

Public Service Announcement March 1, 2019 Contact: Audrey Nordine, Black Hills Program Coordinator Contact Number: Dial 211 or (605) 274-1429 For Immediate Release

## Helpline Center & Black Hills Urgent Care name March Volunteer of the Month



Pictured left to right: Audrey Nordine, Black Hills Program Coordinator with Helpline Center; Crissy Ludens, March 2019 Volunteer of the Month; Kathy Minnick, Black Hills Urgent Care and Surgical Hospital

RAPID CITY - The Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care are pleased to announce that Crissy Ludens has been named the March 2019 Volunteer of the Month. Crissy was nominated by Kara Fenner of Toys for Tots.

The Volunteer of the Month program is sponsored by the Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care, a division of Black Hills Surgical Hospital. Volunteer of the Month recognizes outstanding individuals who make the community stronger through volunteerism.

Crissy has supported Toys for Tots through its 3<sup>rd</sup> season. Crissy organizes and sets up volunteers and the distribution locations. This past year she took on the responsibility of registration. She set up Eventbrite to keep statistics that we can view every week to see if we have enough supply to meet our demand. Crissy takes on many roles and uses her resources to help in any way she can. There are countless hours poured into the Pennington County Toys for Tots program between August and December of every year. Three years ago, the Toys for Tots program ended. Crissy realized the demand in our county and filed out paperwork to restart the program and gather coordinators. Thus began a journey to help over 2000 children get toys for Christmas.

Crissy always lends a helping hand. She doesn't just volunteer for Toys for Tots but puts hours of volunteering in across the Black Hills year round. Crissy is very resourceful and helps numerous organizations across the Black Hills. She is an amazing volunteer and member of our community. Her caring heart extends across the Black Hills.

Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care presented Crissy with a framed certificate and Helpline Center T-shirt, gifts from Black Hills Urgent Care and a letter of appreciation from Rapid City Mayor Steve Allender. The Helpline Center will also recognize Crissy at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards banquet on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center.

For information on volunteer opportunities, please call the Helpline Center at 211 or visit <u>www.helplinecenter.org</u>