

## **2020 MASS Up and Coming Professional in the Field of Aging Award**

### **Winner: Stephanie Baumann, Rosemount Parks & Recreation**

When I sat down to write about what Stephanie has done with our Adult Senior Programs, I actually was in awe of what she has accomplished. She has taken our program from cards and food, to offering exercise classes, enrichment classes, social outings, and trips just to name a few. To be honest, to describe each offering would be a tremendous task, so I am just going to pick a few. For starters, she has introduced the SAIL program. This is an exercise class to help older adults remain healthy and it focuses on fall prevention, balance, strength and flexibility. Along with helping coordinate this class, she has also gone thru the instructor's course in case she is needed. She has expanded the offering of our enrichment classes, which include woodworking, crafting, speakers, book clubs and many others. She has also obtained her instruction certificate for CPR and is able to offer those classes to not only our seniors, but also classes for our staff. Stephanie also serves the interests of Rosemount by being involved with other groups, one of which is serving MASS Award Nomination Committee and being that groups representative on the MASS board. She also oversees the MASS Website.

When I told my coworkers that I would be nominating Stephanie for this award, they all had so many great things to say. I asked them to submit a few words to include so you all could see how valuable she is to our department. As you can see from my words and those of her coworkers, and as one of them said it the best "She is the epitome of a young professional and is so deserving of the "Up and Coming Professional Award in the Field of Aging".

"Stephanie has done a great job welcoming new seniors that have not been involved with programs in the past and making them feel wanted. Innovation can be successful when working with the senior population and Stephanie has shown that to be true. She has introduced new programs to the seniors that have drawn more participants into the Steeple Center which is the facility where they meet. She has built on top of the core programs to offer well rounded opportunities for seniors. Working with people who have varying interests can often lead to conflict. Stephanie has done a wonderful job working with the seniors to help them find common ground when it comes to what programs are offered, how the facility is used, and she does that with a smile on her face." Dan Schultz, Director, Parks and Recreation

"While Stephanie and I work in the same department, there is very little overlap between her job responsibilities and mine. I feel she is a tremendous asset to our department. She is always very upbeat and energetic, and that attitude rubs off. The few times I have seen her deal with unpleasant individuals she has kept her cool, listened to them in the most caring manner, and maintained their dignity. Stephanie's pleasant, "Can Do" personality is one of the main reasons she is so successful in her current position. Everyone that has the pleasure of dealing with Stephanie knows they will be treated with a friendly smile and the utmost respect. We are lucky to have her on our team." Tom Schuster, Parks Supervisor

"What is a young professional? A young professional should not be defined by age but rather by their mind set. A young professional is a person who is interested in enhancing themselves and the future of their community. They work hard, like to socialize, are technologically savvy, and they make the change that we want to see in our lives. Stephanie is a true young professional as it is defined above. I recognize Stephanie for this award because of her positive difference in our community and her

outstanding contributions to senior programming and wellness. Stephanie demonstrates a level of professionalism and has skill and leadership beyond her years. She displays an extraordinary commitment to the community through her positive leadership with the people she serves. Stephanie exudes professionalism, drive, approachability, sincerity, expertise and is a great example for other young professionals in the field of Senior Services. She is incredibly involved and dedicated to her many programs which again is another asset to our community. Stephanie works to meet new people and make them feel comfortable and respected. She is humble and respectable in how she conducts herself. She sets an example of how we all should network and care about each other.” Lisa Maurer, Recreation Supervisor

“Stephanie brings fresh ideas to our Programs for Older Adults. She is eager to find new activities and bring things to our Seniors they may not have been introduced to before. She seems to deal with difficult personalities with calm professionalism.” Anne Hayes, Parks and Recreation Assistant

**Lacelle Cordes**  
**Recreation Supervisor**  
**Rosemount Parks & Recreation**