

NEWS

Our Town Briefs: Branum earns community service award

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Senior Ambassadors Coalition Christmas Event

On Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020, the Senior Ambassadors Coalition (SAC) held a drive by and drop off donations event at Central Church of Christ. According to a news release, baskets of personal care items were collected from generous donors, and the baskets were distributed to senior adult clients of Adult Protective Services.

During the coalition's Christmas event, the Jim Holston Community Service Award was presented to Ken Branum in the Commons Room at Central Church of Christ, according to a news release.

Branum was honored for his 18 years of community service to senior adults. He has been involved with the Senior Ambassadors Coalition since 2005. He served on the Senior Ambassadors Coalition Board of Directors from 2010 through 2012, and he served as President of the SAC Board of Directors during 2011.

Currently serving a second term on the SAC Board of Directors, Branum is vice president of the SAC Board and also served on the SAC Vials of Life Committee since 2007 and the SAC Eldercare Conference Committee since 2009. In addition to being an advocate for senior adults and caregivers, Branum began working with senior adults as Director of the Alzheimer's Association from 2002 through 2004 and is a Certified Dementia Practitioner.

Branum worked as chaplain for Accolade Home Care and Hospice from 2004 through 2017, according to the release. In 2017, he served as chaplain and community liaison for High Plains Senior Care and High Plains Senior Care Hospice. He also serves on the Older Americans Month Committee and the Caregiver Conference Committee of Area Agency on Aging

New board members were announced during the event. The 2021 SAC Board of Directors are Lisa Hancock, President; Ken Branum, Vice President; Jana Goodman, Secretary; Shirley Harrold, Treasurer; as well as members Sharayah Carpenter, Dani Grill, Susan Hammett, Pam Thomas, Kelli Tiffin, and Michelle Verret.

The Senior Ambassadors Coalition is a 501(c) (3) organization representing a diverse group of agencies, companies, and organizations, the release says. It promotes education and awareness regarding senior and caregiver services and issues, and strives to increase access to services, and to improve the quality of life for seniors in the Panhandle.