



Pictured (L to R): Kimberly Banks, MetaBank; Carolyn Anderson, July Volunteer of the Month Winner; Kristin Fox and Connie Christensen, Senior Companions.

July Volunteer of the Month Celebrated

The Helpline Center congratulates Carolyn Anderson on being named the July 2017 Volunteer of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by the Helpline Center and MetaBank.

As a Senior Companion, Carolyn helps older individuals maintain independence in their own homes by providing weekly scheduled visits. She provides companionship to those who are socially isolated and transportation to the grocery store, pharmacy, and doctor appointments. She is currently volunteering 16 hours each week with her seven clients. Over the past eight years, Carolyn has volunteered over 6,000 hours and in 2014 received the Lifetime Presidential Award.

Laverne is one of Carolyn's seven clients. They have been meeting once a week for 4 years; he is not only a client but a friend. They begin their Tuesday routine with breakfast. Carolyn laughs and says, "Laverne LOVES breakfast at Burger King"! After breakfast, they head to Hy-Vee where Laverne does his weekly shopping. Carolyn says he likes to do his own shopping so she waits in the cafeteria and reads a book. Last year, their routine was interrupted when Laverne fell and broke his hip in Missouri, on the way home from a trip to Florida. When Laverne returned home he and Carolyn resumed their weekly routine, but with a few modifications. Laverne says he was very happy to be home and be reunited with his favorite Senior Companion. Carolyn is a kind and caring person. She is very thoughtful and very giving; she genuinely cares for the well-being of her clients. Her clients in return, genuinely care for her and know they can depend on her visits every week.

The Helpline Center and MetaBank are pleased to present Joanne with a framed certificate, a gift from MetaBank and a letter of appreciation from Mayor Huether. We will also honor Joanne again at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards banquet on May 10, 2018.

For information on volunteer opportunities please call the Helpline Center at 211 or visit www.helplinecenter.org.