

The Macomb Daily

Serving Macomb County

Vote for your favorite MCREST volunteer

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Behind every great charitable organization are thousands of dedicated volunteers.

In celebration of the more than 10,000 generous people who assist in providing shelter throughout the year to the homeless population, Macomb Rotating Emergency Shelter (MCREST) has chosen to create the Good Samaritan Awards, honoring individuals who display outstanding mercy to their neighbors.

"MCREST would not exist without the ... volunteers who serve nearly 700 guests through our 85 partner churches each year," said Rhonda Powell, executive director of MCREST. "The annual value of these volunteer hours is \$1.1 million."

MCREST is accepting nominations from these churches, which provide men, women and children with compassion, meals, lodging and transportation in consecutive weeks. Partner churches are invited to nominate two volunteers from the churches that participate in hosting MCREST guests for a week. The nominees' names, along with highlights of their outstanding leadership, work ethics and extraordinary contributions, will be posted at the MCREST website, www.mcrest.org.

Public voting begins today and runs through Nov. 18.

Good Samaritan Awards will be presented to the top three vote-getters. The volunteers will be honored for their achievement Dec. 4 during MCREST's 3rd annual Benefit Concert featuring singer-songwriters Christine Lavin and Don White at the Warren Consolidated School of Performing Arts in Sterling Heights.

For contest details and tickets to the concert, visit www.mcrest.org.