## REALTORS® RECEIVE

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## GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARDS

LOVE OF COMMUNITY GUIDES HONORED REALTORS®





hen you are a member of the Greater Albuquerque Association of REALTORS®, being a good neighbor isn't just a catch phrase.

It's a given and it also comes with a reward as GAAR recognizes its REAL-TORS® who are Good Neighbors through a program honoring its members.

The program has been on the national level for some time and is now in its third year in Albuquerque, said executive director Kent Cravens.

The purpose of the Good Neighbor program is to identify GAAR members who go above and beyond for local charities.

"They're chosen based on their contributions for the organizations that they champion and activities within our organization," Cravens said. "Internally, we do a lot of benevolent work. These are folks that help us not only with that but also with other organizations with which they are established."

As an added bonus, each Good Neighbor recipient's charity receives a \$500 donation from GAAR.

"Primarily, it demonstrates that REAL-TORS® are in the community in which they live and work," Cravens said. "They also help people establish roots, find their dream homes, sell properties they need to sell. They are an integral part of the fabric of our community."

## JANIE GILMORE-DANIELS, ALBUQUERQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TITLE 1 HOMELESS STUDENTS

Gilmore-Daniels, a Realtor with Vista

Encantada Realtors, has been working with GAAR's community relations committee for some time, but it is her work with the APS program that really caught their eye.

The holidays can be a particularly rough time for underprivileged children, but Gilmore-Daniels strives to bring a little cheer to their hearts by organizing parties around a festive lunch or dinner for the children involved in the APS tutoring program.

This year, she and her helpers, including daughter Katherine Mosley, put on holiday dinners and organized children's personalized gifts for students from 21 APS elementary, middle and high schools. Although total number of students served this year was unavailable, last year the program helped 750 students, with this year expected to be even more, Gilmore-Daniels said.

"Throughout the year we do different types of fundraising," she said. "Community foundations provide a lot. We did a bowl-a-thon, did a golf tournament. We participated in Run for the Zoo. We did a backpack drive and gave out almost 3,400 backpacks and school supplies. We've been real involved in Title I. It's our signature charity. We love the kids. They're just really amazing."

Being named a Good Neighbor was a special honor, Gilmore-Daniels said, but she deflected the praise to all the people that help make the events possible.

"It was sweet, but I just organize it," she said. "All you guys out there make it happen. It's something that we love as associates. We just love this project."



"REALTORS® help people establish roots, find their dream homes, sell properties, and are an integral part of the fabric of our community."

GAAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, KENT CRAVENS

Because the students' home life can be so unsettled, sometimes it's the simple things that really add up, Gilmore-Daniels said.

"We get people from the community to help us," she said. "For instance, dentists donate toothbrushes and toothpaste. We get lots of different items that they might be able to use. Some of these kids are homeless. They go wherever they can to find a place to stay. So we try to provide things like gloves and hand warmers and we also try to provide fun stuff. They're reactions are pretty heart-warming."

The help also comes from many organizations connected with the realty business.

"Title companies, mortgage companies, realty firms all adopt a different school and provide the lunch or dinner, provide presents," Gilmore-Daniels said. "A lot of times we'll have a band and flamenco dancers. We try to make it a really great experience. It might be their only shot of having something of a Christmas. And

if anybody in the public wants to donate, come into GAAR, we'll always take donations because the more money we have, the more we can do for our kids."

## JOSH PRICE, PRESIDENT OF LOBOS LITTLE LEAGUE

Price, who is the property manager for Maddox Management, essentially got his job through his volunteer efforts.

"Damon Maddox, was the old president of the league and we became friends," Price recalled. "I was working as a bar manager and was pretty unhappy with my hours and lifestyle. He told me to go out and get real estate license. That was about a year and a half ago. Then he hired me."

Price wasn't looking for a new job when he began his volunteer work, but it certainly has paid big dividends in his life.

"It's a real success story," he said. "It's great how it all worked out. I had been working in the service industry since I could work. My first job was in a restaurant when I was 15 and I've been training restaurant workers or cooking in the kitchen or running a bar ever since so it all ended up working out really well."

Price has been the league president for three years and was a board member an additional year.

"Basically, it started off, I signed up my stepson for t-ball four years ago," he said. "They needed some volunteer t-ball coaches. I had played baseball and had been in sports most of my life. That was definitely the start. I found that I really liked it. I really fell in love with the rest of the kids."

And helped fill a void he didn't realize at the time was there.

"Being with the team all the time, it was something I was really missing," Price said. "Playing on a team as an adult, I didn't have that same little niche and I found that being a coach definitely gave that to me."

As Lobos Little League board president, he must oversee a number of tasks, spending as much as 15 hours a week on the work and even longer during the season.

"My duties include overseeing the entire organization," Price said. "I make sure we get kids registered, get insurance paid, the charter paid, the facilities are kept up and really basically, I'm the end all for everything, I have to oversee every job that happens. There's quite a bit that goes into it. It's a bigger job than what I thought I signed up for. But it's all worthwhile," he said, "Little league is a great organization," Price said. "It's 100-percent volunteer nationwide. Everything Little League organizations have and everything they do is based upon the generosity and kindness of the people they have involved in the programs." ■