

**Adair County SB40 Developmental Disability Board
August 2025 Spotlight Award Recipient
Mary “Kathleen” Lowe – Community Volunteer Award**



Mary “Kathleen” Lowe of Kirksville has been selected for the August Spotlight Award as a **Community Volunteer** by Adair County SB40.

Adair SB40 Service Coordinator, Tonya Bailey, shared, “Kathleen is an inspiring woman whose lifelong dedication to advocating for others continues to make a meaningful difference. She taught STIR (Steps Toward Independence and Responsibility) Class to help people with disabilities learn more about themselves and their opportunities. Kathleen believes that everyone should have opportunities for an education, regardless of disability or ability. She completed an oral history to share her experiences and the difficulties she faces navigating the education system with a disability. Over the years, she has attended countless conferences to learn different ways to advocate for herself and others and has volunteered at countless community events. Kathleen demonstrates strength, compassion, and resilience, serving as a powerful voice and role model for those around her.”

Carol Sublett, Lead Support Professional with Chariton Valley Association/CHS, commented, “Kathleen is a caring and loving individual who consistently strives to support and mentor those around her. I’ve watched her encourage her peers-not only in advocacy-but also in always striving to do what’s right. It’s deeply important to Kathleen that her friends grow into the best versions of themselves. It’s truly an honor to work alongside her and witness both the nurturing and spirited sides of her personality.”

Adair County SB40 Community Engagement Specialist Cheyane Attebery, who formerly worked with Kathleen with Chariton Valley Association/CHS, shared, “Kathleen is a powerful advocate for others, consistently using her voice and actions to uplift those around her. Her impact is deeply felt by everyone she encounters, leaving a lasting impression through her compassion, strength, and unwavering support. Kathleen not only encourages others to reach their full potential but also leads by example, striving for excellence in everything she does. Her dedication, integrity, and selflessness make her more than deserving of this award.”

If you would like to nominate a great candidate for a monthly Spotlight Award, Adair County SB40 is accepting nominations. Anyone can make a nomination. Nominations can be made in any of the four following categories:

- Kids Inclusion Spotlight Award for children in kindergarten - 8th grade
- Youth Leadership Spotlight Award for youth in grades 9-12
- Community Volunteer Spotlight Award (any age)
- Entrepreneur or Employee Spotlight Award (any age)

In March 2026, a Spotlight Award of the Year winners will be selected from all of the monthly winners. Nominations can be made throughout the year by visiting the Adair County SB40 website or by contacting a SB40 staff member to assist you at (660) 665 - 9400. You can also find more information about the four nomination categories by visiting Adair County SB40's website, <https://www.sb40life.org>

(Kathleen middle bottom with her award, along with CVA staff, SC Tonya, and friends)