



SAVE ADULT DAY SERVICES

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Editor: It is unthinkable that the Napa County community might have to go forward without the incredible support we receive from the Napa Valley Adult Day Service. Those helped most are the frailest among us. And, as Napa County continues to age, this resource will be even more important.

Their support for those who are ill — and their caregivers — broadens the impact of the service. Overwhelmed caregivers with no place to go for help would jeopardize the way of life here that we all cherish.

They provide adult day health care services, an Alzheimer's resource center, and caregiver support. We must not let cost-cutting measures hit this critical program. We ask you all to work toward continued adequate funding while we try to help with private contributions as much as possible.

Adult Day Services, a program of Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services, is based in Napa and staffed by experienced and dedicated professionals. In recent weeks, these “all-stars” have been incredibly helpful to me: Meghan McMillan, medical social worker, Heidi Zipay, MA, OTR, Mary Allan, PT and Rebekah Weeman, Mind Boosters Program coordinator.

It's the little things that reveal true character. At the end of a recent Mind Boosters class on a very rainy day, here's Rebekah, a trained professional, grabbing an umbrella to ferry her participants out to their rides. She didn't let her job stop with the end of the session — she kept on giving.

The “bench” is full of “playoff team” members, too. The phone operator, a young woman in the office and the kitchen coordinator all went beyond the call of duty to help me in a pleasant and professional manner.

If I were starting any new enterprise, I would recruit each of these “pro bowlers” as hard as I could.

Please join this effort to ensure continued funding and support for Napa Valley Hospice and Adult Day Services.

Bill Ryan

St. Helena