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

ILENE GREEN

MOBILE LOAVES & FISHES' COMMUNITY FIRST! VILLAGE



LEGEND CEREMONY

November 4th, 2026 | 11:00 a.m. | Mobile Loaves & Fishes' Community First! Village

Dedicating thousands of volunteer hours in the Community First! Village, Ilene Green has been an energizing part of the Mobile Loaves & Fishes family for more than 12 years.

Visit Ilene's Legend Page

9116 Hog Eye Rd Building 3401, Austin, TX 78724

Ilene Green



Legendary Volunteerism

ILENE'S STORY

Dedicating thousands of volunteer hours in the Community First! Village, Ilene Green has been an energizing part of the Mobile Loaves & Fishes family for more than 12 years.

Ilene Green has spent the past two years volunteering at **Mobile Loaves & Fishes' Community First! Village**, a first-of-its-kind community catered to those coming out of chronic homelessness. In her time there, she has left a powerful impact building friendships with the community and helping them feel seen, cared for, and supported. Surprisingly, her volunteer journey with Mobile Loaves & Fishes began long before she even resided in Texas. The organization and Ilene's paths first crossed when she flew in from Illinois to visit her son Charles, who works there. What started as a "take your mom to work day" quickly became a standing opportunity for Ilene to volunteer. During one of her first visits, she rode along in the work truck to St. John Neumann Catholic Church where she learned about their food distribution preparation. Then, in peak Texas summer heat, turned right around and spent three hours weed-whacking lawns for MLF clients and neighbors!

Ilene soon found a permanent place in the Community First! Village. Experienced in a little bit of everything there, she began with simple volunteer work in their Genesis Gardens and Community Market before landing alongside Courtney McDevitt, Healthy Home Coach, and the Support Services team. "I utilize her to help support me in my role, but also to let her do whatever her innate skills are," Courtney shares. Fast-forward to today, Ilene spends every Wednesday – all day - at the Village doing a variety of different tasks. She walks the neighborhood spending quality time with neighbors and listening to their stories so she can connect them with whatever support they



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

may need – sometimes that's simply sitting to chat, others she's advocating for major issues like broken air conditioning when neighbors weren't sure where to turn. When one neighbor was grieving the loss of his mother and was too embarrassed to let Ilene into his home, she reminded him that she didn't care what his home looked like, only about him and wanted to make sure he was okay. For Ilene, it has never been about the state of someone's home, but the person inside it. Her motto is "clean enough to be healthy, dirty enough to be lived in."

Ilene has become a beloved and trusted presence throughout the Community First! Village. Neighbors wave and call to her as she walks by and always notice if she isn't there. Courtney and the Support Services team have seen firsthand how naturally Ilene meets people where they are. Whether she is helping connect someone to a needed service, encouraging a neighbor through a difficult season, or simply showing up to listen, Ilene has become a staple of their community. "There are many of us who do some level of that," Courtney says, "but she adds such a core level to this! She's very much just herself - she's authentic. People know that they can tell her things and trust her."



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

Ilene receives RecognizeGood's 159th 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 in 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.