

## April 13, 2015- Newest volunteer balances work and helping the community

by Amanda Skonhvd

Chris Favorite is known around town as the owner of Sedona's trendiest fashion boutique, Favorite Clothing. Her clothing store provides a service to the community by offering access to all the latest fashions, but recently she has taken a new approach to serving the residents of Sedona—volunteering with Verde Valley Caregivers.

"I realized it was a chance to do something good for someone besides myself," Favorite says. "It was the perfect chance to get involved in the community." Over the past six months, Favorite has helped several neighbors by driving them to doctor's appointments and assisting with grocery shopping.

Favorite has enjoyed every moment spent volunteering and she has loved every neighbor she has met so far. "Each and every neighbor is so delightful in their own way," she says. "They all have unique stories. They are all such interesting people who remain a strong presence in the community."

Despite owning and running her own business, Favorite has still found time to volunteer. "It's all about finding a balance," Favorite says of juggling work and volunteering. "Work is important, but so is helping out the community." She also says that volunteering has given her a new perspective on working with people. Her business allows her to interact with her consumers, but volunteering allows her to meet people outside the realm of the fashion world.

Favorite believes spreading the word about VVCC is essential in gaining new volunteers. "I have been telling all my friends and family about volunteering with VVCC. I tell them how much I enjoy it, and how important volunteering is in keeping our community strong. If everyone takes a little bit of time out of their schedules and pitches in, we can make a difference."

When asked what she hopes to get from the experience of volunteering, Favorite says, "I want to feel like I am helping and making a difference in the community. In just six months, I feel like I have already accomplished these things, and so much more. It's the best feeling in the world to help people who truly need it."

VVCC is in its 23rd year of service to nearly 2,200 older adults throughout the Verde Valley who need assistance to live independently in their homes. VVCC has over 300 volunteers who provide transportation to medical and other appointments, grocery shopping, hospital to home assistance, installation of medical alert units, as well as business assistance, handy person assistance, respite assistance, pet assistance, and more.

To learn more about volunteering please contact Kim Meller, operations manager, at (928) 204-1238 or go to: [www.vvcaregivers.org](http://www.vvcaregivers.org).



Chris Favorite, wearing her "I Care" VVCC button. "It's the best feeling in the world to help people who truly need it," she says.