

**PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP FOR
THE ELDERLY PROGRAM**

This program was enacted as state law by the General Assembly of Tennessee in 1986 to aid persons age 60 and older who are unable to manage their own affairs and who have no family member, friend, bank or corporation both willing and able to act on their behalf. There are no minimum income requirements and the service is free to low income clients of this program. There are nine service areas across the State of Tennessee, each with a Public Guardianship Program administered through the Area Agency on Aging and Disability.

The Public Conservator sees clients at least once a month and more often as necessary, and makes sure their daily needs are provided for. In most instances, the Public Conservator has responsibility for health care decision making and may also provide full financial and property management.

In 1998, the State Assembly mandated that each Public Guardianship Program should have a volunteer component. Volunteers work with the Public Conservator to enhance the quality of life for clients of the program and to increase the

**WHAT CAN VOLUNTEERS DO
TO HELP?**

COMPANIONSHIP

Many of our clients would enjoy visits from you in their home .. whether it is a nursing home, a retirement home, an assisted living facility, or their own home. Or perhaps you could telephone daily, provide reading service to those who have difficulty seeing or writing assistance to those with arthritis or movement disorders.

TRANSPORTATION

None of our clients is able to drive, and all require transportation assistance of some kind .. for medical appointments, shopping trips, or personal errands.

DAILY LIVING ASSISTANCE

Homebound clients need personal shoppers for their groceries, clothing and household needs.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Sometimes our clients have a need for minor household repairs, yard service, one-time cleaning service or other small tasks that you and I take for granted.

Our elderly clients need and deserve any extra time and attention we can give to enhance the quality of their lives.

Do you have an hour or more a week that you can give to the elderly citizens served by the Public Guardianship Program for the Elderly? If you would like to receive an application to become a volunteer with this program, please call 731-668-6405 or complete the information below and return it to:

**Ann F. Mayo, Public Conservator
27 Conrad Drive, Suite 150
Jackson, Tennessee 38305**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone : _____

The amount of time you have to give and the volunteer job you wish to do are carefully matched with a client and tailored to meet that client's needs in order to make this a beneficial and rewarding experience for both you and the client. Training and continuing education are provided.
