

A Listening Presence

Foundation Principles

God is present Caring not curing Nonjudgmental presence Active listening

BeFriender Ministry National Office

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How Does BeFriender Ministry Make a Difference?

The mission behind everything we do at BeFriender Ministry is to expand the circle of God's care by bringing connection and a listening presence. That is why the nine volunteer Board of Directors devote countless hours and unwavering energy to strengthen BeFriender Ministry. Here is the Board's story, told as a choir harmonizing on the same beautiful melody.

BeFrienders strengthen lives and change the world, one heart at a time.... The caring connection created by BeFrienders deeply enriches the life of both the person being BeFriended and the BeFriender.... Reach out and become that listening person who enriches the lives of others....

I believe strongly in the benefits of compassionate listening and want to help the BeFriender Ministry succeed.... Being trained as a BeFriender has made a huge difference in my personal life and in my nursing practice as a Faith Community Nurse.... I have seen many lives touched by this listening, caring, nonjudgmental ministry that relies on God's presence....

The healing power of a loving and listening spiritual presence is absolutely magical.... The active listening and mission of BeFrienders is perhaps the **most valuable gift one human being can give to another**.

BeFriender Ministry Board of Directors *Reflections Shared with Permission*



William Pederson – Chairperson Bill Fitzgerald - Treasurer Reid Johnson

Jeanne Perkins Melanie Rettie -Secretary Kathy Rosenberg

Barb Schwery - Executive Director Chaplain Kay Sorvik Gary Solomonson

Chuck Waletzko