

David Pierson • KVC Behavioral HealthCare Joyce Molina • Economic Opportunity Foundation

Dave Pierson does a variety of things for our children at KVC Behavioral Healthcare. After seeing the problems and issues surrounding the Foster Care Programs in Kansas, Pierson was concerned.

"I decided that if I were concerned about the problem, maybe I had a responsibility to do something about it," he said. Fourteen years later, Pierson continues to be a constant presence at KVC.

One of the most important things that Pierson gives is his physical presence. Not only does he constantly provide resources for extra programs and general activities, but Pierson actually comes out to KVC to spend time with



the kids. He helps show the kids the kindness of people, and helps show them that people do care.

On a regular basis Pierson will donate books to help build the library or clothing to help keep up with needs in the clothing closet. He also regularly donates toys, games, movies, and music to the kids.

His efforts have made it possible that all residential children receive an Easter Basket. The KVC Halloween Carnival would not be a tradition if Pierson had not come forward with the resources. Pierson continually provides resources for educational trips, reward activities and general activities for the children in residential services at KVC.

For the past three years, Joyce Molina has been a dependable volunteer at the Economic Opportunity Foundation SouthSide Community Action Program (CAP) Center. Molina has great organizational skills that she readily shared with the center when she started volunteering in the office.

As a receptionist, she answers the phone and provides callers with information about the SouthSide CAP Center. She also helps the staff by entering appropriate data on client services in the computer. Molina has also helped to archive center records when appropriate. On occasion Molina has volunteered to pick up clients who need assistance but lack transportation.



SouthSide Center is a surplus commodities distribution station. Molina informs clients as to date and time of pick-up, she helps sack and distribute commodities every quarter. When it is time to re-certify clients for commodities, Molina is there making sure the process is complete and accurate.

Molina gives at least ten hours a week to the SouthSide CAP Center. The commitment of this time is such a valuable contribution to the program. When on duty doing her work, Molina is actually freeing up staff to interview clients, complete the mountains of necessary paperwork and provide the much-needed direct assistance to the clients in need.

Julie Mayne • Catholic Charities

Julie Mayne was a volunteer for Catholic Charities for seven years before an untimely death on Feb. 17, 2009. She served as a receptionist for the Catholic Charities Emergency Assistance Program at the Central Avenue office. She volunteered an average of 200 hours per year, double what the average volunteer gives per year.

As receptionist for emergency assistance, Mayne worked closely with clients needing assistance for rent, utilities, food and other basic necessities.



Mayne's warm smile welcomed everyone she encountered. She treated clients with dignity and respect and took satisfaction in knowing that her volunteer job was important. She was so dedicated to her position that she rarely missed her

scheduled time and she brought with her a real organizational talent that allowed everything on her shift to run like clockwork.

Conscientious and unwilling to give up, Mayne volunteered until three weeks before her death from breast cancer. Gwen Hale, a staff person with emergency assistance said, "I knew her as a strong willed, compassionate, gentle soul. Even when she did not feel her best, she continued to press on..."

Catholic Charities is honored to have Julie Mayne as a caring and committed volunteer for the past seven years. We will miss her.

Kay Clayton • Mental Health America of the Heartland

Clayton has been a volunteer with Mental Health America of the Heartland for the past two years. Her focus is the Compassionate Ear Warm Line program, a listening service for those in need of support. She shares her own experiences with callers and displays empathy while accepting the callers where they are.

Clayton is an excellent listener, so much so that callers often request her.


Enthusiasm about Compassionate Ear led Clayton to share her original



artwork and poetry to create a flier as a promotional tool. This flier helps get the word out to those in need. Clayton is a very creative volunteer. She was part of an amateur acting group, READY for Anything Players and groups called the Johnson County Modies. This group used singing and

performances to break the stigma of mental illness. She has been a peer support volunteer, a volunteer for Special Olympics and worked with a local consumer-run organization that empowers individuals with disabilities to live independently.

With the support of Clayton and other mental health consumer volunteers, the Compassionate Ear Warm Line helps more than 300 callers each month. Her dedication to the warm line and its callers is inspirational to other volunteers, members of the community, and coordinators of Compassionate Ear.



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