



April Volunteer of the Month Celebrated



L to R: Keith Corbett, City of Brookings Mayor; Kerry Pollema, Senior Director Volunteers and Communications/Marketing with Make-A-Wish South Dakota & Montana; Karissa Kopecky, Volunteer of the Month; Allison Schmitt, Helpline Center

The Helpline Center congratulates Karissa Kopecky on being named the April 2021 Volunteer of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by the Helpline Center and First Bank & Trust.

Karissa serves as a wish granter with Make-A-Wish South Dakota & Montana. As a wish granter, she meets with the wish child and family members to help determine the child's most heartfelt wish while brainstorming and planning special enhancements throughout the wish process. Karissa works with other wish granters in teams alongside Make-A-Wish South Dakota & Montana staff to ensure every eligible child's wish comes true.

Karissa has been an active volunteer for nearly 6 years. She volunteers an average of once a month when on a wish team. Karissa has helped grant six wishes in her six years of being a wish granter and has been a leader on most of the teams. This past year, she helped lead and grant two wishes! She also helps mentor less experienced volunteers and wish granters through being a team lead.

Staff said “Make-A-Wish South Dakota & Montana is privileged to work alongside volunteers like Karissa in fulfilling our mission of creating life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.”

Congratulations, Karissa, on being our much-deserved April Volunteer of the Month!

For information on volunteer opportunities or the Volunteer of the Month program, please contact Allison Schmitt at bkvol@helplinecenter.org or call 211 for more information.