
Love Across the Miles

a CFST story

February 5, 1997

One of our teams first visits was with Ms. Veronica Bulicki, a high spirited young lady in her seventies. What we learned immediately from Veronica is that she must always keep her pocketbook filled with money and the cards given to her by her sister, Irene.

Mrs. Irene Anderson is a devoted and loving sister who lives in Colorado. For many years she has sent stacks of personalized notes to her "baby" sister Veronica. Cards to Pennhurst, cards to Embreeville and now, finally, cards to Veronica's home in the community. Veronica and Irene are the last two of nine siblings. Because they live so far from each other, telephone calls and these cherished cards have been their main and continuing connection. However, they both longed to see each other once again.

On that first visit with Veronica when the teams asked if she had heard from her sister, she proudly pulled out and displayed her cards. In fact, her support person said that one of Veronica's most urgent tasks every day is to go to the mailbox to see firsthand if she has cards from Irene.

Over the years Veronica expressed a strong desire to see her sister Irene again. There had been numerous attempts to reunite these two loving sisters, but many obstacles stood in the way until a team of individuals committed to making this dream a reality began to brainstorm together.



This is the beauty of Veronica's story. The awesome power of teamwork. Veronica's residential agency, Northwestern Human Services, the Philadelphia County Support Coordinator, her sister, Irene by phone and our CFS Team began meeting to figure out how to make this happen.

On October 24th 2002, Veronica and her sister Irene hugged each other for the first time in many years. The sisters reminisced for several days, with laughter and tears filling the hours.

Family, friendships and loving relationships are the life force for all people. It's what we need and thrive on. What a charge we all get when folks work as a team to make it happen!!!

a Vision for Equality story