

Ms. Mim Huffam is a kind and gentle woman who exemplifies the true image of volunteerism. She selflessly dedicates her life by word, thought, and deed to helping those in need. A widow, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, she nurtures not only those bound by family ties, but also those within the community who are in need of a helping hand. The hand extended by Mim is dependable, compassionate, strong, and dedicated. She is a unique individual who has earned the love and respect of every life she touches. She dedicates the majority of her time to volunteering at numerous agencies within Martin County.

She has dedicated tireless hours to mentoring and tutoring "at-risk" youth at the recently closed Martin County Sheriff's Office Juvenile Offender Training Center. She was adept in seeking out some of the most troubled young men and sparking their interest in their studies. Her genuine affection for young people had a tremendous and positive impact on students who quickly grew to love and respect this surrogate grandmother. The invaluable commitment from Mim and the concern she showed for these young men made a dramatic difference in their lives.

The largest fund-raising event for the Martin County Sheriff's Office was an annual rodeo to benefit the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches, Inc. This event is hosted in an effort to raise monies for this organization that offers a variety of programs and opportunities for "at-risk" children of Florida. Mim had not only provided financial support for this great cause, but also volunteered to work the two-day event every year, from start to finish.

Mim had and continues to participate in many programs and events and has also served as a volunteer in many units within the Martin County Sheriff's Office to include:

Criminal Investigations Division, Fingerprinting Team, and Juvenile Offender Training Center. At a moment's notice, Mim will respond to help out in the office or assist in the coordination or implementation of any fund-raising event. Her commitment to the agency as well as her community is unprecedented.

Ms. Huffam received the Presidential Volunteer Lifetime of Service Award in 2008 for her contribution of more than 4,000 hours. She has been a very committed and exemplary volunteer with Martin Volunteers for close to twenty (20) years. She comes in every week and spends hours entering and justifying thousands of volunteer hours to be reported to the national, state, and local funders.

Above and beyond her duties volunteering for the Martin County Sheriff's Office, she finds time to assist with collecting toys for the White Doves Holiday Project / Toys for Tots program. Many of the collections involved loading hundreds of toys into boxed trucks and assist in feeding hundreds of needy Martin County families. Many times a child's name has been turned in to White Doves past the deadline and Mim has taken it upon herself to make certain that child had presents under the tree, and most often, at her own expense. Truly, no bigger heart can there be than that of Mim Huffam.

She is trained to assist with assignments of unaffiliated volunteers in the event of a disaster, which she demonstrated during the 2004/2005 hurricanes. During these hurricanes, Stuart was ground zero for two (2) of the hurricanes; Frances and Jeanne. Ms. Huffam volunteered to make sure that all persons she came into contact with had the essentials to get through the days of no electricity, no food, and in some cases, no place to call home.

Mim has volunteered in the Special Investigations Section of the Directed Operations Division of the Sheriff's Office for the past fifteen (15) years by answering phones, taking care of mail, filing, and typing reports. She also picks up supply orders from purchasing, assists with copying for different departments within the agency. Mim has been associated with the Martin Volunteers as the Secretary of the Board, been on the Advisory Board of the Juvenile Offender Training Center, and part of the Literacy Council. She has won the United Way "***Champion Award***", the Martin County Sheriff's Office "***Volunteer of the Quarter Award***", JOTC "***Volunteer of the Quarter Award***", and "***Most Wanted Volunteer***" for the Volunteer and Community Resource Center.

Ms. Huffam is a very special individual who is willing to venture into any area of volunteering within the community; therefore, **it gives me great pleasure to nominate Ms. Mim Huffam for the Florida Crime Prevention Association Crime Prevention Volunteer of the Year Award.**