



Hill Country Community Ministries

Help for people in crisis, Hope for the future

News Release

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Hill Country Community Ministries 30th Anniversary Celebration & Volunteer Recognition Event

Leander, TX, October 6, 2014—Hill Country Community Ministries concluded its year of celebration for its 30th anniversary with a luncheon recently to commemorate its 30 years of service to the community and recognize its volunteers. More than 120 guests were in attendance, including HCCM Board of Directors and staff, volunteers, pastors, business and community partners, and community leaders. Linda Haywood and Danita Futch with Austin Community College Cypress Creek Campus co-chaired the event.

HCCM Board President Jerrell Roque presided over the event and commented, “As we look back on our 30 years of service to the community, we’re also looking forward to the years ahead. And as we go about the business of creating our formal strategic plan, we pledge to maintain our focus on our mission, continue to serve families in crisis effectively, and maintain the highest standards of good stewardship of our resources.”

Guest speaker Linda Chandler, president and founder of HOST Ministries and past president of HCCM Board of Directors, delivered a moving message based on several Biblical passages on the “fragrant aroma” of service to others. Chandler’s message to the volunteers offered that, “. . . as you go to HCCM to do service for those who are in a hard place, you are a fragrant aroma of comfort and care, love and hope . . . a blessing to others and a pleasing fragrance to the One who matters, God.”

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HCCM 30th Anniversary Celebration
October 6, 2014
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Receiving awards for outstanding volunteer service were Elaine Hart, Jo Manuel, Sharon Fitzpatrick, Donna Meek, David Huttenmaier, Sherry Moore, Marcus Wamble, Jay Roberts and Fred Grampp, who received a lifetime achievement award for his 29 years of continuing service.

Executive Director Sherry McDonnell stated, “Volunteers are the heartbeat of Hill Country Community Ministries. They show up every week for their volunteer assignment and give of themselves tirelessly and cheerfully. They serve without any fanfare or public praise—they just come to serve. It’s because of the dedication of hundreds and hundreds of volunteers over the past 30 years that HCCM has been able to assist families by giving them a helping hand in their time of need.

Awards were presented to three outstanding community partners. Demonstrating that one person with heart and vision can make a big difference in a community, Frank Rhodes and his family were recognized for their Christmas light display at their home which they use to collect food and funds for HCCM. Since 2006, the Rhodes family has collected more than \$21,000 and several tons of food for the Food Pantry.

Brad Schaible, owner of Schaible Realty and director of the H-E-B Million Dollar Charity Shoot Out golf tournament was recognized for his leadership and spirit of community service to create the tournament, which, in its first three years, has raised more than \$51,000 for HCCM.

Community partner H-E-B, represented by Gary Anderson, store manager for H-E-B Plus! Leander, was recognized as the generous title sponsor of the golf tournament and for its many years of continued support of HCCM by donating product and other resources.

Hill Country Community Ministries is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, a coalition of churches assisted by area businesses, civic organizations, schools and caring individuals that provides food, clothing, and other assistance for people in crisis and those living in poverty in southwest Williamson and northwest Travis counties.

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