

**April 2021
Sioux Empire Volunteer of the Month
Sue Parton**



L to R: Marcie Priestly, The Salvation Army; Susie Ryks, Helpline Center; April Volunteer of the Month, Sue Parton; and Casey Christensen, Wellmark.

The Helpline Center congratulates Sue Parton on being named the Sioux Empire April 2021 Volunteer of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of SD.

Sue Parton has been volunteering with The Salvation Army for 15 years and serves on a weekly basis. Before the pandemic she was coming into the office every Friday to help answer phones, greet clients and assist with various projects. Since COVID began, she's been volunteering from home. Staff take her various projects, mailings, etc. One of her most important tasks is keeping in touch with seniors who would normally be attending our monthly Senior Neighbor Luncheon. This program has been cancelled for some time due to the pandemic. Sue is keeping in touch with clients via the phone and mail. In addition to making calls, she also sends them cards. It's difficult not being able to see everyone and we're so grateful to Sue for reaching out during a time when so many are feeling isolated.

A staff from The Salvation Army commented, "When our doors are open to the public, Sue is a smiling and welcoming face during times of uncertainty. Those living in poverty struggle daily to fill their basic needs. Having Sue as the welcoming face of our organization makes a huge impact during difficult times. Since COVID began, Sue has been reaching out to those in the

vulnerable category. Those who looked forward every month to a social time where they gathered with friends at The Salvation Army. Now they look forward to hearing from Sue. Chatting with her or receiving a card in the mail. Sue writes the best cards. Cards that encourage and lift up her friends.”

The Helpline Center are pleased to present Sue with a framed certificate and a letter of appreciation from Mayor Paul TenHaken.

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

