## **OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATIVE VOLUNTEER 2020**

## **Maxine Robbins**

When Maxine's name is mentioned at The Shelter everyone's face lights up because this means Christmas is in the air. Believe it or not, planning for the next Christmas Drive begins Jan. 1. Making sure this tradition goes on without a hitch is a yearlong process and Maxine is here to see it through every step of the way. Without Maxine's leadership, we would never be able to provide gifts to the over 400 participants that we do every year.

Maxine is responsible for overseeing volunteers to make sure that this is a special time for our participants, and that each and every one feels the love that went into selecting the perfect gift for them. An example of this is when a participant mentioned to her advocate that the gifts she received from The Shelter were the first wrapped presents she had received since her mom died when she was a little girl.

To see the joy on the faces of two little brothers who realized Santa didn't forget them after they had to flee their home on Christmas Eve, leaving their tree and gifts behind, is validation of the efforts and long hours put into planning for this.

As one participant put it, "Thank you on behalf of all of us for giving us that emotional help

and that confidence to believe again, regain our freedom and trust in ourselves that the world has something good for us"

This is why we so appreciate the guidance from Maxine and her team of Head Elves which include Donna Fritz and Robin Shields.

Thank you for bringing the spirit of the holidays to The Shelter, Maxine, and thank you for bringing hope, joy and encouragement to our participants.

## **Tami Wellford**

Volunteer & Resource Manager

