

## United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula

UnitedWayEUP.org

# LIVE UNITED



### News Release

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - **CORRECTED**

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### **VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO EUP COMMUNITIES**

*Community encouraged to celebrate power of volunteerism during National Volunteer Week*

SAULT STE MARIE – On Tuesday, April 17, 2018 volunteers from across the Eastern Upper Peninsula will be recognized for their compassion and generosity of time devoted to helping our community continue to move in a positive direction. This year, the Community Engagement Committee of United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula will host “Once Upon a Time...A Community Volunteer Recognition Luncheon”

United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula will honor local volunteers to begin celebrating National Volunteer Week, April 15-21, 2018, a time dedicated to demonstrating to the nation that by working together, we have the fortitude to meet our challenges and accomplish our goals. This national week of celebration is about taking action; encouraging individuals and their respective communities to be at the center of social change, while discovering and demonstrating their collective power to make a difference.

This Community wide luncheon will take place at the Lake Superior State University Cisler Center on with a buffet lunch open at 11:30 a.m. and the award program beginning at Noon. Awards will be given to EUP students who have exceeded a set number of volunteer hours for their age category as reported by their school or class advisor. A student who has volunteered consistently throughout their teen years could, potentially, take home more than one Presidential Volunteer Service award by the time they graduate high school, and a Michigan Student Service Award in their graduating year if they accumulate 400 or more hours of volunteer service throughout their high school career.

Thirty-nine EUP students will be adding a Presidential Volunteer Service Award to their portfolio consisting of a pin to wear at graduation and a certificate signed by President Donald J. Trump.

United Way’s Community Engagement Director, Raulaniesa Aranda, reminds the community that, “United Way of the EUP believes in the importance of advancing the common good and mobilizing the caring power of communities. Our local students exemplify United Way’s mission through the hard work they’ve done over the course of the year, and in some cases, long before they began their high school careers. We believe it’s important that they be recognized for their efforts.”

The luncheon will also recognize EUP Individual and EUP Community Partner of the Year. Nominations and voting will be done through United Way’s social media pages and website. Annual winners will be announced at the luncheon during the awards ceremony. This year’s guest speaker will be MaryJo Duvall, from The Sault Events, Inc. who will discuss the impact volunteering has had on her life as well as in her work.

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Tickets for the luncheon are \$12.50 per person and can be purchased over the phone 906-632-3700 ext. 3, or by stopping in to the United Way office located at 511 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie no later than April 9, 2018. This event is sponsored by several community businesses and organizations who understand the value each volunteer has in the EUP, and we appreciate them all. Sponsors this year include EUP Great Start Collaborative, War Memorial Hospital, Soo Co-Op Credit Union, Central Savings Bank, U.P. Health System and Lake Superior State University.

National Volunteer Week was established in 1974 and has grown exponentially each year, with thousands of volunteer projects and special events scheduled throughout the week.

### **About United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula**

United Way of the EUP serves Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac counties. It has been governed by a volunteer board of directors since its inception in 1956 - local volunteers oversee every aspect of the organization even today! The UWEUP Volunteer Center helps to facilitate corporate groups, local organizations and individual volunteers to create an impact in our Eastern Upper Peninsula communities by hosting various service projects and events. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, or would like more information about our programs, call 906.632.3700, email [volunteer@unitedwayeup.org](mailto:volunteer@unitedwayeup.org), or visit [www.unitedwayeup.org](http://www.unitedwayeup.org).

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***Photo Attachments: 2018 volunteer luncheon flier***