



November Volunteer of the Month Celebrated



L to R: Allison Schmitt, Helpline Center; Jennifer Loomis, Mortgage Loan Officer with First Bank and Trust, BAHFH Board Member; Richard Gamradt, Volunteer of the Month; Dan McColley, BAHFH Executive Director

The Helpline Center congratulates Richard Gamradt on being named the November 2020 Volunteer of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by the Helpline Center and First Bank and Trust.

Richard volunteers for Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity and is a regular member of the Foundation Crew that works every Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. He is a dedicated individual who works every week. He brings a certain ingenuity to the job site by helping create things to make the work site run more efficiently.

Richard has been working with Habitat for Humanity for the past 10 years. When the Covid-19 pandemic slowed many businesses to a halt in March, Habitat stopped hosting volunteers for two months to keep volunteers safe. Since they've been able to open back up with new safety

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precautions, Richard has been showing up nearly every work day to help get homes back on track after all the lost hours incurred during the volunteer shutdown.

Staff at Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity said, "Richard shows up to volunteer every week with a positive attitude, open to change and ready to work with a large team or with just our Site Supervisor, Jason Hett. This pandemic has brought about many changes to how we are able to host volunteers, and Richard has taken every change in stride. It's truly inspiring to show up to a work site on a Friday morning, in the wind and 90-degree heat, and see Richard there smiling, ready for another day of volunteering to build affordable housing."

Congratulations, Richard, on being our much-deserved November 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.