



## September Volunteers of the Month Celebrated



***L to R: Staff of Brookings Behavioral Health and Wellness, Jenna Heylens, Bridgett Sturzenbecher, Amy Ward, Tracy Chapman, Tim Lease; Chief Executive Office of The Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains, Andrea Brown, Mary Beth Fishback; Executive Director of Brookings Behavioral Health and Wellness, Casey Jungers, Brooke Weber, Nicole Biever; Chief Development Office of The Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains, Elizabeth Biever, Caroline Biever***

The Helpline Center congratulates the volunteers of The Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains Food Distribution on being named the September 2020 Volunteers of the Month, an area-wide award program sponsored by the Helpline Center and First Bank and Trust.

Tim Lease, CEO of The Boys and Girls Club of the North Plains, said “We are grateful to have this opportunity to help those in our community that need us most. Also, we appreciate how so many volunteers have helped out with the food distribution.” Individuals have volunteered their time each Monday along with the following businesses and organizations:

Salvation Army

Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity

Brookings Behavioral Health and Wellness

Children's Museum of South Dakota

Boys & Girls Club of Brookings board members and staff

Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program

Bobcat of Brookings, Inc. – donated the use of a Bobcat to unload the food from the truck each week.

Runnings and Hy-Vee – provided bags for donated sweet corn

Corteva Agriscience – donated a truckload of sweet corn

In July, The Boys and Girls Club was contacted about receiving the food truck once a week for Brookings County. They stepped up to the plate and took on this opportunity with helpful hands and hearts. Each week throughout August, they've handed out close to 480 boxes of food, three to each family that comes through the drive-through distribution. Volunteers help to unload the truck filled with food and then to load it into the cars of those who need it.

The food distribution comes at a time when some may need additional assistance the most. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, many individuals have been affected. Receiving help to put food on the table each week is a blessing for many members of the Brookings community thanks to the willing hands of the volunteers for the food distribution. When there's a need in our community, residents of Brookings step forward to serve.

Congratulations to the volunteers of The Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Plains Food Distribution on being our much-deserved September Volunteers of the Month!

For information on volunteer opportunities or the Volunteer of the Month program, please contact Allison Schmitt at [bkvol@helplinecenter.org](mailto:bkvol@helplinecenter.org) or call 211 for more information.