

2017 Youth Advocate – Professional

Marty Bardelmeier

Marty has been with the Lake County Office of Education for over 23 years and is well respected throughout the county. Marty works with special needs students aged 14-22 and transitions them out of high school and into adulthood through work experience programs. She is always available to students who need assistance even after they have graduated. She has selflessly given of her time and her personal resources to help others in Lake County.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”

Here is what Marty has done for others:

- Organized and provided sponsorship of needy families for Christmas
- Conducted a Facebook drive for baby clothing and accessories for young single expectant mothers who lost everything in recent fires
- Marty also assisted these young, single mothers in finding support services during the recent fires
- She also helped find places to live for persons who lost their home in the fires
- Marty also has opened her home to children who needed a meal or someone to talk to
- Marty has also participated in the homeless counts throughout the county and always is ready with a helping hand. She does this with enthusiasm and professionalism
- Most recently she and her family put together gift bags containing basic necessities of toothpaste, a toothbrush, energy bars, juice and related personal items, for the homeless

In addition, Marty is often contacted by past and present students who need her assistance/support with employment, a problem or even help finding community resources.

No matter where you go in Lake County, people know Marty Bardelmeier; she is a huge contributor to what makes Lake County a great place to live!