



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Spirit of Volunteerism Award – Adult Up & Coming: Jake Wampler**

SIOUX FALLS – Jake Wampler is the 2017 First National Bank Spirit of Volunteerism Award winner in the Adult Up & Coming Volunteer Award category. Wampler received the award Thursday at the Spirit of Volunteerism Luncheon, an annual event that honors Sioux Empire volunteers for the impact they make on the community. The event is a project of Helpline Center. 2017 marks the 35th year the Helpline Center has presented volunteer appreciation awards.

Each week, Wampler visits the Good Samaritan Society – Luther Manor to call and assist with bingo for the residents there. Staff members at Luther Manor staff call Wampler a “joy,” and note that the residents love his personality and energy.

Wampler volunteers each week despite his own health history. In 2005, during a football practice at Lincoln High School, Wampler went into cardiac arrest. Although medical personnel were able to restart his heart, he was without oxygen for a period of time. During two years of rehabilitation and brain injury treatment, Wampler had to relearn almost everything, including how to swallow. Due to the brain injury, he has no working memory. Yet, despite his challenges, Wampler has given of his time and energy to Luther Manor for the past 4 ½ years.

“He’s quite a special young man,” wrote the staff of Luther Manor.

The Spirit of Volunteerism awards are made possible through the generous support of Midco, Independent Insurance Agents of Sioux Falls, Children’s Dental Center and Parkway Orthodontics, The First National Bank in Sioux Falls, First PREMIER Bank/PREMIER Bankcard, EarthBend, MetaBank and Citi.

The Helpline Center’s Volunteer Connections Program provides the community with ways to connect with volunteer opportunities as well as offer non-profit organizations volunteer recruitment assistance and support for volunteer managers. To learn more go to [volunteer.helplinecenter.org](http://volunteer.helplinecenter.org) or dial 211.