



BEFRIENDER
MINISTRY

A Listening Presence

Foundation Principles

- God is present
- Caring not curing
- Nonjudgmental presence
- Active listening

BeFriender Ministry National Office

1120 E 80th Street
Suite 105
Bloomington, MN 55420

952-767-0244
Toll free 1-866-468-8708

www.befrienderministry.org
info@befrienderministry.org

How Does BeFriender Ministry Make a Difference?

Here's One Program Leader's Story

By Kay Morrissey

BeFriender Ministry is truly a “gift that keeps on giving”. People often approach training because they want to be of service to others. As they proceed, they discover much more. I have listened to countless stories of BeFrienders realizing how the listening skills they develop have also impacted their personal lives; their relationships as spouse, parent, grandparent, co-worker, friend, adult “child” of aging parents and/or volunteer in other parish/congregation ministries. Listening with your heart is a gift to yourself as well as to the other. It is a gift sorely needed in our world today.

I originally approached the National Office of BeFriender Ministry while serving on the diocesan staff of a predominantly rural diocese. I was searching for a means/program to empower lay persons to serve one another and enhance lay ministry, particularly as the diocese moved through parish consolidations. What I discovered through that process and continue to find today as I serve as a Program Leader in another diocese, BeFriender Ministry impacts not only those who are served. It impacts all personal relationships whether as spouse, parent, grandparent, friend, co-worker, adult “child” of aging parent and/or volunteer in other parish/congregation ministries. Listening well is a gift to yourself as well as to the other.

BeFriender Ministry is truly a “gift that keeps on giving.”

Kay Morrissey

BeFriender Ministry Program Leadership Team
Our Lady of the Presentation Catholic Church
Lee’s Summit, MO

Reflection shared with permission