

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

Kathy Speese



Kathy Speese of Reading may only be volunteering at Berks Encore-Reading for three months, but she's already become a volunteer that center manager Elizabeth Brubaker relies on each week.

"I know that I can depend on Kathy to be here consistently to help with bingo and parties," Elizabeth admits.

"I started volunteering about three months ago because I want to help people and be around people," Kathy explains. "It helps me to be around people. The people here are really nice and they make me feel really good. I enjoy doing this here."

Each week Elizabeth gives Kathy a schedule of when she needs help.

"I volunteer 2-3 days a week or whenever Elizabeth needs me," Kathy says. "She can just pick up the phone and call me and I'll be there."

Kathy helps with a variety of events including bingo, grocery bingo and parties.

"My favorite activity is bingo because I'm getting to know a lot of the people by helping with bingo," admits Kathy. "The players joke around with me and I like that. At bingo I go around and collect the money and then when someone wins I read off the winning numbers. At parties I help serve food. I also help with special events where I helped serve

refreshments."

Kathy started volunteering at Berks Encore because she heard that the agency was looking for volunteers. What she's found is that by helping others, she's also helping herself.

"Volunteering helps me get out of my problems by working with people," she says. "Volunteering really helps me while I'm helping other people. I've decided that I needed to keep busy, so I plan on volunteering for a long time."

"I really like volunteering here," Kathy admits with a smile. "I've met a lot of nice people."

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