



NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Loudoun Hunger Relief Celebrates Its Volunteers

Leesburg, VA—Loudoun Hunger Relief honored its volunteers this Wednesday, May 15, at a special Volunteer Appreciation Event held at ChefScape, which graciously provided the venue for the event. Loudoun Hunger Relief's all volunteer Board of Directors was on hand to congratulate many of the over 300 active food pantry volunteers for their service.

The LHR Board of Directors was humbled and inspired to present a Presidential Service Award for 25 years of volunteer service at LHR to Anna Sowers. Mrs. Sowers, a retired Loudoun County teacher, has served Loudoun Hunger Relief almost since it was founded. She is also a member of the Loudoun Retired Teachers group, who collect food and funds for LHR at each of their meetings. Mrs. Sowers has provided almost 1500 hours of service to the hungry in our community.

Loudoun Hunger Relief was particularly proud to announce the 15, 10 and 5 year service awards. Celebrating 15 years of volunteer service at LHR were: Larry Ellis, Joy Griffith, Brendan Regan, and Rachel Roberts. Patti Bagdasarian, Amy Beudet, John-Paul Beudet, Julia Brizendine, Michael Cashen, Betsy Creamer, Chris Cuellar, Barbara Erlandson, Carl Ewald, Eric Greenman, Carlie Jansen, Stacy Jansen, Marybelle Kryzkowski, Andrea Langer, Elaine Mulreany, and Carlos Schoemaker all celebrated 10 years of service. Recognized for 5 years of service were: Cindy Abdin, Michelle Apple, Kevin Dwelly, Matt Hudes, Gabriela Knipfer, Allen Kopp, Peggy Kopp, Mary K. Lee, Charlie McQuillan, JP Passino, Kayla Passino, Julie Steele, Nancy Trask, and Lisa Wylie.

LHR's Shining Star Award, recognizing innovation and dedication in volunteer service, went to the Hudes family this year for both their personal volunteer service and their organization of the volunteer service of others. Previous Shining Star Award winners have been Rachel Roberts in 2017 and Ashburn Cares in 2018.

LHR invites everyone to join in congratulating our volunteers for their service to and caring for others.

About Loudoun Hunger Relief

Loudoun Hunger Relief (formerly Loudoun Interfaith Relief) is the largest food pantry in Loudoun County. Last year LHR provided 1.4 million pounds of food to more than 8,000 individuals. 40% of those served are children. LHR distributes food to families six days a week, year round. Loudoun Hunger Relief was voted Loudoun Chamber of Commerce 2014 Nonprofit of The Year, Leesburg Today 2015 Reader's Choice Nonprofit of The Year, the Loudoun Times Mirror 2015 and 2017 Nonprofit of the Year, Loudoun Now 2016 Favorite Non-Profit and Loudoun Times Mirror 2018 Runner-up for Reader's Choice Favorite Nonprofit. For more information on LHR, please visit www.loudounhunger.org.

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Left to Right: Carla Fortenberry (LHR Volunteer Manager), Carol Barbe (LHR Board President), Kathie Hudes, Tom Hudes, Jennifer Montgomery (LHR Executive Director)