



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Fort Bend Seniors Presents Ten Local Businesses and Volunteers with Awards for Outstanding Service**

ROSENBERG, Texas (October 22, 2018) - Fort Bend Seniors held a celebration dinner on Monday, October 22, 2018, at Noah's Event Venue in Sugar Land to publicly recognize the exceptional volunteers and businesses that help support the organization's seniors every day.

Rick Branek, Volunteer and Outreach Manager, organized the event and spoke to the nearly 170 volunteers in attendance. "Volunteers are just ordinary people with extraordinary hearts. They offer the gift of their time to teach, to listen, to help, to inspire, to build, to grow, to learn. They expect no pay, yet the value of their work knows no limit," Branek said.

FBS volunteers support the comprehensive services and programs provided by the organization, which includes Meals on Wheels, congregate meals, transportation, case management, health screenings, information and referral services, recreation and more. Each of these programs and services aim to enable area seniors to remain in their homes and continue to be an integral part of the community for as long possible.

"Since our last Appreciation Dinner, in April 2017, to today, more than 300 FBS volunteers contributed 31,200 hours of volunteer service representing just over \$800K dollars. Volunteers helped support FBS in serving over 350,000 meals to nearly 2,000 seniors," said Manuela Arroyos, CEO of Fort Bend Seniors.

The Fort Bend Seniors Board of Directors presented awards to each honoree.

#### **2018 Volunteer Award Winners**

- Special Events Volunteer of the Year – Linda Nolty, Loretta Rodriguez, Angela Vasquez
- Serve and Protect – Constable Mike Beard, Pct. 1
- Business Team of the Year – OCuSOFT
- Special Events Host – La Cocina Mexican Restaurant
- Board Member – Chief Eric Robins
- Faith Based Volunteer – Christ United Methodist Church
- Congregate Center Volunteer – Margarita "Maggie" Contreras
- Home Delivered Meals Volunteer – Sonya Dyer
- Administrative Volunteer – Sharon Shafer
- Volunteer of the Year – Christine Mitchell

The event included dinner provided by Lomonte's Italian Restaurant and coffee provided by Mugz Coffee Bar. Volunteers mingled with local business and political leaders, heard stories of FBS seniors from fellow volunteer and Staff Force CEO David Howard, and celebrated our award winners. Classic Chevrolet sponsored the door prizes for volunteers, providing full car detailing, comprehensive car inspections, and tickets to a Skeeters game at the Classic Chevrolet Skybox Suite.

Sponsors of this year's event include Fort Bend County Judge Robert "Bob" Hebert; Commissioner Vincent Morales, Pct. 1; Commissioner James Patterson, Pct. 4; Fort Bend County Constable Trever Nehls, Pct. 4; Classic Chevrolet of Sugar Land, Lomonte's Italian Restaurant, Mugz Coffee Bar, and OCuSOFT.

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See award winners' photographs below. For additional photographs and more information on each volunteers' contributions, please contact Leah Ghobrial.

#### About Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels

Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels, a United Way Agency, is committed to helping seniors remain independent by enhancing their quality of life through services and resources. FBS provides hot, home-delivered meals to more than 1,200 senior citizens daily, many who live alone and cannot prepare their own meals. In addition, FBS offers older adults meals from 11 congregate sites – or community centers, transportation to and from the centers, health screenings and recreational activities.

Fort Bend Seniors is qualified under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code as a non-profit corporation, and as such contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent as allowed by law. For more information about Fort Bend Seniors Meals on Wheels, visit [www.fortbendseniors.org](http://www.fortbendseniors.org).

#### Business Team of the Year – OCuSOFT



Volunteer of the Year – Christine Mitchell



Special Events Host – La Cocinca Mexican Restaurant, Rachel and Andres Nova  
Board Member – Sugar Land Police Chief Eric Robins



More than 300 volunteers currently help FBS in supporting our seniors, and nearly 170 attended our Volunteer Appreciation Event last week. FBS appreciates and recognizes the hard work and dedication of our volunteers in Fort Bend and Waller Counties.

