

Heather Astuto, Founder – Especially Needed



2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form

Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Heather Astuto, Founder  
Especially NEEDED

Mailing Address: 1300 Westmont Dr

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 2144993439 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: Heatherastuto

@YAHOO.COM

Website: www.especiallyNEEDED.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

See Next pages

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 8 years

Name of person submitting nomination: Karen Smithhart

Mailing Address: 1401 LAKE PARK DR

City: LAKEHILLS ST: TX Zip: 78063

Phone: 2105632798 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: KAREN.Smithhart

@YAHOO.COM

Please submit form to:

McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070

Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.

**McKinney Community Development Corporation - 2018 Quality of Life Award**

**Nominee :**

**Heather Moss Astuto- Founder Especially Needed**

**Mailing Address: 1300 Westmont Dr.**

**City: McKinney St: Tx Zip: 75070**

**Phone: 214-499-3439 Email: heatherastuto@yahoo.com**

**Website: www.especiallyneeded.org**

*Heather is an exceptional human being who is a single mom, caring for a five year old and a twelve year old .She does so all the while giving back to the community at large, through her love and commitment to her family, her community and all who live daily with special needs and the challenges that go along with this.*

*Heather is the mom of a beautiful daughter who was born with Down Syndrome. Early on, she realized that there were not many events or resources available for these wonderful "differently challenged" human beings and decided that she wanted to create an organization that was committed to providing events and opportunities where those with special needs in the McKinney area could attend, enjoy at their own pace and not be judged, hurried or looked upon as different. Heather founded the non-profit, "Especially Needed" in June of 2010. Through this organization she has established numerous events and venues for this to happen!*

*She has successfully established key programs to benefit and serve those who otherwise might not have the opportunity to enjoy what we at times so easily take for granted. She has even made sure that adults with special needs are allowed the opportunity to attend and not be overlooked.*

*Some of her accomplishments are as follows:*

**1. Annual Fall Carnival:** *At this event each year over 300 families, with special needs children are able to attend and enjoy an evening of carnival games, petting zoo, foods, rides, trick or treating and fireworks! But Heather doesn't stop there. She also invites the local Adult Special Care facility, realizing that many adults who are in actuality children themselves, need to have a safe, fun, non-judgmental venue in which to have fun and be themselves.*

**2. Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** *More than 200 families each year attend and enjoy egg hunting, visits with the Easter Bunny, face painting, games and events all geared towards children and adults with special needs. She even went to Home Depot and asked them to help her to create a special wand with magnets so that those in wheel chairs could also enjoy the activities by picking up eggs with magnets attached. She doesn't believe in leaving anyone out! She was highlighted on Good Morning Texas, interviewing her about this unique event.*

*3. A Special Time With Santa: At this event more than 140 families bring their children with special needs and enjoy an evening with Santa. (But not just any Santa.) A Santa who understands the need to be compassionate, understanding and the ability to cater to the individual differences and needs of these amazing members of our community. Heather made sure of this.*

*As stated before, Heather manages all of this while being a single mom and supporting her two children. She does not take no for an answer and will leave no stone unturned in her quest to allow these individuals the same opportunities as others and enhance their quality of life day by day, event by event.*

*She applied for grants through the City Of McKinney Community Development Corporation and was successful in garnering some funds for these events, but still spends much of her own money, to cover the expenses.*

*She worked closely with the Kiwanis Club of McKinney to initiate the startup of the Angel League Halos T-ball team for young children with special needs in 2010 and it is still going strong.*

*She organized and led a cheer camp for children with special needs at the McKinney Community Center in 2012.*

*Heather firmly believes ALL should be afforded equal opportunities to enjoy an equal quality of life. Thus her belief in providing these opportunities and helping to ensure that the City of McKinney does indeed stand behind all their citizens and share her beliefs. She is proud of her family, her community and her organization, as we all should be.*

*Heather was nominated for and chosen as one of 6 winners of the at Morgan's Wonderland of San Antonio Texas. The world's largest theme park for special needs individuals. Her name is forever engraved on their Wall of Fame. <http://www.morganswonderland.com/get-involved/free-to-soar-gala/wall-of-fame-honorees> They heard of her accomplishments in the McKinney and DFW area and she was awarded this honor along with 5 others from across the US.*

## **Wall of Fame Honorees -Morgan's Wonderland**

- **2016 Wall of Fame Honorees**



**Heather Astuto, McKinney, Texas**

In 2010, Astuto founded the non-profit Especially Needed organization to offer year-round special events for special-needs children and adults in the McKinney area. The events include a fall carnival, A Special Time with Santa, an Easter egg hunt, the Super Owls summer camp and monthly birthday parties. She also worked closely with the Kiwanis Club of McKinney to start up the Angel League Halos T-ball team for younger children with special needs. Grants and gifts help Astuto stage the various events; however she oftentimes spends her own money to cover expenses in order not to disappoint families who really look forward to the various activities. She accomplishes

all that she does as a single mom, caring for a 5-year-old daughter and a 13-year-old daughter with Down syndrome.

*This past year she was recently highlighted in the DfwChild and Thrive magazines for her accomplishments and programs she has instituted to improve the quality of life for those with challenges in her community.*

*We have learned that there are some outcomes that are even too large or meaningful to be measured, such as a child's smile who is in a wheel chair and could not bend and pick up an egg, but now can actually hunt along with others or even a child who must walk at her own pace and would normally be overrun by other children and not even have a chance to enjoy the experience of "hunting for eggs" or a child who for the first time got to REALLY TALK to Santa and believe that he understood, or a 32 year old adult who is attending an Easter Egg Hunt for the very first time and is so excited over his treasures. These are things that truly CHANGE quality of life. All of these activities help to showcase that the City of McKinney truly does embrace all and much of this is due to Heather's tireless diligence to improve the life of her daughter and all others who face challenges every day.*



Juli Smith, All Abilities Playground





### 2018 Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

**Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018**

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Juli Smith

Mailing Address: 3206 Saint Pierre

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 214 727 7713 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: julismith@tx-rr.com

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

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\_\_\_\_\_

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? many years

Name of person submitting nomination: Jackie Brewer

Mailing Address: 2705 Stonepointe

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 214 924 2149 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: jbrewer36@hotmail.com

**Please submit form to:**  
McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

*Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

Juli Smith has contributed to the quality of life in McKinney for over 20 years. Her current endeavor, The All Abilities Playground, makes her more than worthy of the 2018 Quality of Life nomination. As Immediate Past President of the Sunrise Rotary in McKinney Juli spearheaded the collaboration of The Rotary Clubs, the City of McKinney, and the Parks and Recreation Department to realize her dream of an All Abilities Playground. Juli facilitated the fundraising effort by establishing the Sunrise Rotary Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) entity. Juli has been the project lead and along with all three McKinney Rotary Clubs, has committed to raise \$560,000 from sponsors in the community. Juli has tirelessly worked with grant writing applications, raising public visibility, sponsoring fundraisers, and gathering fund commitments to create a current fund of \$200,000. Juli also engaged the gifted and talented, or Alpha. Students at MISD to work with professionals on the design of the playground. Juli realized that children are the most obvious stakeholders in the project.

Although this nomination is focused on her efforts towards the All Abilities Playground, Juli has served McKinney and the Collin County area for many years. She has been the Director of Senior Services for Meals on Wheels for Collin County, Commissioner/Vice Chairman of the McKinney Housing Authority, and Interim Executive Director of the Collin County Committee on Aging. Along with serving as President of the McKinney Sunrise Rotary, Juli has also served as Secretary and President Elect. Juli works with the Rotary's Flag Lease Program and manages programs for seniors at Trinity Presbyterian Church of McKinney.

As this project comes to fruition, I believe the time is right for Juli to be recognized as a leader in the community with the 2018 Quality of Life Award.

## Peggy Click, Meals on Wheels

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 3, 2018 10:34 AM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Peggy Click
Mailing Address	7604 Harbor Town
City	McKinney
State	TX
Zip Code	75070
Phone Number	214-683-3452
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	peggy@mmgtexas.com
Website	<i>Field not completed.</i>
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	@20 years
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	After ending a successful career at Hewlett-Packard, Peggy set out to use her organizational skills with a non-profit. She began by volunteering with Meals on Wheels of Collin County working in their offices. Peggy performed a number of duties including fund raising, major projects and eventually was a member of their board. For more than 15 years, she has orchestrated the Fall Harvest box deliveries along with the Secret Santa project. Both of these logistically complex programs deliver food, supplies and Christmas gifts for the over 1200 seniors in Collin

County who need meals daily. Peggy has kept this program alive throughout some financial and organizational challenges the organization has faced. Peggy works long hours during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays to insure everyone in the program receives these items. She is a vigilante for the events and pulls in volunteers from across the community to make it happen. Peggy recruits corporate sponsors, individuals churches and teen programs in order to fulfill all the needs our seniors have. As a volunteer for both the Harvest Box and Secret Santa deliveries, I can tell you that the seniors who receive these packages are overwhelmed by the generosity and spirit of our community. Without Peggy Click this would not be possible.

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(Section Break)

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Name of person submitting nomination:	Julie Williams
Mailing Address	7704 Harbor Town
City	McKinney
State	TX
Zip Code	75070
Phone Number	972-838-0262
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	julie@texaspropertysisters.com

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**Please note:**  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

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**Colin Kimball, Veterans Advocate**



**2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form**

**Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018**

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Colin Kimball

Mailing Address: 5009 Diamond Peak Court

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75071

Phone: 281-770-0220 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: colinkimballe.live.com

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

attached

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 15+ years

Name of person submitting nomination: Tracy Ratw

Mailing Address: 3521 Perkins Lane

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 214-578-9561 Fax: n/a Email: trathe@mcKinney.texas.org

**Please submit form to:**  
McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.

January 2, 2018

Colin Kimball, husband, father, US Air Force Veteran, and artist is my nominee for the MCDC Quality of Life Award 2018. Successfully advocating for the renaming of the Collin County Court Building to the Russell A. Steindam Courts Building, Colin is a tireless advocate for active, veteran and deceased military members. He is using his talents to tell their stories, therefore, keeping their memories alive.

Collin County Freedom Fighters, Veterans Memorial Park, Collin County Gold Star Family Memorial, Collin County History Museum, Military Veteran Peer Network of Collin County, City of McKinney Veterans Memorial Board, and the American Legion Bill Bryan Post 110 are just a few of the organizations and projects that Colin serves. He can also be found delivering meals to Veterans, assisting families in crisis, cleaning headstones at Ross Cemetery and interviewing families/friends of the fallen.

His most visible work and in my opinion his greatest can be found in the Collin County Courthouse Wall of Heroes in McKinney. Colin donates his time and talents by creating the portraits of the fallen that now adorn its corridors. The Collin County Fallen Warrior Project is privately funded and sponsored by American Legion "Bill Bryan" Post 110 and Collin County Freedom Fighters.

Extensive research goes into the creation of each portrait because often time no actual photos of the soldier in uniform exists. Every detail including their: likeness, uniform, cover, rank, ribbons, and other details are checked and verified to ensure accuracy in each portrait created. Along with the portrait, Colin also uncovers facts on each soldier so that "their story" can be shared during each portrait installation ceremony. Currently 54 portraits exist with the goal of honoring every soldier on the Veterans Memorial Wall of Honor.

It is for the reasons above and others that I submit this nomination. Thank you for your consideration of a true patriot, Colin Kimball.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tracy Rath". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tracy Rath



Kimberly Sanchez, Little Free Pantry, Dignified  
Housing

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2018 11:41 AM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form  
*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

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Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Kimberly Sanchez
Mailing Address	2000 N McDonald St., ste 100
City	McKinney
State	Tx
Zip Code	75069
Phone Number	2143942509
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	marthe@creucalital.com
Website	Www.thesanchezgroup.biz
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	15 years
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	Kim Sanchez has devoted her time to making the city a better place to live for all of its residents. She has not only worked to bring dignified housing to the city of Mckinney through her work as an engineer with Sanchez and Associates but has also set up a little free pantry to help those in need. Her pantry made headlines for its simple process: take what you need, leave what you can. Her dignified housing projects have supplied affordable housing for individuals on both sides of the city.

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(Section Break)

Name of person submitting nomination:	Marthe Rennels
Mailing Address	2310 Wiley Farm
City	Anna
State	TX
Zip Code	75409
Phone Number	2143942509
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	martherennels@gmail.com

Please note:  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

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Ruth Thompson, Hugs Café

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 30, 2017 3:50 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

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Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Ruth Thompson and Hugs Cafe
Mailing Address	224 E. Virginia st.
City	McKinney
State	Texas
Zip Code	75071
Phone Number	4693016900
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Website	Www.subspace.org
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	About 10 years
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	Ruth Thompson and Hugs Cafe have been a positive impact on McKinney because Hugs has helped so many special needs people train and find jobs in the community. The cafe itself is a wonderful place for great food and for new friendships. If you come to hugs sad and lonely they are bound to have you leaving feeling happy and loved. Hugs has brought a life line to my son and a guardian angel to our family. Thank you Hugs(have you had your hug today)

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(Section Break)

Name of person submitting nomination:	Paula Sigler
Mailing Address	2514 High Pointe Blvd
City	McKinney
State	TX
Zip Code	75071
Phone Number	12144918779
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	paulais1118@att.net

Please note:  
*Additional information may be requested by MDCD.*

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Karl and Adina Heller, Brain Injury Network of  
Dallas



**2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form**

***Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018***

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Karl and Adina Heller, BIND: Brain Injury Network of Dallas

Mailing Address: 3007 Brett Road

City: Corinth ST: TX Zip: 76210

Phone: 972-769-2463 Fax: 972-769-2464 Email: aheller80@aol.com

Website: www.thebind.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? *(Attach additional pages if needed)*

Karl Heller and his wife Adina are a remarkable couple who exemplify strength, faith, and resiliency. When Karl survived a profound traumatic brain injury 10 years ago, their life together took a dramatic turn which left Adina responsible for maintaining all family affairs, raising their children, and managing Karl's extensive medical and rehabilitation needs. Karl completed 2 and 1/2 years of therapy services - relearning to walk, talk, read and drive a car again. Struggles endured during this time encouraged Karl and Adina to become mentors to other survivors and caregivers - leading them to facilitate a twice monthly brain injury support group in McKinney for the past 7 years. Additionally, Adina served as the Secretary of the Board for BIND, and Karl continues to serve as an Ex-Officio Board Member for BIND. (con't)

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 7 years

Name of person submitting nomination: Valerie Gotcher, MS, CCC-SLP

Mailing Address: c/o BIND, 1416 Gables Court

City: Plano ST: TX Zip: 75075

Phone: 972-769-2463 Fax: 972-769-2464 Email: valerie@thebind.org

**Please submit form to:**

McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

*Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*



**2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form**

**Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018**

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Karl and Adina Heller, continued from page 1

Karl and Adina have played a significant role in the creation and growth of the nonprofit organization BIND: Brain Injury Network of Dallas. With their Board service, the organization has grown the annual budget from 25,000 to 398,000 in 5 short years. This year, the program served at least 100 brain injury survivors and proudly reports that 76% of program clients have stable or improved quality of life because of the BIND program. Aside from their service on the Board of Directors, they have devoted countless hours in direct service to other brain injury survivors and their caregivers through BIND's mentoring program. Adina also serves as the Event Chair for BIND's annual Gala and Karl has a leadership role in the Wellness and Advocacy Units at the BIND program. Karl and Adina received The Goodman Award in 2016 – an honor presented annually to a BIND volunteer who exhibits outstanding service and commitment to the mission and vision of the organization.

Your careful consideration of this nomination is sincerely appreciated. Please contact me for any additional information needed.

Terry Youngdale, Red Door Pantry

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 10:01 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Teri Youngdale/Red Door Pantry
Mailing Address	1503 W. Hunt
City	McKinney
State	Texas
Zip Code	75069
Phone Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Website	<i>Field not completed.</i>
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	I don't know.
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	Teri Youngdale is the founder and chief engine of Red Door Pantry. Her vision inspires the theme of simplicity which translates to a wonderful accessibility in two directions. First, this simplicity and accessibility allows underserved, underemployed populations easy, no-questions-asked access to provisions to round out their pantry. Secondly, Teri graciously engages volunteers, making involvement simple, accessible and rewarding. Teri provides tireless, attentive, physical support to the boxes and inspiration to volunteers and

has a vision for expanding. She networks with similar outreaches across the city in order to expand the impact and increase public awareness.

(Section Break)

Name of person submitting nomination:	Nancy McClendon
Mailing Address	2941 Dog Leg Trail
City	McKinney
State	Texas
Zip Code	75069
Phone Number	806-777-0254
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	nancymactx@gmail.com

**Please note:**  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

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Carolyn Bodwell, Community Food Pantry of  
McKinney



**2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form**

**Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018**

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Carol Bodwell

Executive Director of Community Food Pantry of McKinney

Mailing Address: 3232 CR 494

City: Princeton ST: TX Zip: 75407

Phone: 972 571-0278 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: cbbodwell@earthlink.net

Website: www.community-foodpantry.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

see attached page

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 35 years

Name of person submitting nomination: Gay Hawke

Mailing Address: 7204 Millard Pond Dr.

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75071

Phone: 214-548-6401 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: hawkegn@yahoo.com

**Please submit form to:**

McKinney Community Development Corporation

5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110

McKinney, TX 75070

Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

*Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

## Carol Bodwell

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” Winston Churchill once said this and it accurately represents the philosophy by which Carol Bodwell lives her life. She is the Executive Director and President of the Board of Directors for The Community Food Pantry of McKinney, having just completed her 35<sup>th</sup> year of volunteer service to this organization.

The Community Food Pantry of McKinney is a non-profit outreach program that provides food to families who have found themselves in crisis. Those in crisis are the hungry in our community for whatever reason. The Pantry is staffed entirely by volunteers and has served McKinney for 40 years. Since its formation 40 years ago, food has been provided for over 2,991,008 meals.

Carol is passionate, dedicated, and determined to pursuing the goal that no one in our community goes to bed hungry. She gets to know our clients and their situations and provides food, a handshake or a hug, and a multitude of resources to enable them to become capable and independent individuals once again.

Encourager, teacher, leader, mentor, dynamo, cheerleader—these are just a few of the words that fellow volunteers and board members use to describe Carol. Currently there are over 35 volunteers and 11 board members. Some volunteers have been serving with Carol at the Pantry for 30, 25, 15 years! It is not unusual, as is the current case, to have a waiting list to volunteer at the Pantry.

Carol Bodwell has impacted the City of McKinney in a positive way by making it her life’s work to give of herself. The Community Food Pantry of McKinney and the City of McKinney are blessed to be two of the recipients of her volunteer work. I am honored to nominate her for the 2018 Quality of Life Award.

## Life Path Systems





## 2018 Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

**Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018**

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Life Path Systems

Mailing Address: 1515 Heritage Dr.

City: McKinney ST: Texas Zip: 75069

Phone: 972-562-0190 Fax: 972-562-3647 Email: dkazlow@lifepathsystems.org

Website: www.lifepathsystems.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (*Attach additional pages if needed*)

*LifePath Systems has been providing an array of services for Collin County residents for 31 years. We have provided Behavioral Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and Early Child Intervention Services to the community. Our mission statement is: To serve individuals and families impacted by behavioral health, intellectual or developmental challenges, resulting in stronger communities. That is not just our mission statement but has been our focus for the past 31 years and we continue to explore ways to increase our services in order for our community to be stronger. It is our goal to bring much needed services to some of our most vulnerable population while working with other community agencies and programs to increase the level of services and continue to strive for high quality services. In the past year we have implemented a Mobile Crisis Team and opened a Mental Health Crisis Center to meet the mental health needs of the area. This has been a huge asset to our community in meeting the needs for those that are in a crisis and has been a collaborative effort with local law enforcement agencies and hospitals. We have also added a Jail Diversion program and a Military Veterans program to meet the increased need of people in jail with mental illness and Veterans living in our community. Our Supported Employment program works with people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to help them find and maintain jobs. It not only brings immense satisfaction to that person but moves them from being tax "users" to tax payers. We provide funds for families/caregivers with children/family members with IDD having an impact on the whole community. This has allowed many families to stay together while facing extremely stressful situations plus has helped many people continue to work and have a life outside of caring for their family member with a Developmental Disability. Our Early Childhood Intervention program is where it all begins, providing in home supports to families with children with a developmental disability or delay. Without ECI many children and families would not have the support that is needed to meet developmental milestones or to have a head start on their educational needs. All three programs work closely with the local school districts to ensure that social/emotional needs are met in order to maximize their educational needs. LPS also has an educational program providing expert speakers in a wide variety of topics to other community agencies and programs. We also provide practicum sites for local Universities in all three of our divisions covering Speech Therapy, Developmental Services, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Mental Health Counseling, Nursing, and Public Health. Providing a place for students to continue their studies and get hand's on experience continues the investment in our community. In addition to the programs mentioned above the Center provides over 15 additional programs that focus on the support of the residents in our community.*

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 31 years

Name of person submitting nomination: Diane Kazlow, Director of Special Projects for LPS

Mailing Address: 1515 Heritage Dr.

City: McKinney \_\_\_\_\_ ST: Texas Zip: 75069

Phone: 972-658-4220 Fax: 972-727-9953 Email: [dkazlow@lifepathsystems.org](mailto:dkazlow@lifepathsystems.org)

**Please submit form to:**

McKinney Community Development Corporation

5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110

McKinney, TX 75070

Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

*Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

Plano Sports Authority – SummerFest Sports  
Camps

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 3:56 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

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Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Plano Sports Authority McKinney (PSA 2)
Mailing Address	7205 Eldorado Parkway
City	McKinney
State	TX
Zip Code	75070
Phone Number	(972) 208-5437
Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	psastaff@psaplano.org
Website	<a href="http://www.psaplano.org/Home/Sports/Camps.aspx">www.psaplano.org/Home/Sports/Camps.aspx</a>
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	3 years (I believed the facility opened in December 2014)
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	PSA McKinney SummerFest Sports Camps were invaluable to McKinney residents who work full-time and need an option for their children when they are out of school in the summer. The Game Nesbitt Park facility is large, well-designed, and beautiful with eight basketball/volleyball courts, an indoor soccer field and concessions. It was a perfect place for summer camps this year and the camps were run flawlessly. Parents had the choice of one-day, one-week, or all-summer camps plus a FlexiPass that gave them even more options for child-care

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times. The camp counsellors were well trained and interacted enthusiastically with the children to teach sports skills, emphasize camaraderie and mutual respect, and to reassure and encourage the younger and shy children. Camps included snacks and healthy meal choices and there was great care to keep the kids safe by checking them in and out with attention to the details of who was there to pick up the children. My four grandchildren participated in the summer camp and were always delighted and excited every day they could attend. Kudos to the managers, counsellors and all the staff who made SummerFest Sports Camp at McKinney such a great success and a welcome addition to the quality of life here in McKinney.

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(Section Break)

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Name of person submitting nomination:	Sharon Hockensmith
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Mailing Address	1700 Stoneoak Drive
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City	McKinney
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State	TX
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Zip Code	75070
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---

Phone Number	(972) 984-1805
--------------	----------------

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Fax Number	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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Email Address	sharhock@aol.com
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Please note:  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

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Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Legacy Bank of Texas – Justin Beller, Robbie  
Clark, Eric Loller – MHA

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** Roslyn Miller <rmiller@mckinneyha.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:00 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Quality of Life Nomination  
**Attachments:** MCDC - Quality of Life Nomination form 2018 MHA.pdf; Legacy Bank Award Certificate.pptx; ROSS - Teen Impact Photo Book 2016-17.docx

Hi Cindy,

The McKinney Housing Authority is proud to nominate Legacy Bank of Texas and the following staff for their tremendous contribution to our organization.

- Justin Beller
- Robbie Clark – Robbie.clark@legacytexas.com
- Eric Loller

Legacy Bank of Texas has support MHA over the past 04 years with mentoring, education and investment. MHA and our clients are all better for their support.

Thank you for this opportunity to recognize this team and their "Heart to Serve."

Sincerely,

Roslyn Miller



1200 N. Tennessee St.  
McKinney, Texas 75069  
[www.mckinneyha.org](http://www.mckinneyha.org)

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!!*



2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form

Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Legacy Bank McKinney - Justin, Robbie & Eric Loller

Mailing Address: 1800 Redbud

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75069

Phone: 972-461-4740 Fax: Email: Eric.Loller@legacytexas.com

Website: legacytexas.com

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

Legacy Bank of Texas has served the McKinney Housing Authority over the past years by donating the expertise of their staff to mentor our staff and clients. They have invested their money to support not only affordable housing development but education and empowerment for our clients and the community. See attached

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 4+ years

Name of person submitting nomination: Roslyn Miller

Mailing Address: 1200 N. Tennessee St.

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75069

Phone: 972-542-5641 Fax: 972-562-8387 Email: rmiller@mckinneyha.org

Please submit form to:

McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.





# LEGACY TEXAS

In recognition of Outstanding  
Community Leadership in Family & Housing Development

July 25, 2017

# Money Machine Winners\$\$\$\$\$





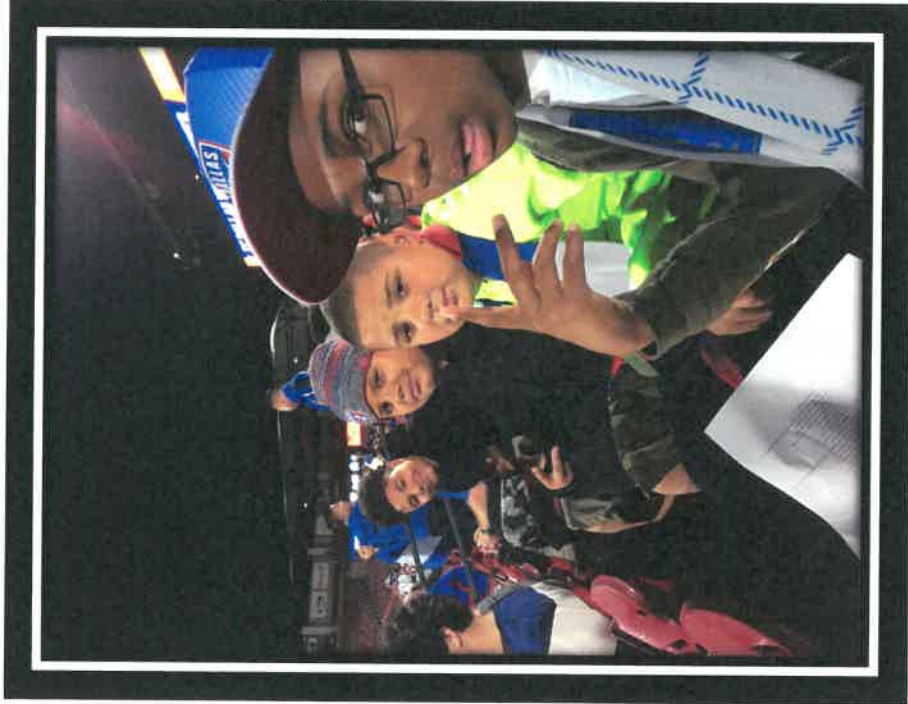
SAVINGS OPTIONS

LEGACY TEXAS  
McKinney Housing Authority  
Ten Thousand Dollars  
\$10,000.00  
6/24/17  
CRA Officers

LEGACY TEXAS

# Teen Impact

Changing Boys to Men...  
With Sacrifice, Commitment & Time....



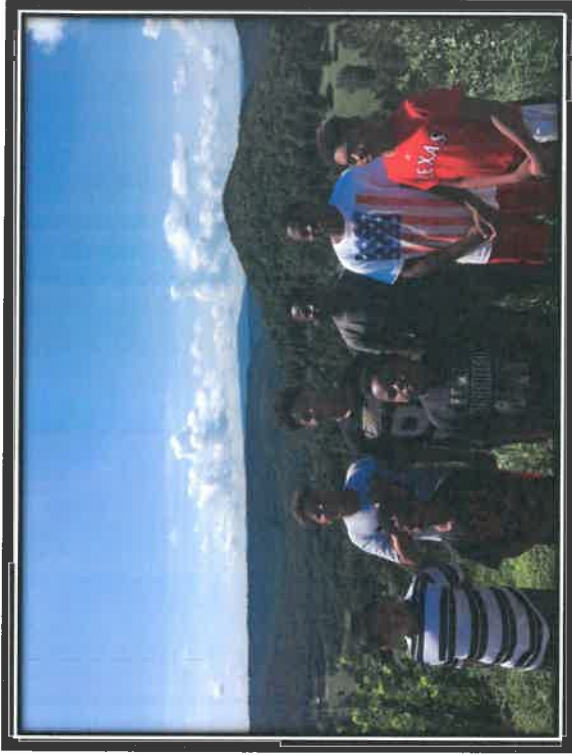
FC Dallas Soccer Game



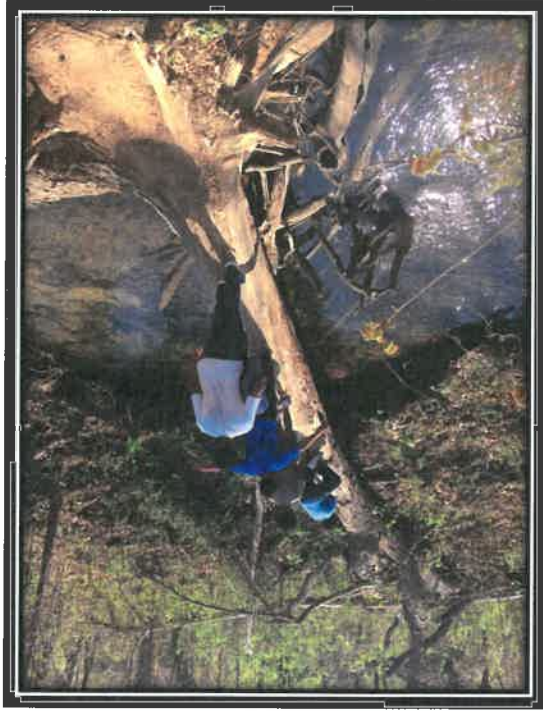
Dinner at La'Beller House



All hands on deck to install the new basketball goal!!!!



Arkansas Camping Trip



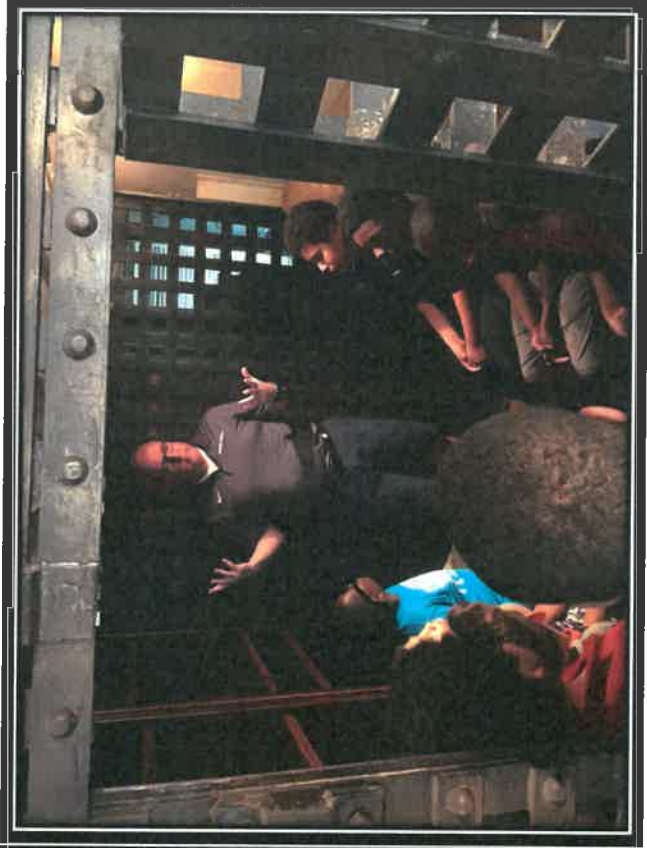
Chickasaw, Sulphur OK.

# Oklahoma





Fishing on the Lake



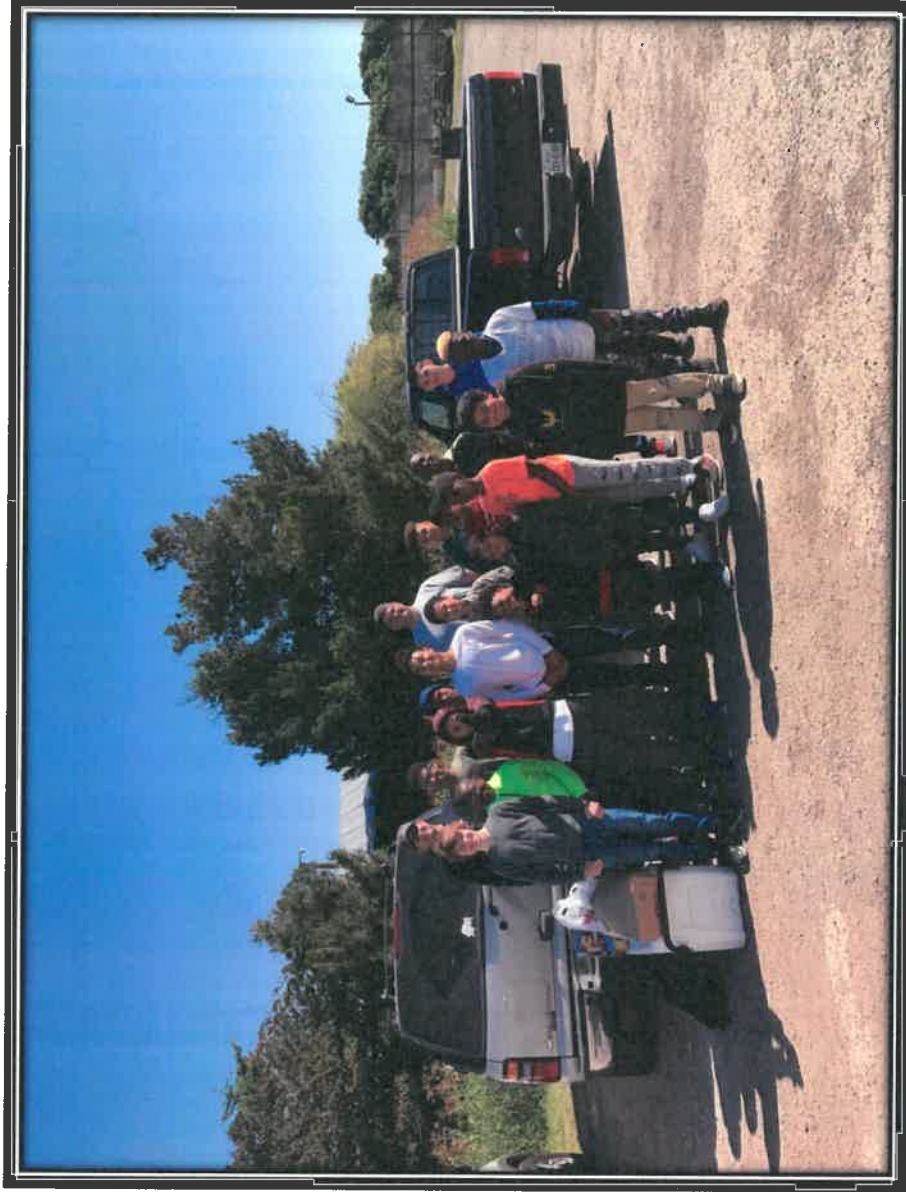
Old Collin County Jail



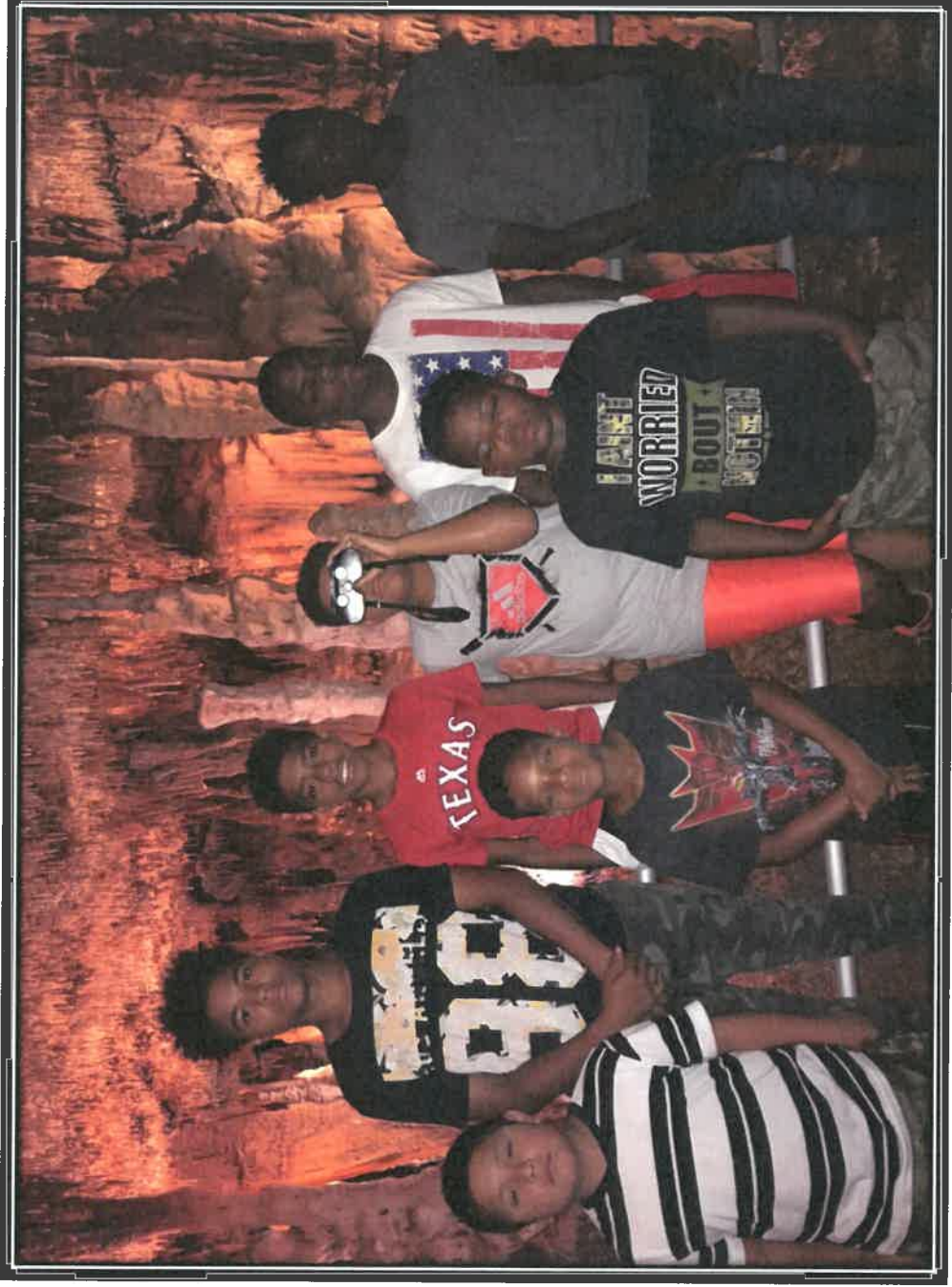
Wood working with Mr. Dennis Williams



Paintball Fun



# Arkansas Caverns





**Thanks for sharing your life to make a difference in theirs!!!**

**Minuteman Disaster Response – Paul Pogue  
Founder, Matt Payne Executive Director**



2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form

Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018

Nominee (Individual/Organization): MINUTEMAN DISASTER RESPONSE AND PAUL POGUE, PRESIDENT

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: MCKINNEY ST: TX Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: info@minutemanresponse.org

Website: minutemanresponse.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

THIS ORGANIZATION PROVIDES SIGNIFICANT AID TO DISASTER VICTIMS AND EMERGENCY PERSONNEL TO MANAGE FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, PERSONNEL, PROCEDURES & COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN A COMMON ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, THE ORGANIZATION HAS PROVIDED ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT WHEREVER NEEDED. IT HAS SERVED SOUTH TEXAS IN THE WAKE OF HURRICANE HARVEY, TORNADO RELIEF IN TEXAS & OKLAHOMA, AMONG OTHER SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY UNPAID VOLUNTEERS -

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 25+ years

Name of person submitting nomination: MICHAEL PUHL

Mailing Address: 206 S. KENTUCKY STREET

City: MCKINNEY ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 972.569.3166 Fax: 972.569.3167 Email: Michael@mysmilybuyer.net

Please submit form to:

McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.

**From:** Minuteman Disaster Response <info@minutemanresponse.org>

**To:** csschneible <csschneible@aol.com>

**Subject:** Stories from Refugio: Candido

**Date:** Tue, Sep 26, 2017 5:56 am



**MINUTEMAN**  
**DISASTER RESPONSE**  
CHARITABLE NON-PROFIT

## Stories from Refugio: Candido

While 70% of Refugio evacuated, Candido Porras decided to ride out the storm in his travel trailer, located on seven acres south of Refugio. He had lived on this land, left to him by his father, for less than a year after losing his house in Woodsboro to back taxes in December of 2016.

Twelve days after the storm hit, he was without power and unable to operate his breathing machine. When the Minuteman team learned of his need, they immediately went to a hardware store in nearby Beeville and purchased a generator and heavy-duty power cords to ensure the equipment could be operated safely.



The next day, they made the drive out to his property, turning off the main highway onto a pot-hole ridden dirt road that took them back in time. Several trees were down, but they finally came upon the small clearing where Candido's trailer was situated, between old storage buildings that had toppled in the storm.

Candido led the way to his trailer, his face beaming with every step as he helped Minuteman's executive director, Matt Payne, and Jared Stump (a volunteer from Pennsylvania) unload the generator from their truck and place it next to his trailer, where it would power his breathing machine and window-unit air conditioner.

"You rode out the storm here?" Jared asked, pointing to the aging trailer.



"Yup!" Candido replied. "There were people concerned about me, but I tell 'em, 'I'm tough as leather.' They offered to take me into town, but I wanted to stay with my dogs," he said, pointing to a fenced enclosure that held five dogs, with a few more roaming outside the enclosure. "This is my kitchen over here," Candido said proudly, pointing to a propane tank that was situated in the dirt next to a washing machine. "That's where I do my laundry."

As Candido talked Matt fired up the generator, restoring power to Candido's trailer for the first time in twelve days. He continued to talk to the team for half an hour and showed them the inside of his trailer. "Part of my roof was ripped off and water came pouring in—it was like a waterfall inside my house!" he said with a smile.

"And you were here the whole time?" Jared asked again.

"Yup!" Candido replied. "My son-in-law stayed, too. He lives in town. He should have evacuated, but he wanted to stay and help [after the storm]."

Matt showed Candido how to work the generator, and told him it was his for as long as he had need of it. "If you can use it, I don't need it back," he said, but Candido shook his head. "I don't want to take it away when there may be someone else who will need it. I'll just keep it until the power comes back on, then I'll give you a call."

Jared explained that there were churches in Oklahoma and New Jersey that had taken special collections to raise the money that purchased the generator, among other supplies that were needed in Refugio.

"Wow," Candido replied, nodding. "I heard of churches in Mississippi, Ohio, and Idaho that sent help. It makes me want to cry."

As Matt and Jared concluded their time with Candido he thanked them for their help. "It's nice to get back to some ... what's the word?" he



paused for a moment, searching for the right word. "Normalacy," he said with a smile. "You guys have a blessed day," he said as they got back into the truck. "I know I did—I'm still here!"



*if you would like to support the efforts of Minuteman Disaster Response, please consider partnering with us financially.*

Click the button below to donate securely.

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Minuteman Disaster Response | 1512 Bray Central, Suite 300, McKinney, TX 75069

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FEATURED

## PROFILE: Minuteman Disaster Response director Matt Payne

Aug 21, 2017



Minuteman Disaster Response has become known for its value to communities in need. The organization, which responds to areas hit by natural disasters, is helmed by former pastor Matt Payne, who joined its ranks after Councilwoman Tracy Rath's resignation in 2015.

Since then, Minuteman has grown in manpower, resources and equipment. We sat down with Payne to talk about what's new.

*What does Minuteman Disaster Response do?*

We're a nonprofit that's driven by volunteers - we have about 100 volunteers on our team - and our mission is to serve victims and first responders after natural disasters. We don't just serve McKinney or just Collin County, but we actually serve Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

*How did it get started?*

We've been around since 2011. It was originally formed by Paul Pogue and a few other gentlemen who when up to Joplin after the tornado to deliver some supplies for their church. See that kind of drove them to say, 'We can and want to do something more,' so it developed over time into where we are today.

*How far has it come since then?*

We have about 30 members on our Rapid Response Team. They are trained to do search and rescue type of work, medical ops, drones - these types of things - in the early hours after a disaster. This past year, we launched our Relief Team, and that's where we partner with churches and businesses around the region where you've got folks who want to go out and help after disaster and they don't know where to go. Let us train those people and deploy them when it's needed. That has been really successful. We just this past spring brought on about 70 new members through that, and we're getting really to launch it in Tulsa this fall. And we'll have ongoing training here in McKinney as well.

*What sets you apart?*

Where our organization is kind of different ... if I use Canton as a perfect example, that storm happened on Saturday evening, our Storm Warn Team was already in field tracking that storm. They were just outside of Van Zandt County when that storm went through, so that allows us to be on site within an hour after a storm hits. The first three days we served with our Response Team doing search work, then we spent another seven days on the ground with our Relief Team.

*How do you handle deployments?*

Our organization's very big about being self-sufficient in the field, so everything we do we try to strive to not be a burden to the community. We go there completely as volunteers. It's all donated resources, we don't ask for anything back. We have a 46-foot command trailer that we work out of the first couple of days, and we can sleep our guys in there as well. Then, Day 2-3, we have a 40-foot bunkhouse that comes out that's three rooms, air-conditioned, where we can sleep about 20 team members on the ground. We also have a 32-foot shower/restroom trailer that has six private shower and restroom stalls. It's all about being able to take care of ourselves. It wouldn't be the best if we took 100 people into a community and ate up hotel rooms where people may need those that live in that community.

*How long have you been involved?*

I got involved back in 2012 as volunteer. I was an associate pastor at a church here in town, and my role was outreach and missions so it was a great fit for me. I would volunteer and went on deployments with them quite a bit. In 2015 when I stepped away from my role at the church was the same time Tracy Rath was director. When she won the election, she needed to step down from the role and that was at the same time I was trying to figure out my next place, so I stepped in.

*What types of events have you responded to?*

If you look at our list of deployments, the majority of it is tornados. We served Bastrop with the fire one year by hauling some supplies down there, but it's predominantly tornados because of where we live. There have not been any hurricanes make landfall on the coast since we've been together. We did go down to Baton Rouge with the flooding that took place last summer, but it was more of an exploratory mission to do some recon and make our resources available.

*What are some of the local deployments you've been on?*

We spent three days in Rowlett working with that community. We came home Monday night, then Wednesday we went to Farmersville and worked with the county. We brought out a lot of heavy equipment and helped do a some of the cleanup. We serve the city in any way they need. We regularly support them with a rehab facility at the Red, White and Boom.

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*What types of people volunteer with Minuteman?*

All different types - from retire firefighters, military to guys who are still working. We have guys who are in sales, guys that are engineers – just a variety of people that get involved. The Response Team is made up of men for the most part, because of the nature of it and how we have to house up. The Relief Team is open to anybody 18 and up.

*For information or to find out how to donate time or funds, visit [minutemanresponse.org](http://minutemanresponse.org)*



Minuteman Disaster Response  
Aug 21, 2017

Boys and Girls Club

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 5:20 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

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Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Boys and girls club
Mailing Address	701 S Church St
City	Mckinney
State	Texas
Zip Code	75069
Phone Number	+1 (214) 544-8924
Fax Number	1111111111
Email Address	Boysandgirlsclub@yahoo.com
Website	Mckinneyisd.net
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	As long as I remember
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	Looking at the past winners, I don't see why the boys and girls club shouldn't win. Helping kids grow and the start to their future. They help kids who really need it. A safe place to go. I place to have fun. This is where kids first learn to make friends, grow with them, and really grow into their personalities

---

(Sermon Brpuk)

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Name of person submitting nomination:	Barrett vitz
Mailing Address	2714 Bordeaux dr
City	Mckinney
State	Texas
Zip Code	75070
Phone Number	2143853920
Fax Number	1111111111
Email Address	Barrettvitz@gmail.com

Please note:  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Streets Department/Standards Division – City of  
McKinney

## Cindy Schneible

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**From:** noreply@civicplus.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 3:23 PM  
**To:** Cindy Schneible  
**Subject:** Online Form Submittal: Quality of Life Nomination Form

### Quality of Life Nomination Form

Quality of Life Award Nomination Form

*All entries for the current year must be submitted no later than close of business January 4, 2018.*

*Please note that additional information may be requested by the McKinney Community Development Corporation.*

Nominee (Individual/Organization)	Streets Department/ Standards Division
Mailing Address	City of McKinney
City	McKinney
State	TX
Zip Code	75070
Phone Number	9725473844
Fax Number	unknown
Email Address	City of McKinney
Website	City of McKinney
How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community?	since incorporation
Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney?	How could they not have. Propably some of the best cared for streets in North Texas. I was a lifelong Dallas resident and the thought of having a quick response team and a hard working bunch of people show up on time and ready to go to work was unthinkable. Our neighborhood of Hidden Forest has had to rely on these folks numerous times over 15years and they do a great job here and all over the city. I have always had a response from all the city divisions and it is my pleasure to recommend these great people for any kind of recognition.



(Section Break)

Name of person submitting nomination: William F. and Anna Lee Riddle

Mailing Address 2901 Hidden Forest Dr

City McKinney

State TX

Zip Code 75070

Phone Number 9725473844

Fax Number *Field not completed.*

Email Address tidbitt@hotmail.com

Please note:  
*Additional information may be requested by MCDC.*

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

**Especially Needed**



2018 Quality of Life Award  
Nomination Form

Must be submitted to MCDC no later than Thursday, January 4, 2018

Nominee (Individual/Organization): Especially Needed

Mailing Address: 10121 Waterstone Way

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 214 499 3439 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: info@Especiallyneeded.org

Website: Especiallyneeded.org

Please describe how the nominee has positively impacted Quality of Life in McKinney? (Attach additional pages if needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How long has the nominee been involved in the McKinney community? 2010 (7yrs)

Name of person submitting nomination: Jackie Brewer

Mailing Address: 2705 Stonepointe

City: McKinney ST: TX Zip: 75070

Phone: 214 924 2149 Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit form to:

McKinney Community Development Corporation  
5900 S. Lake Forest Drive, Ste. 110  
McKinney, TX 75070  
Attn: Cindy Schneible (if submitting via email: [cschneible@mckinneycdc.org](mailto:cschneible@mckinneycdc.org))

Please note: Additional information may be requested by MCDC.

Especially Needed was founded by Heather Astuto in June of 2010. Heather has a daughter with Down Syndrome and realized the importance of having family activities where all family members could participate. This organization offers several events each year and Welcome Baskets to families with Newborns that have special needs.

- 1) Easter Egg Hunt - More than 200 families attend this event each year. The event provides Easter Egg hunting, visits with the Easter Bunny, face painting, games, and additional events all geared towards children and adults with special needs. Children in wheelchairs participate using special magnetic wands created by the founder with the help of Home Depot.
- 2) Fall Carnival – More than 300 families participate in this event each year. Those with special needs are able to enjoy carnival rides, a petting zoo, food, trick or treating, and fireworks. This event is inclusive of adults with special needs also.
- 3) A Special Time With Santa – More than 140 families participate in this event. A Santa who understands the needs of compassion, understanding, and individual differences is in attendance to visit with each child. Children can enjoy milk and cookies, meet Santa, and have their picture taken. Appointment times with Santa offer relief to many families whose children cannot wait in a long line.
- 4) Resource Fairs – Resource Fairs are held at the Easter Egg Hunt and the Fall Carnival. These fairs offer many resources and wonderful information to help make the lives of these families easier.

The Welcome Baskets are offered to families of newborns with special needs. These baskets are a welcome gift to families while they are still in the hospital. These baskets included resources for special needs children and may contain food, baby items, therapy items, etc. Support and knowing they are a part of a special community is the goal with this outreach.

The Especially Needed website offers local resources and educational programs focused on care for children after school and during school holidays and breaks.

This organization has been involved in our community for over 7 years and I believe the time is right for them to be recognized. The things this organization offers truly change the quality of life for these families. This organization showcases that McKinney does embrace all.