

March 2024 Sioux Empire Volunteer of the Month Suzy Jones



Left to Right: Jennie Marks, Helpline Center; Suzy Jones, Honoree; Dawn Stephens, Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Dakota; Erica, Alpha Center; Amy, Alpha Center;

The Helpline Center congratulates Suzy Jones on being named the Sioux Empire March 2024 Volunteer of the Month. Volunteer of the Month is an area-wide award program sponsored by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of SD. Suzy is nominated by Alpha Center. Her nomination states, “Suzy volunteers in three different client services capacities: as a Client Advocate, a Mentor and a Life Skills Class presenter. As a Client Advocate, she converses with clients participating in Alpha Center’s Earn While You Learn incentive program and answers any questions they have regarding their weekly lessons. Suzy has a background in birth to 3-year-old speech and development. Her knowledge in that area is particularly

useful when clients have questions about their child’s development. As a Mentor, she builds relationships with clients who want one-on-one support as they navigate an unexpected pregnancy or parenting a young child. Clients who have worked with her have been given practical tools, as well as consistent encouragement on their parenting journey. As a Life Skills Class presenter, Suzy shares with Alpha Center clients about parenting-related stress and how to manage the various stressors that come up in day-to-day life as a parent.

Suzy started volunteering in November 2021. Even though she hasn’t been a volunteer for a long time, she has shared a significant amount of her time and talents since then. She comes to Alpha Center at least once a week to talk to Earn While You Learn clients, and when she’s matched with a client as a mentor, she also meets with that client weekly. In addition to those consistent commitments, she presents at Life Skills Class on an as-needed basis, and has been willing to talk with clients whose children would benefit from her professional expertise and experience in speech therapy. Suzy is always eager to serve Alpha Center clients and willingly gives her time and shares her knowledge with those who need it.

Suzy has been all-in at Alpha Center since day one. She has provided a tremendous amount of support to clients, and has been a joy for the staff who have had the privilege of getting to know her. In addition to offering practical advice to clients on a regular basis, one of the most important things that Suzy does is building relationships with the clients she communicates with, and providing them with a trustworthy, stable source of information and support.”

The Helpline Center is pleased to present Suzy with a framed certificate and a letter of appreciation from Mayor Paul Ten Haken.



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