



**L to R: Susie Ryks, Helpline Center; Jean Mescher and Diana Anderson, August Volunteers of the Month; Helen Block, Avera At Home Hospice & Dougherty Hospice House.**

### **August Volunteers of the Month**

The Helpline Center congratulates Jean Mescher and Diana Anderson on being named the August 2020 Volunteers of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by the Helpline Center.

Jean Mescher and Diana Anderson are the dedicated Wednesday morning volunteer team at the Dougherty House. Both are retired nurses who assist Dougherty House staff with compassionate care of our hospice patients. This includes baths, transfers, feeding, companionship, laundry, etc. Diana Anderson has been a volunteer since 2016 and has served over 770 hours. Jean Mescher has been a volunteer since 2011 with over 1,275 hours served. Diana and Jean are the regular Wednesday morning team at the Dougherty House but have also been available to call when needed in a crunch.

The Dougherty House depends on volunteers like them who commit to their service so faithfully and dependably. What a gift, in their retirement, to use their many years of skills and wisdom to make work better for the Dougherty House staff and to make an experience better for dying patients and their families.

Dougherty House staff have commented often on how helpful this duo of skilled women has been in supporting staff and patients. Jean and Diana make a great team and just seem to know what to do to be helpful. Even on the coldest of winter days, they show up and make a difference with their valuable assistance. Even after challenging personal losses, they continue to give back. Jean and Diana are very appreciated by staff at the Dougherty House!

The Helpline Center are pleased to present Jean and Diana with framed certificates and a letters of appreciation from Mayor Paul TenHaken. We will honor them again at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards Luncheon on May 11, 2021.