

SECOND WIND DREAMS

To see a Broadway show, to ride in a Ferrari, to enjoy a favorite ice cream, to see a treasured family member, to re-new marriage vows, to go to a baseball game, to cook again...the list goes on and on!

Second Wind Dreams is expanding into the Chicago area. Second Wind Dreams is changing the perception of aging through innovative educational programming and dream weaving for our seniors. Second Wind Dreams® (SWD) is a faith-based 501©(3) nonprofit corporation, formed in 1997 growing out of the work of Geriatric Specialist P.K. Beville. The mission of SWD is simple: through the fulfillment of dreams and the offering of innovative educational opportunities to caregivers and communities, SWD seeks to change the perception and experience of aging, empowering elders to age with dignity, hope and joy.

Second Wind Dreams focuses on those living in elder communities. An eldercare community (ECC) is defined as a nursing home, long-term care facility or assisted living community. Our program is designed specifically for individuals residing in these communities; however, we also work with elders receiving health services such as hospice or home health. These are our seniors who need our assistance most. At times, family support may be non-existent and money can be at a premium, especially for our Medicaid supported seniors. These senior adults are often our most frail – the ones who need a dream fulfilled.

For those of us passionate about people and quality of life we know that life itself is a journey from beginning to end. The individual life is full of meaning, events and adventure. Second Wind Dreams helps to honor and respect those who might have an unfulfilled dream. The elder's fulfilled dream can also have a ripple effect to those around them! Types of dreams fulfilled through SWD fall into the following categories: Need-based, Relationship-based, Re-live Past Experiences, Dreams for Fun, and Quality of Life dreams. Each dream comes about as a result of an individualized dream discovery and is usually a surprise to the elder.

There are so many ways to help a dream come true. Professional staff at ECC's, Hospice, Home Health and Hospitals – family members, potential volunteers, sponsors and all interested parties: please visit our newly revised interactive website at www.secondwind.org and also our Facebook page. Second Wind Dreams has also recently partnered with the Alzheimer's Foundation of America. You will also find information about dream weaving and also our innovative education program, the Virtual Dementia Tour on our website. For more information on how to become involved with Second Wind Dreams, please contact Angela Colville, Community Relations Coordinator, Second Wind Dreams, Chicago Region at 773-269-9400.