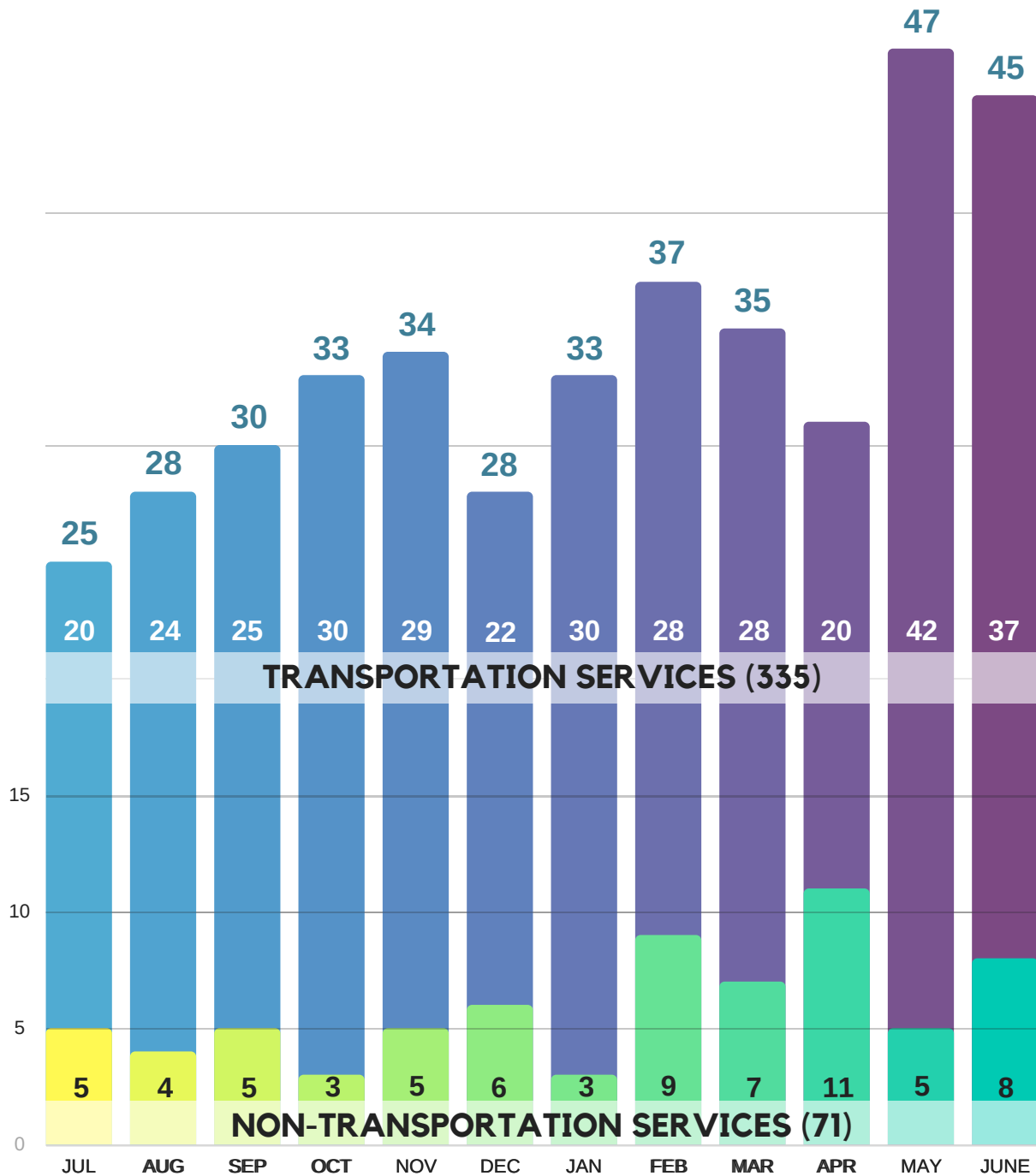
Some of The FriendShip's members are also volunteers and serve on committees to enhance members' experiences and services! Member involvement is central to the operation of The FriendShip.

VOLUNTEERS - 41

Volunteers are background checked and trained prior to performing services for the members.

**SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017-18 WERE DOUBLE THOSE PROVIDED
IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.**

406 TOTAL VOLUNTEER SERVICES



As shown in the above chart, transportation is the most requested service, representing over eighty percent of total services with 335 transportation requests and 71 non-transportation requests. Other services offered were equally as helpful in helping our members maintain their independence and included assisting with minor home repairs, paying social calls, sorting paperwork, serving as walking buddies, providing appointment support during medical visits, doing minor, one-time yard work and more.

OUR PROGRAMS

Since its inception, The FriendShip has had varied programs to foster social engagement and strengthen connections across the network. This year, unlike previous years, the Program Committee has provided three regularly scheduled programs per month: a Dutch treat lunch during the first week of the month, a mid-month special program or outing, and a social hour during the fourth week of the month.



TAKE A HIKE!



SHARING FOOD & STORIES!



ENJOYING LUNCH!

"The FriendShip is aptly named. You show dignity, understanding, and humour. My family and I are so, so grateful."

OUR PROGRAMS

Another notable enhancement of the offerings was the involvement of volunteers and members in designing and helping to arrange the mid-month programs. Furthermore, various members and volunteers hosted the social hours in their homes and that added a special quality to our time together. Truly, as the result of programs, friendships are beginning to form and The FriendShip is living up to its name.



PLAY BALL!



SOCIAL HOURS!



ENJOYING NATURE!

"I am so grateful to have The FriendShip."

OUR PROGRAMS

A sample list of some of our special programs this past year is below. Visiting local places of interest and learning about new topics is enriched when done with FriendShip friends.

- Visit to the W. Gordon Belser Arboretum
- Tour of the U.S. Army Chaplain Corps Museum at Fort Jackson
- Visit to a local quilt exhibit with the artist
- Tour of the USC Special Collections Library
- Presentations on special topics such as: bird behavior and habitat, getting the most out of your medical appointments, how to grow old gracefully and dog training.



DOG TRAINING!



MUSEUM OUTING!

"The Friendship has been a Godsend for me. How else would I meet such nice people?"

FINANCIAL REPORT (unaudited)

Receipts:

Contributions:

Board	\$ 6,798.69
Individuals	28,779.64
Business/Other	5,311.64
Charter Memberships	-
Less: Addition to Sustainability Fund	(4,089.00)
Total Contributions	\$36,800.97

Membership Fees

Full Member	\$ 7,500.00
Associate Member	1,500.00
Charter Memberships	-
Renewals	-
Total	\$ 9,000.00

Grants	\$ 2,500.00
Program Revenue	\$ 672.50
Scholarship Fund	\$ 50.00
Total Receipts	\$ 49,023.47

Expenses:

Administration

Insurance	\$ 3,725.00
Other	3,587.99

FundRaising:

General	110.00
Sp Events & Ann Mtg	96.95

Program Services

Educational/Cultural/Social Services	-
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Full Member Services

Salaries & Benefits	16,198.75
Other	-
Newsletter	-

Volunteer Support:

Salaries & Benefits	16,198.75
Other	-

Program Development

Outreach	-
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Total Expenses	\$ 39,917.44
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Balance as of June 30, 2018:	\$ 9,106.03
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"Joining The
FriendShip was the
best investment I've
ever made!"

SERVICES COORDINATOR

A Greeting from Eleanor Stein, Services Coordinator May 1, 2017 – Present

The FriendShip has had a very busy year—and it has been my pleasure to serve in the Services Coordinator role, connecting members and volunteers! Over the course of this year, the number of services provided has more than doubled. This is an incredible accomplishment to celebrate—and is made possible by our amazing team of volunteers!

Not only have service levels increased but also The FriendShip has expanded the number, timeframes and type of services. The FriendShip has always provided a range of volunteer services (beyond transportation), but this year, that range was broadened. Our volunteers have helped members with reading and sorting paperwork, served as walking partners so members can stay fit, acted as a consumer advocate when members needed help with companies they dealt with, and more. The FriendShip has also offered a limited number of evening and weekend services as well.

As I think about how The FriendShip fits into the broader array of senior services in our area, it is clear that the services and programs we provide are filling a critical need for our members. We make sure our members have opportunities to get together, as social isolation is a bitter problem at any age and especially as we get older. Our members meet new people through our network and broaden their support network, often relieving them from feeling a burden on other friends and family.

Not only do our members benefit, but also our volunteers gain so much from their involvement in The FriendShip. One volunteer told me that she often feels “inspired by the competency and spunk of our members.” And, I know she is not alone in this feeling. This point can’t be over-emphasized. By being a part of this caring community, we all benefit—giving and receiving are, in a way, one and the same. I know that I experience this every day in my professional work here with The FriendShip.

And, while I celebrate our achievements and the important work The FriendShip does, I certainly feel strongly that there is so much more we can be doing to support our members with increased resources and capacity. We do have challenges ahead. We must develop strategies to ensure financial stability and continue to develop our volunteer ranks. I am hopeful that The FriendShip can meet these challenges so we can continue to be a crucial support in the Columbia community.



THANKS TO OUR DONORS

2017-2018 Financial Contributors and Gifts*

AARP-South Carolina
Will Amick
Pat & Jane Blackwell
Jane & Steve Blair
Charline Brandt
Joan Bullock
George Cauthen
Elaine Chun
Ralph & Mary Wallace Coleman
Liz Countryman
Caroline Crosswell
The Daughters of the Holy
Cross: Trinity Bazaar
Gordan & Betty Davis
Robin & John Dean
Susan DeWitt
Leah Doberne-Schor
Mike Dojc & Daniela Friedman
Joy Dressler
Bill & Trish Eccles
Margaret & William Fitch
Carol Fowles
Stan Frick
Walter Gregg, Jr.
Jill Ann Grote
Anna Harris
Scott Hinkel
Ann Chadwell Humphries
Betty Jean Ireland

Patricia Johnston
Betty & Rudy Jones
Janet L. Jordan
Mary Kelly
Mary Kessler
Cat Keyser & Paul Famolari
Alice D. King
Shirley G. Knight
James & Frances LaBorde
Joyce Mann
Jamie McCulloch
Paul McCullough
Troy McLaughlin
Galen McWilliams
Men of St. John's
Susan Milton
Jim & Linda Mittenzwei
Faye Mixon
Marcia & Allen Montgomery
Kathryn F. Moore
Frances A. Motte
Barbara F. Mullen
Rob & Joelle Mullen
Mary Nickas
Russ Pate
Lee Pearson
Kenneth Perkins
Gloria Prevost
Sara Rajca
Donna Ray

David Reisman
Mary Moore Roberson
Patricia Rock
Ann Ruderman & William
Keane
Eileen & Gordon Schell
Roberta Schowalter
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Jane W. Trinkley
Dana Turner
Nancy Tuten
Sidney Wait
Lucille Walters
Linda Welch
Rose T. Wilkins
Sarah Williams & Greg Stuart
Rick & Lollie Willis
Georgann H. Wilson

** Includes contributions via
Midlands Gives*

HOW YOU CAN HELP



Spread the word.

The FriendShip is a "well-kept secret" and you can help us grow in many ways by telling others.



Become a volunteer.

The FriendShip has members that inspire and teach.



Join.

We are always looking for more members.



Donate.

Every little bit helps. Donations may easily be submitted on our web site.

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www.thefriendship.org