

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Peg Kiebach and her mother Mildred Kight



When her 94-year-old mother moved in to her home, Peg Kiebach of Sinking Spring was overwhelmed. She asked herself, "How do I take care of an elderly person?" Peg contacted Berks Encore and attended a free Power of Attorney class, which she followed up by attending a more in-depth six-week course.

"Berks Encore showed me that I didn't need to be an expert on elder care," Peg said. "They answered my questions and provided free classes on Powers of Attorney and elder care. I needed to get information on Power of Attorney, so I could take care of her

properly because I had never take care of anyone like that."

From there, Peg met with Berks Encore's Information and Referral Specialists to discuss her mother's Medicare options. Once again, Peg was very pleased with the results.

"Berks Encore's staff was wonderful. They were so helpful that I now recommend them to everyone. I give the information to other people that I know and they are so grateful to receive it," Peg says.

Today, Peg is giving back to Berks Encore in appreciation for all that

they've done to help her navigate this new territory. Working around taking care of her mother, she is a Meals on Wheels runner, volunteers at Senior Expo and fills in wherever she is needed. In addition, she volunteers for the Delaware Valley Golden Retriever Rescue and the Ladies VFW of Womelsdorf.

"Peg is a true gem," says Melissah Jablonski, Berks Encore's Marketing Director. "Whenever I need assistance, I know that I can count on her, whether it be to represent Berks Encore at an event or to share her story with those who are unfamiliar with Berks Encore. The passion that she has for this organization is obvious as soon as she begins explaining how Berks Encore helped her when she wasn't sure where to turn."

"I feel that you should always give back to your community," Peg admits. "I

would rather do volunteer activities instead of sitting in front of a TV. It makes me feel good when I see someone else smile. I really enjoy Meals on Wheels because I know that I am brightening up someone's day who is normally alone all day long. I get to go in and say hello and have a little conversation."

"People asked me what my plans were when I retired two years ago. My response: Take care of Mom, spend time with my family, and volunteer. If you have your health – which is one of the most wonderful things that you can have – then get out there and help those who aren't as fortunate. Volunteering is truly a wonderful, fulfilling thing to do," she says. "I am grateful to Berks Encore for helping me find the best options for my mother, and allowing me to be a volunteer in such a fantastic organization!"

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