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# Volunteer of the week

August 18, 2007

**CHRIS PATTERSON** of Troy.

**Organization:** Cass Community Social Services in Detroit.

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**What she does:** Chris Patterson has been volunteering for a few months at Cass Community Social Services. She volunteers in the Cass Community Library as a tutor for children who are in the Mom's Place program. In February, Starbucks and the Books for Kids Foundation opened the library to promote literacy among Detroit children. Patterson volunteers on Tuesday and Thursday. She works with the children on different activities during the day such as art, science, math, geography, civics, reading and writing.

**How she got started:** Patterson heard about Cass Community Social Services through her church, the First United Methodist Church in Birmingham. She called Rev. Faith Fowler, executive director of Cass, and asked how she could help.

**Personal:** Patterson has three children: Craig, Todd and Emily. She earned a teaching degree at the University of Detroit and a master's in reading at Wayne State University. She is a retired high school English teacher. She taught for 30 years, 20 of which she spent at Avondale High School in Auburn Hills, where she was the head of the English Department. Her hobbies include reading, needlepoint, traveling and making homemade greeting cards.

**If you'd like to help:** Contact Cass Community Social Services at 313-883-2277 or visit [www.casscommunity.org](http://www.casscommunity.org).

**To nominate a volunteer, contact Antionette D. Griffith at 313-223-4496 or [agriffith@freepress.com](mailto:agriffith@freepress.com).**

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- Nation/World
- Roadwork & Traffic
- Weather
- Obituaries
- Death
- Notices

SPORTS

- Front
- Scores
- Lions/NFL
- Red Wings/NHL
- Tigers/MLB
- Pistons/NBA
- Shock/WNBA
- U-M
- MSU
- Other Colleges
- Preps
- Outdoors
- Olympics
- Auto Racing
- Golf

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- Front
- Arts
- Movies
- DVD
- Music
- Names & Faces
- Dining Out
- Nightlife
- Casinos
- TV & Radio
- Video Games

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- Front
- Michigan
- Nation/World
- My Market
- Watch
- Air Travel
- Technology
- Real Estate

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- Front
- Auto
- Reviews
- Auto Shows

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