

PASC Spotlight

Lynette Kerrigan

March 2010



Lynette Kerrigan, Administrative Assistant in the School of Teacher Education, was nominated as the Volunteer of the Month by Dr. Sasha Sidorkin, Director of the School of Teacher Education (STE). Dr. Sidorkin shared that Lynette brings a real sense of commitment and service to her work and that she is the first to step up to the plate and do what needs to be done; many times it is not in her job description, but she does it anyway for the good of the whole unit.

Lynette is involved in many volunteer opportunities within the School of Teacher Education. She organizes the [Knit 4 Neighbors](#) project which is an online homemade scarves/mittens/hats drive developed by Secondary Education major Erin McDonald. Lynette collects the items and helps deliver them to Greeley-Evans District Six schools through the [Dream Team Program](#). Lynette also organized the first School of Teacher Education's food drive which will become an annual event. Dr. Susan Thompson, associate professor in the School of Teacher Education began the program by collecting holiday gifts that are distributed to a [Women's Place](#), a domestic violence shelter in Greeley. In addition to the gifts STE now collects non-perishable food donations from UNC faculty, staff and students for homeless students in Greeley-Evans School District six. Lynette shared there are roughly 600 homeless students in the school district.

Lynette's largest volunteer project in STE involves maintaining the [Bear Hug](#) website and running the Bear Hug store. Lynette shared that the projects through the Bear Hug Program often require monetary support for appropriate materials for projects. In order to support the projects Lynette came up with the idea for the Bear Hug store. The store sells healthy snacks to UNC students and employees. It is located within the STE office (McKee Hall, room 216). STE plans to expand the store in the future to offer other goods including basic school supplies.

In addition to the programs Lynette participates in at UNC she is also highly involved in volunteer work within the Greeley community. For the last five years she and her husband have

helped build houses for Habitat for Humanity. Lynette participates in Angel Tree through her church and for years was the organizer of this program which collects gifts for Weld County foster care children. Also for her church Lynette and her husband volunteer as pre-marriage counselors. Together they counsel engaged couples to prepare them for married life. They also serve as mentors to the couples through the first year of their marriage.

Lynette shared that she loves serving as a volunteer for UNC and the community because she truly enjoys helping others and participating in ministry work. She is looking forward to adding one more activity to her plate in April which is doting on her first grandchild who is due to be born April 15.