



For Immediate Release

June 16, 2016

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DuPagePads Volunteers of the Year Four Volunteers Selected out of 4,000

DuPage**Pads** 4,000 volunteers are vital to our mission to end homelessness. Last year DuPage**Pads** volunteers donated 66,868 hours – the equivalent of 32 full-time employees. For the past five years, DuPage**Pads** has requested nominations for our Volunteer of the Year Award. A committee selected the winners who were awarded plaques and given special recognition.

Bob Brown - Group: Glen Ellyn Evangelical Covenant Church - Years Volunteered: 22+

Bob Brown assists wherever he is most needed. Taking ownership of his task, Bob recruits and trains back-up volunteers for the days which he is not able to be there-which one nominator mentions, is not very often. Recently, he has been instrumental in overseeing laundry services which keep the sites hygienic. "Bob is the backbone of our set-up and cleanup teams. We could not get the job done without him," one nominator wrote.

Brian Hendricks - Group: First United Methodist - West Chicago - Years Volunteered: 25+

Brian Hendricks has been volunteering for more than 25 years and was an influential force in the congregation becoming an overnight site. As the site coordinator, Brian recruits and organizes volunteers for his congregation. If there is ever a shortage of volunteers, Brian will work an extra shift or stay through the night. He visits with all of DuPage**Pads** program participants. "Brian is the most loving and compassionate volunteer I have ever worked with. He is the glue that keeps our site going and makes us all better," one nominator wrote.

Dave Morrissey - Group: First United Methodist - West Chicago - Years Volunteered: 25+

Dave Morrissey has been a leader and volunteer at the First United Methodist Church for over 25 years. Despite having challenging work obligations, Dave always adjusts his schedule so that he can assist with both the opening and clean-up shifts. In addition to his dedication, Dave shows compassion to DuPagePads program participants. "When I was recovering from health issues, Dave covered my 3-4 shifts per month, in addition to the shifts he was already committed to. I don't know what I would have done without him, he is my 'volunteer of the year,'" one nominator wrote.

Bob Spitzer - Group: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church (Glen Ellyn) - Years Volunteered: 7

Bob Spitzer participates as the Support Coordinator October-April and is a Site Coordinator over the summer. He volunteers for the challenging-to-fill overnight shifts. Not only has Bob inspired his team, but he has mentored other group leaders on best practices. An advocate for our mission, Bob has recruited other faith-based communities. "Bob truly has a heart for the homeless and spends his personal time counseling and supporting DuPagePads participants. He is one of the most dedicated people I have ever met," one nominator wrote.

DuPage**Pads** is currently seeking volunteers for the summer months; contact our Volunteer Coordinator for more information: 630.682.3846, ext. 3500 or volunteer@dupagepads.org.

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Recognizing 30 years of service, DuPage **Pads** is the largest provider of services to those who are homeless in DuPage County. DuPage **Pads**' solution to ending homelessness is housing, coupled with support services and employment to restore hope and transform lives. The administration office is located at 601 West Liberty, Wheaton, IL 60187. Additional information can be obtained by contacting DuPage **Pads** at 630.682.3846 or at www.dupagepads.org.



From left: Carol Simler, DuPage**Pads** President & CEO; Dave Morrissey, DuPage**Pads** Volunteer of the Year; Brian Hendricks, DuPage**Pads** Volunteer of the Year; Bob Brown, DuPage**Pads** Volunteer of the Year; Nancy Rethford, Senior Pastor at First United Methodist Church of West Chicago; and Janelle Barcelona, DuPage**Pads** Vice President of Development.



From left: Diana Miller, DuPage**Pads** Volunteer Coordinator; Bob Spitzer, DuPage**Pads** Volunteer of the Year; and Janelle Barcelona, DuPage**Pads** Vice President of Development.