GET INVOLVED

Sometimes a simple thank you isn't enough to honor the extraordinary individuals who go above and beyond to help others. These volunteer legends who make our Central Texas community shine deserve recognition and celebration.

If you know someone for whom a simple thank you isn't enough or want to tell the world about someone who changed yours, let us know so that we can help illuminate the upstanding citizens who make our community special.

NOMINATE A LEGEND

Legend Nomination Form

Legend Name

Your Name

Your Phone

Your Email

I grant to RecognizeGood the unrestricted right to use and publish the contents of my submission for promotional purpose, in any manner or medium. I hereby release RecognizeGood from all claims and liability relating to said submission.

SEND A THANK YOU

Thank You Note Form

Your Name

Your Email

Your Thank You Message

Turn in your thank you to a RecognizeGood staff member or post your thank you online at recognizegood.org/post-a-thank-you.

CONNECT WITH US

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RecognizeGood® *Legend* 2026

KRYSTAL HESS

MOTORCYCLE MISSIONS



LEGEND CEREMONY

October 21, 2026 | 12:00 p.m. | Motorcycle Missions

Supporting first responders and veterans recovering from PTSD through her nonprofit Motorcycle Missions, Krystal Hess has built a supportive and fiercely loyal community around building and riding motorcycles.

Visit Krystal's Legend Page

PCSI Corporate Headquarters 718 W FM 1626, Austin, Texas 78748

Krystal Hess



Legendary Volunteerism

KRYSTAL'S STORY

Supporting first responders and veterans recovering from PTSD through her nonprofit Motorcycle Missions, Krystal Hess has built a supportive and fiercely loyal community around building and riding motorcycles.

Krystal Hess understands the challenges of trauma recovery as well as anyone. In 2011, Krystal left a negative situation in her personal life and moved from Canada to the United States with a dream of learning to ride motorcycles. A breakup left her picking up the pieces of her life, along with countless components from an unfinished motorcycle build. Little did she know repairing that motorcycle would become a deeply personal journey of healing and self-discovery for herself that she would go on to share with others.

Through her own experience, Krystal realized that motorcycles could be a powerful tool for post-traumatic growth, and envisioned creating a program that would harness the therapeutic power of motorcycle building and riding to help veterans and first responders overcome PTSD, depression, and other invisible wounds. This vision crystallized into the nonprofit **Motorcycle Missions**, which now has eleven thoughtfully designed programs offered at no charge for first responders and veterans – or as they call them, rescuers! Each program contains an element of Krystal's vision, and many revolve around "Throttle Therapy" ranging from orientation classes that teach the basics of riding, to track days where riders get to zip around a real racetrack. Motorcycle Missions also offers a build program



Each Volunteer Legend receives their own commemorative brick placed along the Lady Bird Lake.

that connects participants with mentors and professional shops where they work together for 4-6 months building a motorcycle, subsequently renewing their sense of passion and purpose for life.

Krystal built something allowing engagement in enjoyable and meaningful activities while safely fulfilling the adrenaline rush rescuers tend to crave. "She's really built an inclusive, open-to-anyone environment whether you're a military veteran or a first responder," says volunteer board secretary Adrien Thom. "She talks about the presence of mind while riding – you can't think about anything else. It's about focus, it's about being present. She's very much at the helm, gives her time almost to a detriment because of how much she cares. She shows up even when exhausted!" Krystal wouldn't have it any other way. Watching rescuers slowly heal their trauma through motorcycles makes her feel fulfilled. "It's a reward to hear that they're doing well, and that they're loving life more and that they're coping better," says Krystal. "That's what it's all about for me."



Each year, RecognizeGood's selected Legends are celebrated during its Say Thanks, Austin Campaign.

This mural was presented during the 2022 Say Thanks, Austin Campaign

Krystal receives RecognizeGood's 155th Legend Award

ABOUT US

RecognizeGood®

RecognizeGood: THE Foundation (commonly referred to as simply RecognizeGood®) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization designed to create three-sided partnerships between businesses, their employees and the communities in which both reside. RecognizeGood is branded as a partner and advisor to forward-thinking businesses, an advocate for the employees of those businesses, and an imaginative champion for all community nonprofits. Though each of the identity programs listed below is entirely unique, the common theme is simple – the illumination of GOOD in our community.

WE RECOGNIZE

RecognizeGood.org

A platform for the illumination and sharing of everyday GOOD. At work or home, opportunities to show gratitude are endless, but by making a Thank You public at recognizegood.org we have the chance to inspire others.

- ❖ RecognizeGood Legends
- ❖ RecognizeGood Lighthouses
- ❖ Ethics in Business Award

WE CONNECT

- ❖ Printing With Purpose
- ❖ Speaker & Book Series
- ❖ Nonprofit Partnerships
- ❖ Business in Community

Illuminating **GOOD** *in Our Community*

See the back of this program to see how you can help us find our next Legend!

Today's Featured Program

RecognizeGood Legends

The RecognizeGood Legendary Volunteer Award presented ten times a year, highlights ordinary individuals who go to extraordinary lengths for others. Includes a $1,000 pay-it-forward donation to the nonprofit of award recipient's choice, in their name.

"Legends" are eligible to enter the **Say Thanks, Austin** campaign, in which the community expresses its gratitude and appreciation for these incredible individuals by casting Thank-Yous. The team receiving the most Thank-Yous earns a $10,000 pay-it-forward donation, presented at City Hall during a closing ceremony as part of almost $20,000 in total pay-it-forward donations.

Say Thanks Austin!

Say Thanks, Austin 2026

After a Central Texas gratitude campaign running throughout January saw more than 40,000 acts of appreciation toward a group of ten incredible, selfless givers from the area, the community's collective attention was drawn to the 17th annual Say Thanks Austin Closing Ceremony.

Teenager **Remmer Machamer** finished the campaign with the most Thank You votes, and a $10,000 pay-it-forward donation to **Wreaths Across America** was presented in his name at City Hall.

Pay-it-forward donations were also made to the following area nonprofits: Hays County Food Bank, Seedling, Capital Area Master Naturalists, The Charlie Center, RBI Austin, Foundation Communities, B.I.G. Love Cancer Care, Carrying Hope and Austin Habitat for Humanity.

LEGENDS CLASS OF 2025

Danny Martin
With nearly 170 volunteer hours, **Danny Martin** has supported **Capital Area Master Naturalists** through restoration projects, research, leading clean-ups and training other volunteers.

Ann Barlow
Ann Barlow has been serving the unhoused in Austin through **The Charlie Center** every Wednesday for several years now, serving hot meals to nearly 16,000 clients.

Mike Metschan
For over 25 years, **Mike Metschan** has devoted himself to a hidden population of Austin – children who have an incarcerated parent. As a volunteer mentor, advocate and trusted advisor Mike has helped raise more than $500,000 for **Seedling** and has been a constant support over the years for the children they serve.

Delysia Moore
Delysia Moore has been volunteering with the **Hays County Food Bank** for more than a decade, logging nearly 3,000 hours of driving for food pickups and drop-offs, sorting food for their clients, and sharing a smile everywhere she goes.

Andy Harris & Matt Price
For 15 years, **Andy Harris** and **Matt Price** have been serving Austin's youth through both baseball and mentorship, building to 91 total teams throughout underprivileged communities in Austin through **RBI Austin**.

Peggy Wilson
For several years, **Peggy Wilson** has been volunteering with **Foundation Communities** – implementing new programs for students, mentoring, tutoring and even recruiting her own colleagues to volunteer.

Tiffany Huerta
For several years, **Tiffany Huerta** has volunteered with **B.I.G. Love Cancer Care** dedicating hundreds of hours to help over 1,000 children and families who have a child with cancer cope with their diagnosis.

Karen Clayton
Karen Clayton's legacy of giving lives on in her grandchildren, who learned about service as she volunteered for several years serving children in the foster system through **Carrying Hope**.

Gerard Van de Werken
For 25 years, **Gerard Van de Werken** has volunteered with **Austin Habitat for Humanity** and has assisted in building 50 houses to date for members of our community while empowering others to give back as well.

Remmer Machamer
Teenager **Remmer Machamer** has raised over $130,000 for **Wreaths Across America**, sponsoring thousands of wreaths to adorn the graves of veterans at the Texas State Cemetery and across the state.