

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Jennifer Guers and daughters Faith and Ashleigh



A little over a year ago, Jennifer Guers of Mohrsville was looking through her church bulletin when something caught her eye. It was a notification that Berks Encore-Hamburg was looking for volunteers for its Meals on Wheels program. Jennifer's father was already a Meals on Wheels

volunteer, so she asked him what he thought about her delivering meals as well.

"I asked my father, Peter Kalabisko, if he felt like this would be a good fit for me," Jennifer says. "Now, I deliver meals on the third Friday of the month and I assist my father if he needs help

or whenever they need a sub."

Jennifer and her father aren't the only ones from their family active in the Meals on Wheels program. The third generation of the Kalabisko/ Guers family helps Jennifer deliver meals even though they are only four and nine. Jennifer's daughters – Ashleigh and Faith – assist her mother on her route.

"The clients really enjoy seeing the kids," Jennifer admits. "There was one couple that we delivered to who always gave my daughters a cookie. They wouldn't let us leave until the girls had one."

It's important, Jennifer adds, for her daughters to participate with her.

"I want them to see that there are people who are less fortunate or need help, and there is so much that we can do to give them that help. I want them to follow in my footsteps and do what they can to help others."

"Jennifer and her girls are really a delight to have as volunteers and it's never too early to start teaching children how to volunteer," acknowledges Center Manager Terry Becker. "Ashleigh and Faith are well on their way, thanks to their mom's giving spirit."

"I enjoy spending my time helping others, donating, or doing whatever I can to make someone else feel better," Jennifer says. "I enjoy seeing the faces of the Meals on Wheels recipients and knowing that I am making a difference. There are so many people who need help who just aren't getting it."

Jennifer plans on volunteering for the program for as long as she can. Who knows, perhaps the fourth generation will be volunteering in the Hamburg area someday.

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