

Peace of Mind for Senior's Event



It all started with a pair of crutches. Carol Chapman received a phone call in 2002 asking "Where can I get a pair of crutches?" For Chapman, the founder of the non-profit Foundation Assisting Seniors and Veterans, it shone a light on a need for the Valley's senior community. Last March, as Solera residents filed past Chapman's table at the Neighborhood Watch Event, they left incredulous at the services the Foundation provides, all at no charge. The Foundation's goal, Chapman said, is "to keep seniors and their dependents in their homes for as long as possible." There is no pre-qualification, she added.

A distraught woman whose husband was confined to a hospital bed at home, reached out on social media last year when the bed broke down. The next day, a new bed was delivered, no charge. Although the loan period is 90-days, Chapman said, "If you need it, keep it." Recycled medical equipment goes through a rigorous inspection and sanitizing program including the Microshield 360 process.

One call to the Foundation can provide a myriad of durable medical equipment, all at no charge. Walkers, wheel chairs, hospital beds and more, delivered, no strings attached. Because the Foundation maintains a warehouse of medical equipment, it is often delivered within one working day.

Chapman warned of other organizations who entice vulnerable seniors with free medical equipment. After the equipment is placed in a home, the calls start coming in saying that insurance was not approved and the equipment will need to be returned, "or the user can purchase it." Chapman's foundation does not require any payment for the

equipment." Funding to the foundation is provided by the CenterWell Senior Primary Care, the folks behind Shelby Motors and FirstService Residential, Solera HOA's management team.

How Are You Program Checks Up on You

For many solo dwellers, The Foundation's *How Are You?* program offers peace of mind. The free service allows participants to receive "wake up", a robocall at a predetermined time and respond simply by pressing a number. If there is no response, two follow-up calls are made at 10-minute intervals "in case somebody is in the shower," Chapman said. If there's no response after 30 minutes and a nearby predetermined contact cannot be reached, a call is made to emergency services. "So far, we've saved 13 lives."

The Foundation's major fund raiser is scheduled for Memorial Day, 26 May, a charity golf event at Henderson's Rio Seco Golf Club in Anthem. "We're looking for volunteers who are physically able," Chapman said. (To volunteer or participate for any Foundation's services, call 725-244-4200.)



The third Wednesday of each month, the Foundation hosts an "informal" support group to assist "those grieving get through the challenge of losing a loved one." They also sponsor seminars on fraud scams and provide support for caregivers. "Caregivers are the last to get help," Chapman observed. Information is available at the Foundation's website, FoundationAssistingSeniors.org or by calling the Foundation.

Tips from Metro



Although Solera requires visitors pass through access gates, uninvited guests who "piggyback" through the gates can present a problem said Officer Jennings of Metro. "Cameras are our biggest ally," he said. "They can capture images of people, cars and even license plates in some instances."

Residents are reminded it's a good idea to have cameras at both front and back entrances.