

# Volunteer of the Year Award Winners

The Volunteer of the Year awards recognized youth, adult and group volunteers who contribute their time and effort to residents of long-term care facilities.

# PREVIOUS WINNERS

## 2022

### Lifting Spirits with Music Sacramento

“Lifting Spirits with Music” is a community outreach program comprised of student musicians from the Sacramento community at large. The musicians provide monthly programs for seniors in independent, assisted living, and skilled nursing facilities throughout the region.

When the COVID-19 pandemic forced nursing homes to close, the students connected with residents virtually. In the spring of 2020, the student musicians made their YouTube debut providing entertainment to individuals across the country. The free concerts were beneficial to sheltered residents and student performers alike and still continue.



## 2021

### Isabella Romero Beecan Health Glendale

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, when in-person visits were prohibited, 17-year-old Isabella Romero reached out to Beecan Health to offer to visit with residents virtually. She used Studio B, an online program which allowed her to visit, one-on-one with residents and play and sing songs personalized to their music tastes. Isabella spent 1-2 hour per week entertaining residents during the pandemic and says she was grateful to bring a little bit of joy and excitement to residents.



# PREVIOUS WINNERS

## 2019

**James Clay**

### **Windsor Gardens Healthcare Center of the Valley North Hollywood**

James Clay, a licensed evangelist at the Bible Study Fellowship Church, has been volunteering at Windsor Gardens for the past seven years. James is best known for leading a Bible study group every Saturday morning. Residents look forward to the gatherings and the delicious pastries he delivers. James also provides personal one-on-one visits for those in need of guidance and support and helps residents understand their special value to him and their continuing impact on their families and society.



### **Rescue the Children NorthPointe Healthcare Center Fresno**

Residents at NorthPoint Healthcare Center in Fresno participate in the Heart to Serve program, preparing and serving food to needy individuals once a month. During that time, they provided meals to at-risk women and children at Rescue the Children. The recipients were so inspired by the nursing home volunteers that they decided to volunteer at NorthPoint. Once a month at least a dozen women from Rescue the Children take residents to the 99 Cents store and help at special facility events – and they have recruited others to join in. Residents are thrilled that their volunteering efforts inspired others to give back – creating a circle of volunteering.





# PREVIOUS WINNERS

## 2018

### Reverend Edmund Green Golden Living Center Portside

Each week for four hours, the Rev. Edmund Green and other volunteers like Elder Willie Marshall entertain residents at Golden Living Center Portside with songs, prayers and familiar gospel hymns. The smiles and brightness of the residents is evident when he and his friend are in the building because they take time to engage and communicate with everyone, even those in the specialty unit. Reverend Green brings liveliness and spunk into the facility and provides entertainment during special events, birthdays and holidays.



### Helen Holecek Golden Living Center Clovis

A long-time fixture at Golden Living Center, Clovis, 84 year-old Helen Holecek has been volunteering for the past 22 years. She is responsible for incorporating music into the living center's activity program including piano playing and sing-a-longs. The residents look forward to her visit each week. She keeps active as a volunteer at other skilled nursing centers in the area and holds a spot on the Board of Directors at the Clovis Museum. Helen is a great volunteer representative of the long-term care community.



## ADDITIONAL PREVIOUS WINNERS

**2017** Donna Crocker  
English Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation  
Modesto

Richard Tate  
Palomar Vista Healthcare Center  
Escondido

William & Sylvia Wong  
Kei-Ai Los Angeles Healthcare Center  
Los Angeles

Pratyush Sridhar  
Lincoln Glen Nursing Facility  
San Jose

**2016** Larry Caris  
Vineyard Hills Health Center  
Templeton

Danish Care Singers  
Danish Care Center  
Atascadero

**2015** Irma Mingham  
English Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation  
Modesto

Incredible Edible Community Garden Club  
Upland Rehab & Care Center  
Upland

**2014** Beverly and Glenn Rowe with Therapy  
Dogs Inc.  
Meadowood Nursing Center  
Clearlake

**2014** Conjunto Rios de Agua Viva  
**(cont.)** Community Care on Palm  
Riverside

Priyanka Nanayakkara  
Shea Family Care  
La Jolla

**2013** Carol Tasso  
The Center at Parkwest  
Reseda

Cate School Singers  
Cornerstone House of Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara

**2012** Richard Brown  
Edgemoor Hospital  
Santee

Dale & Linda Langrehr  
Seneca Healthcare District  
Chester

**2011** Larry Leslie  
Santa Cruz Healthcare Center  
Santa Cruz

Forget-Me-Not Foundation  
26+ facilities in San Diego County and  
Orange County

Rainbow Reflections of Central Valley  
Christian School  
Horizon Health & Sub-Acute Center  
Fresno