

Faffler Presented Live Better Community Service Award

[Ellsworth, WI] – Anna Faffler is Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services’ Live Better Community Service Award winner for the third quarter of 2019. Faffler received the award and a \$100 Visa® gift card on July 10 for her generous work volunteering as a Victim Response Advocate (VRA) with the St. Croix Valley Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

As a VRA, Faffler is responsible for managing their 24-hour crisis line for 6-8 hours at a time, multiple times each month. She takes calls from law enforcement, hospital providers, sexual assault victims, friends and family, etc. It is her role to provide information, referrals and advocacy to those calling. Most of these calls come from people who need a sexual assault exam, in which case it is Faffler’s responsibility to set up the exam and then respond in person to advocate for the sexual assault victim. During these exams, typically lasting two to four hours, Faffler is working one on one, providing emotional support to the victim and making sure his/her voice is heard.

Since Faffler has been volunteering, she has worked more shifts than any of the other volunteers. In just under a year, she has worked 907 hours, some months working almost double the number of hours as the other VRAs. All without any compensation and while completing her senior year at UW-River Falls.

Faffler’s work at SART has inspired her to pursue a master’s degree in counseling to serve victims of trauma and has been accepted into a graduate program in North Dakota.

“Although Anna will be leaving her volunteer position in August, we are incredibly grateful for the many hours she has volunteered,” said Ashley Bredeson, Advocacy and Outreach Coordinator, “and for the compassion and advocacy she has provided to victims of violence.”

Congratulations, Anna, and thank you for truly making a difference!



Anna Faffler is presented the Live Better Community Service Award by Larry Dokkestul, President and CEO, for her volunteer work with St. Croix Valley SART.