

# Volunteer of The Year – JoAnne Fabry



Although JoAnne Fabry grew up in Huntington, Connecticut on a small family farm, she attended Saints Cyril & Methodius School on Bridgeport's East Side for all her elementary years. This is important to her connection with Habitat CFC and her volunteer work on the construction sites. She and her husband Andy have resided in Fairfield for 64 years where they raised their three children. JoAnne enjoyed a 30-year career as a school secretary, and became engaged in a variety of volunteer activities, including:

JoAnne joined the Women Build Committee at Habitat CFC in 2000. During these years she co-chaired fundraising events for two Habitat CFC builds, most recently the Pope Francis Home. JoAnne also provides a quilt for each new Habitat homeowner family at their home dedication ceremony and additional quilts for Habitat's annual Family Picnic, which are given to Habitat homeowners.

She has been member of CT Piecemakers Quilt Guild since 2001. JoAnne was instrumental in expanding their "Comfort Quilt" Program that provides hundreds of quilts each year to Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, various shelters, nursing homes and people in need of "comfort." For the Quilts of Valor Foundation, JoAnne spearheads quilt making workshops to construct patriotic quilts to honor military veterans. She hosts a yearly awards event at the National Association of Navy Veterans Port 5 for the presentations. She is a member and Past Commander of Port 5 Women's Auxiliary. JoAnne has coordinated fundraising activities at Port 5 for four of Habitat CFC's Veteran Build projects.

JoAnne has been an active member for over 15 years at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Fairfield where she currently serves on the Social Justice Committee. She also served at Merton House of Hospitality for 20 years for their Saturday lunch program and worked with Confirmation candidates to assist with their Service responsibilities.

Together with her husband Andy, she also coordinated the setup committee of Fairfield Preparatory School's Auction Gala. She coordinated Field Day activities, the gym program and the Presidential Fitness awards at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Fairfield. She was actively involved with the Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and as a Mill River Wetland Guide for children in grades 3 to 5 for eight years.

In addition to quilting, JoAnne enjoys clamming, gardening, golfing, cooking, hosting family events, and is most proud of the accomplishments of her three children and grandchildren.