



**Public Service Announcement  
May 1, 2018  
Contact: Audrey Nordine  
Contact Number: Dial 211 or (605) 274-1429  
For Immediate Release**

**Helpline Center & Black Hills Urgent Care name  
May Volunteer of the Month**



***Pictured are (left to right) are Audrey Nordine, Volunteer Connections Coordinator with Helpline Center, Richard "Dick" Fischer, May Volunteer of the Month, Greg Loos with Black Hills Urgent Care and Surgical Hospital, and Ronda Gusinsky with Northern Plains Eye Foundation.***

RAPID CITY - The Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care are pleased to announce that Richard "Dick" Fischer has been named the May 2018 Volunteer of the Month.

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.

Fischer was nominated by Christine Riegel of Northern Plains Eye Foundation.

Dick Fischer is a Piedmont Valley Lion who has been involved as a volunteer with Northern Plains Eye Foundation since 2012. He is a volunteer for the Northern Plains Eye Foundation Western South Dakota Lions Children's Vision Screening Initiative (CVSI). Dick, along with other area Lions Club members, helps NPEF administer thousands of free vision screenings annually, throughout the months of October through March, to children in area elementary schools. Since 2014, Dick has cheerfully dedicated the highest number of volunteer hours annually to the CVSI program.

In addition to volunteering at screenings, Dick also volunteers to support the program administratively, assisting with follow up mailings to parents/guardians of all children screened – to the tune of over 5,000

each screening year! With the help of Dick and his fellow Lions Volunteers, Northern Plains Eye Foundation has provided almost 20,000 free vision screenings in the Black Hills region to identify children with potential risk factors that may inhibit proper vision development. Riegel says, "...through the years-long flurry of activity, Dick is always there, with a smile on his face and a "get 'er done" attitude."

Dick always arrives early and is very eager to help in any way, no matter the task. While he happily volunteers at every opportunity, he is completely unselfish in doing so. He is constant in wanting everyone who wishes to participate to have the chance to do so – and thus, is as willing to be removed from a shift as added to a shift to make sure every volunteer can be involved. NPEF exclaims, "He is genuinely a very special individual who is completely self-effacing and evades any acknowledgement or praise, always redirecting it to his fellow volunteers and club members. He truly volunteers because he simply wants to lend a helping hand by giving of his time to help these kids and their families."

Helpline Center and Black Hills Urgent Care presented Fischer 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 Richard "Dick" Fischer at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards banquet on Tuesday, May 15, 2018, at the Best Western Ramkota/Minervas.

For information on volunteer opportunities, please call the Helpline Center at 211 or visit [www.helplinecenter.org](http://www.helplinecenter.org)