



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2018 Valuing Volunteer Awards

Volunteers are the heart of the YMCA. Their contributions enrich lives and make it possible to offer programs and services that otherwise would not exist. Please join us in honoring our volunteers!

Walter Brodbeck Award

The Walter Brodbeck Award is given in honor and memory of Walter Brodbeck, a long-time member of the Greater Peoria Family YMCA. Mr. Brodbeck was a dedicated volunteer, encouraging participation in the YMCA and commitment to the community. This award goes to a Peoria YMCA member, who provides service on a volunteer basis to the Y, in the spirit of Mr. Brodbeck. This year's award recipient is the 21st person to receive this award!

It is my honor to present this award to our recipient who in four short years on our Board of Directors has made a huge impact on our organization (although you can see from this photo, his relationship with the Y began many, many years ago). His dedication to the Y has grown and he embodies the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility close to his heart. He is an advocate, fundraiser and one of the first to put his hand up when it is needed. He sits on several committees and goes above and beyond in each of them, adding thoughtful discussions on important decisions and having perfect comedic timing, adding levity to the conversation at just the right time.

In addition to the time he spends here at the Y, he is a strong family man, coaching his grandson's t-ball team, and spending time with his wife and daughters. As a Vice-President at CEFCU, we are unsure how he finds the time! He is a dedicated volunteer and the Y (and our community) are extremely lucky to have him on our Board of Directors.

Please join me in congratulating our 2018 Walter Brodbeck Award recipient, Joe Varda.

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award

The Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award is presented to the person or persons who show exemplary service to the Peoria YMCA through the giving of their time and talents. They do not have to be a Peoria YMCA member. Their service enhances the Greater Peoria Family YMCA and helps foster the Y's mission and focus. They demonstrate exceptional commitment, service, creativity, cooperation or leadership and serve as a role model for others.

This year's recipient is a Y volunteer who gave his time with our youth basketball program. His commitment to the Y's youth programs and positive attitude is what was needed to make the program a success. He was an asset and a key contributor to the program, because of his ability to engage the kids, the parents, and the staff. Our

recipient is a Purple Heart veteran. His nominator says: "He really is a prime example to me of what our mission is all about - building healthy spirit, mind, and body. He has a great deal of respect for all individuals. He constantly asks how others are doing and if there is anything he can do to help them. I have even seen him talking with members, parents and grandparents who he has seen wearing military shirts or hats and thanking them for their service. He truly cares about people. He still has issues with the injuries he suffered in Afghanistan, but he ALWAYS put on a face and never let the kids or parents see him in pain. He also never missed an opportunity to be here at the Y helping out - he was committed and pushed through his own pain to help lead the youth."

It is my honor to present the 2018 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award to Jared Flaminio.

Youth Leadership Award

The Youth Leadership Award is presented to the person or persons, under the age of 18, who embrace the programs and activities of the Greater Peoria Family YMCA through their exceptional leadership, commitment and service. They help foster the Y's mission and areas of focus. They serve as a role model for others.

There was no recipient for this award in 2018.

Employee of the Year Award

Starting in 2018, the Y will recognize a staff member who demonstrates the mission and work of the YMCA. The employee exemplifies the character values of honesty, respect, caring and responsibility in all areas of their work at the Greater Peoria Family YMCA. They perform their job at such a superior level that it has positively affected his or her co-workers, members, program participants and/or volunteers. This employee also demonstrated the YMCA attributes of being Welcoming, Nurturing, Genuine, Determined and Hopeful.

For this award, staff and members are asked to nominate employees, but it is only the staff who vote for the winner. This year there were seven nominees, many who were nominated multiple times. The nominees were (please stand when your name is called): Amy Taylor, Edie Lovell, Ellen Corbin, Jim Trainor, Kari Holland, Justteen Wolstenholm and Teresa Edgar.

This year's Employee of the Year recipient is someone who truly cares about the Y and other employees. Her dedication genuine affection for our members is demonstrated daily. She supports her coworkers by attending their classes, teaching for them when a sub is needed and volunteering when she is asked. She always accepts with enthusiasm. She is welcoming, always waiting for her clients with a smile in the lobby and, as a former nurse, is the first point of call when a members is injured. She always has a smile for everyone and is an asset to the Peoria YMCA.

Please join me in congratulating our 2018 Employee of the Year recipient, Justteen Wolstenholm.