

# 2019 Philanthropy Day



Annually, the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Tri-State Chapter (AFPGTS) honors donors and volunteers whose gifts of time, expertise, and resources make a significant contribution to the success of the nonprofits they serve. Since 1960, the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) has inspired global change and supported efforts that generated over \$1 trillion. AFP's nearly 30,000 individual and organizational members raise over \$100 billion annually, equivalent to one-third of all charitable giving in North America and millions more around the world.

Since 1986, "National Philanthropy Day" has recognized the great contributions of philanthropy that enrich our world.

This year the AFPGTS Chapter will celebrate and honor those who demonstrate significant contributions to philanthropy in our community. The National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon will be on Thursday, November 14, 2019.

## 2019 AWARD RECIPIENTS



**Outstanding Philanthropic Organization – Premier Bank:** Premier Bank, a local community bank in Dubuque, IA, offers personal and commercial clients with financial resources, lending opportunities, and digital banking solutions. Premier has been serving the community since 1998.

Premier offers monetary support, in-kind donations, volunteerism, advertising, sponsorships, and marketing support to numerous local initiatives. They are proud of the volunteer efforts of their employees, who devote hundreds of hours of service each year to Junior Achievement of the Heartland, Stonehill Franciscan Services, Dubuque Arboretum, Two by Two, Foundation for Dubuque Public Schools, Habitat for Humanity, and countless others.

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When asked what they are most proud of, Jeff Mozena, President and CEO of Premier Bank, stated, "Over the past 20 years, we have been proud to be an active participant in the community's economic diversity. We have and will always take pride in supporting non-profit organizations in service to others. We believe not only in improving a community's broader economic outlook but also [in] helping to create a welcoming sense of place and a desirable quality of life for all. It is our greatest accomplishment to employ smart, dedicated, and enthusiastic people who go above and beyond in their service to Premier Bank, our customers, and our community."

**Outstanding Individual Philanthropist(s) – Don and Wilma Sanders:** Don retired in 1990 from Barnstead-Thermolyne Corporation after more than 30 years as Vice President of Finance. Wilma retired

from Keystone AEA as a paraprofessional for children in Dubuque schools who needed a speech aid. Wilma was also a stay-at-home mom who raised three children and was a member of the Dubuque Chorale for 31 years. Both have given generously of their time. Don served a number of local organizations, including the United Way, Dubuque Planning and Zoning Commission, Finley Hospital Board of Trustees, Hillcrest Family Services, and was an original board member for Clarity Clinic. Don has also been a member of The Rotary Club of Dubuque for 55 years and a major donor for the Paul Harris Foundation, which has led a world-wide effort to rid the world of polio.



Wilma has been a member of a number of hand-bell choirs, played with the Dubuque Wind Symphony, and has volunteered over 3,000 hours of service at UnityPoint Health-Finley Hospital. She has served on the Board for Mount Pleasant Home for more than 25 years and is a member of several philanthropic organizations including P.E.O. and TTT that give girls the opportunity to go to summer camp and continue their education post high school.

When asked what they are most proud of, they state, "We have been blessed with a great, loving family that today includes three children, six grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. Since retirement, we have been able to volunteer with Wycliffe Bible Translators a number of times and spent three months in the Ivory Coast, West Africa and another three months in WBT in Peru. We have tried to live our life as people who see the resources we have been blessed with during our lifetime as 'God owns everything.' All in all, we have been very blessed and this November 19, we will celebrate our 69th wedding anniversary."

**Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser – Mantea Schmid:** When asked about her employment history, Mantea Schmid shared this quote, "I once heard someone ask, 'Do you work?' Her answer was, 'yes, but not for money!' That's me too! I have been a community volunteer for 30 years and all the money involved went to my charities."

Mantea Schmid's volunteer efforts, service on boards and committees include the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra League, Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, Dubuque Museum of Art, St. Elias the Prophet Greek Orthodox Church, and Crescent Community Health Center 10th Anniversary Celebration committee. Mantea served in numerous volunteer positions for these organizations: as leadership on their Board of Directors, helping organize countless



fundraising events, and helping to build a stronger community. Mantea says she is pleased to have helped so many organizations and hopes her work will inspire others to do the same. She is honored to receive this recognition and thanks the fundraising professionals who have advised and mentored her – including Barb O’Hea, Jack Wertzburger, Kelly Myers, Faye Finnegan, and Jean Tucker. She also would like to thank her husband and sons, John and Alex, who have helped make her volunteer time possible.



**Outstanding Professional Fundraiser – Dennis Rima, Clarity Clinic:** Dennis Rima has served as the Development Director for Clarity Clinic/Pregnancy Center in Dubuque, IA since 2007. Dennis came to fundraising from a background in education, serving as the physical education teacher and coach at Leo High School, teacher and head baseball coach at the University of Dubuque, and principal at LaSalle School in Holy Cross.

Dennis has proudly served other fundraisers on the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Tri-State Chapter Board for the last five years. He also serves on the Noon Optimist Board. Dennis has been a high school football, baseball, and softball official for approximately 40 years and a Ghost Player with the Field of Dreams for 28 years.

When asked what he is most proud of, he states, “From a professional standpoint, I am most proud of how the Clarity Clinic has grown

and the number of clients we have been able to serve. God has truly blessed us!”

**Judge’s Award – East Central Intergovernmental Association:** ECIA is a non-profit organization committed to working with member governments, their citizens, and others to empower eastern Iowa communities and enhance quality of life.

The services and programs provided cover six broad categories: Community Development, Housing Assistance, Employment and Training, Transit, and Transportation and Planning. ECIA works with numerous non-profits throughout the region to assist them with fundraising and strategic planning. They also offer capital campaign consulting, grant research, writing and management training for fundraisers and volunteers, and project management.

When asked of what they are most proud, ECIA said, “We believe that we empower communities and their people through sustainable partnerships, promoting equity and inclusivity and providing services to enhance the quality of life in the region. We strive to be an extension of our organizations and nonprofits to achieve their goals.”

A big thank you goes out to the event sponsors and to those who submitted nominations. The National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon is on Thursday, November 14 at the Grand River Center. Seating is limited. The reservation fee is \$40, and the deadline is Tuesday, November 5. For more information, please contact Deanne Althoff, NPD Committee Chair, at 563.556.7878 or learn more at [afpgts.org](http://afpgts.org). ❖

*Editor’s note: This article was provided by the Association of Fundraising Professionals Greater Tri-State Chapter.*



**National Philanthropy Day®**

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Join us at the National Philanthropy Day Luncheon to honor Dubuque’s finest philanthropists, Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, from 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m., at the Grand River Center. The reservation fee is \$40. Deadline is Tuesday, November 5. For questions contact Deanne Althoff at 563-556-7878. Reservations can be made online at [www.afpgts.org](http://www.afpgts.org).

