

Sutton Receives Live Better Community Service Award

River Falls, WI [October 7, 2015] – Meet Mary Joan Sutton, the first recipient of the Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services Live Better Community Service Award. She was presented the award on October 7 for her volunteer work as a founding member and the board president of Our Neighbors' Place.

Located in River Falls, Wis., Our Neighbors' Place has provided shelter and support services to individuals and families of Pierce and St. Croix counties dealing with homelessness since 2009. The Day Center offers resources and assistance with basic needs such as clothing, personal items, laundry service and transportation. Under Sutton's leadership, a 4-plex was purchased in February 2011 that provides emergency shelter to families, and a backpack program delivers food to school-aged children on weekends during the school year. Starting November 1, Our Neighbors' Place will provide overnight shelter for single adults. The shelter will open evenings at 7:45 p.m. with doors closing at 9 p.m.

Sutton believes that "we are our neighbor's keeper and are here to help others, with compassion and without judgment". Founded on this principle, Our Neighbors' Place is safe haven for those who need a stepping stone to a better life – an opportunity to become independent and self-sufficient.

Author Matthew Kelley encourages each of us to become the "best-version-of-oneself", something Sutton works hard to accomplish every day. She hopes the same for those touched by Our Neighbors' Place, one day at a time.

Support of Our Neighbors' Place through volunteerism, donations of supplies, services and money are welcomed and vital to its continued success. For information, call 715-426-9000 or visit: www.ourneighborsplace.org.

Nominate a Volunteer for the Live Better Community Service Award

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is rewarding volunteers in our communities for their service on a quarterly basis with the Live Better Community Service Award and a \$100 Visa® Check Card. Nominate a volunteer from the communities within our service area by completing the nomination form available at www.piercepepin.com under *Community*, or contact the office at 800-924-2133. The deadline for the January award is December 15, 2015.

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About Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services

Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is an energy services cooperative located in Ellsworth, Wisconsin, offering electric utility services to homes and businesses. As a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, Pierce Pepin Cooperative Services is committed to excellence, innovation and integrity, and is dedicated to helping its communities live better. For more information, call 1-800-924-2133 or visit www.piercepepin.com.