

February 2023
Sioux Empire Volunteer of the Month
Peggy McDaniels



(Left to Right: Drew Ferreira, Washington Pavilion; Jennie Marks, Helpline Center; Peggy McDaniels, Honoree; Dawn Stephens, Wellmark; Brett Cooper, Washington Pavilion)

The Helpline Center congratulates Peggy McDaniels on being named the Sioux Empire February 2023 Volunteer of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of SD.

In Peggy's case, it is almost easier to list what activities she DOESN'T perform! Peggy is a true jack-of-all-trades when it comes to Washington Pavilion service: Peggy altogether serves as an usher for concerts and shows, supervises the Visual Arts Center greeting desk, gives tours of the Visual Arts Center galleries to groups of all ages, greets guests at the Kirby Science Discovery Center during monthly Free First Friday events, gets materials ready to send out for Pavilion mailings, organizes supplies for the Education office, and is a regular for all manner of Pavilion festivals, including the Sidewalk Arts Festival, Spooky Science, and Ag Day. The breadth and depth of Peggy's ubiquitous service are famous and widely appreciated by Pavilion staff members and fellow volunteers.

Peggy has volunteered at the Pavilion since December of 2018 and has served nearly 1,300 hours during her [not even] four-year tenure. She shares her expertise with the Pavilion multiple times each week, serving an average of more than 300 hours each year. The Pavilion is one of Peggy's homes away from home and she was the organization's most frequent and industrious volunteer during the 18-month period from January 2020 to June 2021 when the Pavilion endured its greatest COVID-related staffing and programming challenges.

Drew Ferreira, the Guest Experience Manager at the Pavilion, had the following to say in support of Peggy: "Peggy is one of the most committed and dedicated volunteers I have ever had the pleasure of working with. Her availability to help at a moment's notice has been critical to meeting the Washington Pavilion's goal of delivering memorable experiences that entertain, educate, and enrich our guests. Her demeanor is always professional and her warm smile and customer service make her a valuable team member for the Husby Performing Arts Center and the Washington Pavilion as a whole. Peggy embodies what it means to be a strong, devoted volunteer and without her dedication to our core values and vision, our culture would resonate far less. Peggy would be an amazing volunteer of the month!"

Peggy volunteers for service's sake; she gives of her time, energy, and expertise because that is what quality human beings do. She is generous without conditions and is a giver without any expectation of receipt. She literally answers the call to assist at any time and is wholly deserving of the Volunteer of the Month Award.

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

