

VSP Newsletter October 2017



*Medtronic VSP
Retiree Group
Minnesota*

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Website: <http://mdt retirees.org/>

Learning – Connecting - Serving

Fall Social Events

The recent outing to Duluth was a fun and interesting day as the travelers learned firsthand about the Congdon's rags-to-riches story. Lunch at Grandma's was delicious with lots of good conversation. The limited amount of time didn't keep our group from power shopping and making many fine purchases.

Note: The State Capitol/St. Paul Cathedral Tour is sold out.

Save the Date!

The retiree Annual Holiday Social is planned for Wednesday, December 6, from 4-6:00 p.m. at The Mermaid in Mounds View. Additional information will be included in future Newsletters.

Join a Habitat for Humanity Team

Help fulfill the Medtronic mission of giving back by joining our Habitat for Humanity team. We are looking for 8-13 volunteers who are willing to commit one day per month to help build affordable and decent housing in our community.

The site location is in Blaine and we will begin participating in November. Trust us, NO experience is required. It is a fun day of working with colleagues for a wonderful cause; you only need to bring enthusiasm, energy,and your lunch. Additional details will be sent to those of you who volunteer. Please send your name and contact info (email and phone number) to April or Ann.

April Emerson – april.d.emerson@gmail.com Mobile: 612-735-1716
Ann Cafferty – acafferty@msn.com Mobile 612-747-4160

Natural Disasters Impact on MDT Facilities and Employees

In light of recent natural disasters, many retirees have expressed concern about our colleagues in the affected areas. Communications from Chairman and CEO, Omar Ishrak, and Chief Human Resource Officer, Carol Surface, can be found at the end of this newsletter as well as on the Medtronic Retiree website, <http://mdt retirees.org/>, under the "News Flashes" category. Retirees wishing to make donations may access the Mission in Motion website at [Mission in Motion](#).

Put Your Skills Into Action & Be Entered In Medtronic Holiday Giveaway Drawing

We've partnered with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) online volunteer program. Through UNV, you can search for online projects that fit your skills and your schedule while helping to build the capacity of a nonprofit. It's fast, easy, and effective! The program was started to contribute to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide. Online volunteering allows organizations and volunteers to team up to address sustainable development challenges—anywhere in the world, from any device.

Create a United Nations Volunteers account by November 10, 2017 and be entered to win two reserved VIP seats at the 2017 Medtronic Employee Holiday Program at Operational Headquarters in Minneapolis on Friday, December 15, with travel arrangements included.

To enter the drawing, complete the steps below then email Katie Troyer at katie.troyer@medtronic.com to confirm that you created an account and/or completed a UNV project.

[Sign up and learn more \(www.onlinevolunteering.org\)](http://www.onlinevolunteering.org)

Instructions to sign up on United Nations Volunteers (UNV):

1. Visit www.onlinevolunteering.org;
2. Click “sign up now;”
3. Scroll to bottom of page and click “I want to volunteer” under the New User section;
4. Enter your personal email address and create a password;
5. Follow the prompts to complete your account profile (You are only required to respond to the fields with red asterisks);
6. You will receive an email to activate your user account. Access your email and click “Activate my account.”
7. You can now search for volunteer opportunities on the UNV site.

Amplify Your Impact Through Disaster Relief Support

The Medtronic Foundation is committed to supporting communities affected and threatened by record-breaking severe weather events for the weeks and months to come. We continue to monitor these disasters and are working with our internal and external partners to determine the short and long term needs and how we can help.

Retirees can support those impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria and the earthquakes in Mexico in two ways: volunteerism and giving. Consider donating to All Hands Volunteers (AHV), Americares, the American Red Cross, Direct Relief, and/or the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The Medtronic Foundation matches retiree donations of USD \$10 and above to eligible organizations providing disaster relief through the “Recent Global Disasters” page on [Mission in Motion](#).

If you can volunteer, opportunities are currently available in Louisiana, Florida, Texas, and the US Virgin Islands. Volunteering in Puerto Rico is not encouraged at this time due to the complexity of the relief operations. This is consistent with guidance we are receiving from major relief organizations. To learn about current volunteer opportunities and how to register, access [Mission in Motion](#), click on the “Groups” tab.

See the attachment at the end of this newsletter for further information.

2017 Medtronic Children's Holiday Party – Volunteer help needed!

The annual 2017 Medtronic Children's Holiday Party is quickly approaching on Saturday, December 2, 2017, in the Operational Headquarters Conservatory. To make this a successful event, many volunteers are needed to help set up Friday afternoon, December 1, and for the Saturday 9am-12noon and 1-4pm holiday party sessions. Activities include crafts, games, assistance with Santa photos, check-in and snack distribution. Contact Kim Daninger, 763-505-2868 or kim.daninger@medtronic.com to help make wonderful holiday memories for the kids!

VSP VOLUNTEER REPORT

Thank you to the following individuals for volunteering at Bridging on September 14: Sue Ahlstrom, Judy Bergman, Bernie Bollig, Anne Coldwell, Diann Commers, Karen Kutzner, Kurt Kutzner, Lois Markie, Donna Mae Schwab, and Alice Wydmer. The group bundled 142 sets of silverware or 4,344 pieces of silverware.

Thank you to the following individuals for volunteering to assemble race packets for the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon on September 15th: Judy Bergman, Janice Ladd, Maryanne Lo and Kathy Westensee. Each volunteer assembled 250 race packets for the 10K race.

Thank you to the following individuals for volunteering to hand out race packets for the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon on September 29th or 30th: Judy Bergman, Ann Cafferty and Kurt Kutzner. Race packets were handed out to those participating in the marathon, 10 mile and 5K races.

Thank you to Karin Chisolm for volunteering at the Expo representing Medtronic during Marathon weekend.

FUTURE VSP TEAM VOLUNTEER EVENTS:

- **Bundles of Love – October 26**
- **Catholic Charities – November 13**
- **The Link – November 29**
- **Feed My Starving Children – December 14**

***Note:** For the four volunteer events listed below, if you do not have computer access, please call Judy Bergman at 651-295-4507 to register. If you need help with the website, please contact the YourCause Customer Advocacy Team at 866-751-6031 or medtronic-support@yourcause.com.

Bundles of Love – New Brighton, Thursday, October 26

Registration is open*! Bundles of Love Charity is a volunteer driven nonprofit organization that partners with community service agencies to assist Minnesota families in need by providing handmade baby clothing, bedding and basic care items for their newborns. Their vision is to gather communities to support a parent and newborn. They offer peace of mind for families and provide important, essential and practical supplies to show that someone cares. Volunteers will be doing both sewing and non-sewing activities (i.e. cut, sort, match, and package things).

We will be volunteering at their New Brighton location, 445 Old Highway 8, New Brighton from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. To register, please log into the Mission in Motion website using the below link and search for the event Retiree – Bundles of Love.

<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/basic>

Catholic Charities – St. Paul, Monday, November 13

Registration is open*! We will be volunteering at their distribution center located at 341 Chester Street, St. Paul from 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. To register, please log into the Mission in Motion website using the below link and search for the event Retiree – Catholic Charities.

<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/basic>

The Link – Minneapolis, Wednesday, November 29

Registration is open*! The Link was founded in 1991 by former Minnesota Vikings players, Jim Marshall and Oscar Reed. Their mission is to work with youth and families to overcome the impacts of poverty and social injustice. We will be making breakfast burritos and breakfast sandwiches for their clients at their Minneapolis location at 1210 Glenwood Avenue, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. To register, please log into the Mission in Motion website using the below link and search for the event Retiree – The Link.

<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/basic>

Feed My Starving Children – Coon Rapids, Thursday, December 14

Registration is open*! We will be volunteering at their Coon Rapids location at 401 93rd Avenue NW from Noon – 2:00 p.m. To register, please log into the Mission in Motion website using the below link and search for the event Retiree – FMSC.

<https://medtronic.yourcause.com/basic>

OTHER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS:

The Food Group

The Food Group has individual volunteer shifts available on the following select Tuesdays -- October 24, November 14, November 28, and December 12 -- from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Please RSVP online www.thefoodgroupmn.org/tuesdays or contact Don Johnson djohnson@thefoodgroupmn.org or (763) 450-3889.

Senior Community Services

RAKE THE LEAVES Fall Yard Clean-Up

Leaves do fall. Improve your health while helping a senior citizen remain independent in their home! You choose the date and time to rake and clean up the yard. Perfect for individuals, groups, and families. Seasonal: starting mid-October (depending upon the weather). This is a one-time fun unpaid activity available weekdays and weekends. Feel free to sign up multiple times!

Elders are located in Minneapolis and suburban Hennepin County, raking depends upon where the senior citizen resides. Ongoing unpaid volunteer opportunities are also available. Please contact the Household & Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) Program's Volunteer Coordinator at scsvolunteer@seniorcommunity.org or call 952-767-7894 for more information.

The HOME Program number is 952-746-4046 or home@seniorcommunity.org, if a senior age 60+ needs raking or other services in Hennepin County. Senior Community Services is a nonprofit organization with five programs serving elders and caregivers statewide. For more information please visit www.seniorcommunity.org or call 952-541-1019. Seniors outside of Hennepin County should contact the Senior Linkage Line at 1-800-333-2433 for information about services in their area. Thank you!

Fridley Parks Buckthorn Removal

The 24-acre Innsbruck Nature Center is a wooded park with trails, marsh, and wildlife located at 5815 Arthur St NE in Fridley. Also known as Innsbruck Park, the city-owned property, located behind Totino-Grace High School, is approximately 1.5 miles from the main Medtronic campus and 2 miles from Rice Creek East campus, ideal for early morning or after work visits from Medtronic staff.

Like many woodland areas, buckthorn, an invasive species that overcomes native plants and trees, pervades the property.

For the second annual buckthorn clearing effort sponsored by the Fridley Parks and Recreation Department, Medtronic retiree volunteers are needed to join Fridley residents to remove buckthorn seedlings and small trees from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Saturday, October 28, and Saturday, November 4. (Bad weather make-up date: Saturday, November 11, same time.) Grandchildren ages 12-17 accompanied by an adult, are invited, too. Volunteers will not handle power tools or herbicides.

Training will be provided on site by Fridley park staff. Volunteers should wear work shoes, long sleeve shirts and long pants to guard against ticks, and bring insect repellent. Please bring work gloves and pruners and manual saws (no chainsaws), if you have them. Water and snacks will be provided.

Register for one or both of the buckthorn clearing dates by calling Fridley Recreation at 763-572-3570. You may participate without registering, but a count helps us plan for sufficient staff and supplies.

Student Educational Support - Twin Cities and surrounding areas

Help students achieve their best.

Classroom Assistant - With direction from a classroom teacher, provide academic support to students in a K - 12 classroom setting.

- Tutor/Mentor - Be matched 1:1 with a student in an after-school program setting, and with training, support the student's social and academic growth through:
 - literacy tutoring
 - homework help
 - relationship-building
 - enrichment activities

Opportunities are available with partner agencies in multiple locations including Minneapolis, Bloomington Public Schools, Robbinsdale Area Schools and Osseo Area Schools.

For more information, call Corie at 612-704-6114 or corie.custer@voamn.org.

Veteran and Military Family Support - Twin Cities and surrounding areas

Honor a veteran!

- **Veteran Story Collection Project**- Visit wartime veterans and record their stories for the Veterans' History Project (VHP) at the Library of Congress.
 - Time commitment: 2 -3 months
 - Locations: Hopkins, Minneapolis, Apple Valley
 - Training provided
- **VA Medical Center** - Make a veteran's visit to the VAMC more comfortable by providing hospitality and escorting the veteran around the facility.
 - Time commitment: on-going
 - Location: Minneapolis

For more information, call Corie at 612-704-6114 or corie.custer@voamn.org

Habitat for Humanity - ReStore

Volunteers needed to help run ReStore, the Habitat building supply consignment shop. Building supplies are donated to Habitat by local construction companies. There are two locations – New Brighton and South Minneapolis. Hours of work are flexible to the volunteer’s schedule. For more information or to volunteer go to the following website: <http://www.habitat.org/restores>

American Cancer Society – Road to Recovery

Donate your passenger seat to help save lives. Volunteer to drive cancer patients to treatment. One of the biggest roadblocks to cancer care is transportation. That’s why the American Cancer Society Road to Recovery program helps provide patients with free rides to treatment. For more information or to register go to <http://www.cancer.org> or call 1-800-227-2345.

OTHER COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES: Please check the following websites for other individual and small group volunteer opportunities:

<http://www.volunteermatch.org/search/index.jsp?r=20.0&aff=&l=Minneapolis%2C+MN%2C+USA&o=recency&s=11>



MEDTRONIC FOUNDATION GRANTS

(VOLUNTEER AND MATCHING DONATIONS)

To log your hours for the 25-hour annual Volunteer Grants and to match your monetary donations to qualifying charitable organizations dollar for dollar through Medtronic Foundation’s Matching Grants program, go to the Mission in Motion website at <https://medtronic.yourcause.com/basic>

If you have never used the site before, fill out the Retiree Registration form here: <https://medtronicfoundation.wufoo.com/forms/medtronic-retiree-registration/>. Submit your e-mail address. Within 48 hours, you will receive login credentials for the Mission in Motion community accessed above through Google, Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Internet Explorer
For questions about this process or website, contact Noi Keothammakhoun at noi.keothammakhoun@medtronic.com or the YourCause Customer Advocacy Team at 866-751-6031 or medtronic-support@yourcause.com.

MOBILIZING TO RESPOND TO HURRICANES HARVEY, IRMA, & MARIA

*OPPORTUNITIES AS OF 10/2/17

For the latest information on disaster relief volunteer opportunities, please check the “Groups” tab on [Mission in Motion](#). Retirees are encouraged to volunteer with organizations that provide training in order to ensure you are equipped to serve. Remember to please be patient. Volunteers will be contacted once public officials and disaster relief organizations have had an opportunity to assess the damage and identify unmet needs.

Individual Volunteering

All Hands Volunteers (AHV)

- Volunteer alongside AHV’s global volunteer base in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, or the US Virgin Islands on dates that work best for your schedule and align with AHV’s work days.
- Learn more [HERE](#). Click on “Groups.”
- Submit your AHV Volunteer Application [HERE](#) for priority consideration.

American Red Cross (ARC)

- If you are in Florida and want to help with Hurricane Irma relief efforts, start your volunteer application [HERE](#).
- If you are not local to FL or if you are interested in general ARC volunteer opportunities, start your volunteer application [HERE](#).

Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VROAD)

- Volunteer with a National VOAD member by filling out a form [HERE](#). Members are fully-vetted, experienced, and dedicated professionals who will use your time wisely.

Group Volunteering

All Hands Volunteers (AHV)

- Volunteer alongside other Medtronic employees and retirees in Texas through a coordinated effort between Medtronic Foundation and AHV.
- Save the dates: November 9 – 11, 2017. Learn more [HERE](#). Search “AHV Texas Response”. Be sure to list “All Locations” in your search criteria.

NOTE: As additional group projects are available, information will be shared on “Groups” page on [Mission in Motion](#). Please check back often.

**Additional volunteer opportunities may be added in the future*

Medtronic

Employee Impact Communications:

PUERTO RICO EMAIL – OCTOBER 10, 2017

From: Omar Ishrak
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 10:34 AM
To: 'RS.Omar.Ishrak@medtronic.com' <RS.Omar.Ishrak@medtronic.com>
Subject: A Message from Omar Ishrak and Carol Surface: Employee Emergency Assistance Fund

A Message from Omar Ishrak

Dear Colleagues:

The situation in Puerto Rico continues to remain challenging for our 5,000 plus Medtronic family members on the island; but we are making progress, and the spirit of those impacted by this storm is inspiring. And, at the time of this writing, we are learning more about the terrible impacts that wildfires are inflicting on our colleagues in California. We ask that you keep our California colleagues in your thoughts and prayers as we have confirmed that some have lost their homes and belongings in these fires.

This unparalleled period of natural disasters in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, Mexico and California has left many of our colleagues and their families with damage and loss. We have heard from many of you that you would like to stay updated on how we are helping our employees and how you can contribute to relief efforts that directly benefit Medtronic employees. Today, we share with you two developments that respond to these requests.

DONATING TO YOUR COLLEAGUES IMPACTED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

Many of you have inquired about how you can help your fellow Medtronic colleagues. We are pleased to announce that the new Medtronic Employee Emergency Assistance Fund is ready to accept employee donations. This Fund, which was just recently announced, will also qualify for a matching grant through our Foundation. You can donate to the Fund here.

As mentioned in previous communications, the Medtronic Employee Emergency Assistance Fund was launched with an initial company contribution of \$250,000 to support employees impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Harvey. We then added an additional \$1 million to help the more than 4,000 employees impacted by Hurricane Maria. We will also continue to monitor the events developing in California and assess the needs of our employees there as well. We are also pleased to pass along that over the past week, our Executive Committee members and Board of Directors have personally donated an additional \$200,000 to the Fund to directly support our colleagues and their families.

We know the needs in Puerto Rico are extensive. The support and generosity of our Medtronic family will be critical in helping our impacted colleagues rebuild their lives. So, let's see how much money we can raise for our colleagues impacted by these events... Together!

STAY UP TO DATE: NEW INTRANET SITE

We have created a new intranet site, accessible by all employees, to help share information about our activities specifically in Puerto Rico. This site captures the latest updates from our teams on the island. Please visit the site to read more about our relief activities and learn more about how you can best support our colleagues in Puerto Rico. We will stay focused on doing everything we can to support our employees and their families.

Thanks to everyone in the Medtronic community for your efforts to support Puerto Rico and all of our colleagues impacted by these natural disasters.

Sincerely,

Omar Ishrak
Chairman and CEO
Carol Surface
Chief Human Resources Officer

LAS VEGAS AND PUERTO RICO EMAIL – OCTOBER 3, 2017

From: Omar Ishrak
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2017 11:52 AM
To: 'RS.Omar.Ishrak@medtronic.com' <RS.Omar.Ishrak@medtronic.com>
Subject: A Message from Omar Ishrak and Carol Surface: Puerto Rico & Las Vegas Update

Dear Colleagues:

We write to you today to communicate updates on the events in Las Vegas and the situation in Puerto Rico.
LAS VEGAS MASS SHOOTING

Yesterday, we woke to the terrible news of those killed and wounded in this senseless act of violence in Las Vegas. We have been able to confirm the safety and well-being of the 55 Medtronic employees who reside in the Las Vegas area. Unfortunately, some of our employees were present at this event, witnessed the attack and had friends who were impacted.

Our Medtronic Employee Assistance Program (MEAP) resources are available to employees and their immediate family members or if you are aware of anyone who could use this support, please call MEAP any time at 800-665-4463. Please keep our Las Vegas colleagues, their families and friends and the entire Las Vegas community in your thoughts.

PUERTO RICO—ONGOING DISASTER RELIEF

The situation for our Puerto Rico employees, their families, and the community at large remains very serious. The two recent hurricanes have damaged the island severely. Our Puerto Rico colleagues need help and we are responding. Here's an update on our relief efforts, as well as what you can do to help.

OUR PEOPLE. OUR PRIORITY: COMPANY EFFORTS TO HELP OUR MEDTRONIC FAMILY

Our main priority is verifying the safety and status of our more than 5,000 direct and contract employees and their families to aid in their well-being on the island. The communications infrastructure on the island is essentially gone—making this difficult—but we have been in contact with more than 50 percent of our employees and contingent workers, and are continuing aggressive actions to locate and verify the status of the rest.

Meeting basic humanitarian needs is the most urgent priority, and we are moving quickly to provide supplies, including food, water, generators, and fuel, to our employees and their families. We have organized teams to get these critical relief supplies to employees, and are utilizing our corporate plane and other contracted planes to deliver supplies on a near-daily basis. We have positioned teams on the ground to oversee immediate relief efforts and will continue to work through them to ensure the delivery of relief supplies continues over the coming days and weeks. As previously communicated, Medtronic has established a Global Operations Support Command Center in Minneapolis and San Juan. This multi-function team meets daily to create and execute plans to restore our operations and aid our employees.

Additionally, MEAP and Employee Relations Teams have been deployed; are working to assess employee needs in the impacted areas; and are working directly with employees who need financial assistance. Given the communications challenges on the ground, our employees in Puerto Rico will receive information directly from local HR on how to apply for the numerous programs available to provide relief.

Finally, Medtronic recently created the Medtronic Employee Emergency Assistance Fund and made an inaugural contribution of \$250,000 to support employees impacted by Hurricanes Irma, Harvey, and Maria. These funds are currently being distributed. The company will continue to provide money to this Fund, knowing the needs in Puerto Rico are extensive and will continue.

WHAT EMPLOYEES CAN DO TO HELP

The best way to help our employees right now is through cash donations. We understand many employees inside Medtronic want to contribute—it's part of who we are individually and collectively as a company, and it's fundamental to our Mission. While many employee groups have begun to consider

or launch food, water, and goods drives, we highly caution against this activity at this time. There are significant logistical challenges that exist on the island, and given challenges with transport and distribution, we cannot guarantee the items gathered at local food and clothing drives will make it to our employees. There are some controlled activities in place with our Miami office around gathering supplies, which will continue under guidance from our senior leaders and supported by direct transportation.

In lieu of clothing and food drives, we encourage you to direct your efforts toward donating money for relief activities. There are two ways you can contribute via monetary donations:

1. Donations to the Organizations Working on the Ground in Puerto Rico:

To support the larger Puerto Rico community, we recommend donations to Medtronic Foundation partners, Americares and Direct Relief. Your donations to these nonprofit organizations should be directed through the Mission in Motion site so your donation can be matched through the Foundation's Matching Grants program. Recently, the Medtronic Foundation announced that it will direct an additional \$1 million dollars towards disaster relief. These funds will support long-term relief efforts.

2. Donate Directly to our Employees (coming soon):

We are working to ensure employees can contribute much needed financial support directly to our colleagues in need through the Medtronic Employee Emergency Assistance Fund. This Fund will allow employees to directly aid our Medtronic colleagues in the form of goods, services, and financial assistance delivered over time. Your contributions will be matched dollar for dollar by our Foundation. Details around this new fund will be announced soon.

We will continue to remain deeply engaged in the immediate relief and long-term rebuilding efforts in Puerto Rico. In the coming days and weeks, we will share additional information on our philanthropic efforts to support long-term relief plans on the island.

We know you have lots of questions and have attached a frequently asked questions document to address many of the questions we have received on Puerto Rico.

Please know that our employees, their families and the communities in which we live and work are always of paramount concern to us and we are committed to our Medtronic family in Las Vegas and Puerto Rico.

Sincerely,

Omar Ishrak
Chairman and CEO
Carol Surface
Chief Human Resources Officer