

Rupple Citizenship Award

Patricia Estopinal honored for dedication to giving back



Patricia Estopinal
Financial Advisor

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– Alicia Stuckert
Registered Client
Relationship Associate

Giving back is a hallmark of Baird’s culture, dating back to Mr. Baird himself. Many associates generously volunteer, and Baird’s longtime Chairman & CEO, Brent Rupple, was in a league of his own. The Rupple Citizenship Award was created to honor Brent’s extraordinary service throughout his life and to recognize an outstanding associate each year.

This year, Patricia “Patty” Estopinal, Financial Advisor in Baird’s Roseville, Calif., branch, was honored for her long history of giving back to her community.

Patty’s colleagues describe her as the type of person who works to make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate, and she does it all with no fanfare or prompting. Her colleagues are inspired by her selflessness and quiet leadership.

“Patty leads by example,” said Adam Persily, Branch Manager in Roseville. “She brings the best out of people and inspires us all to do more.”

Patty has given back to her community in many ways. For more than 25 years, she has organized a Thanksgiving food drive for needy families. She works with local organizations to identify families with the most need and distributes the meals herself. Last year, the Roseville office provided 40 area families with Thanksgiving dinner.

At Christmastime, Patty spearheads efforts to collect toys, clothing items and decorations. More than 200 toys and clothing items were donated last year through her efforts. She then wrapped the presents and delivered them with her daughter on Christmas Eve.

Patty has been a financial advisor for 29 years and joined Baird two years ago.

“I can remember being a rookie broker 19 or so years ago, working at the same firm as Patty,” Adam explained. “She was organizing drives for the holidays back then and it was a big deal. It says a lot that her former colleagues still participate in the efforts.”

“She coordinates it all,” added Alicia Stuckert, Registered Client Relationship Associate, who has worked with Patty for more than 12 years. “She somehow always finds the time to give back.”

Patty volunteered as a Girl Scout troop leader for many years and now serves as a board member of the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California Council.

She helped create a Special Olympics tennis coaching program with her daughter in 2007, when her daughter was in high school. Patty still coordinates and coaches the team and involves other young women in the community as coaches, exposing them to the importance of volunteerism. ►

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continued

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– Adam Persily
Branch Manager,
Roseville, Calif.

Still, Patty finds more ways to give back. She completed training to become a Court Appointed Special Advocate to help children in the foster care system. In this role, she volunteers an average of 20 hours per month as a mentor to a foster child. She also serves as a liaison between the foster parent and social worker and acts on behalf of the child at court appearances.

Patty has worked on the board and finance committee of Sol Aureus College Preparatory Charter School in Sacramento. The school aims to help middle schoolers aspire to attend college. Many of the students will be first-generation college graduates. Patty not only helped establish the school more than 10 years ago, but she is also involved in its ongoing fundraising efforts.

Considering her various community activities, it is apparent that Patty is one who never hesitates to help someone in need. “If anybody needs anything, she is the one to make it happen,” said Adam. “Patty’s name always comes up whenever philanthropic opportunities arise, and she never hesitates to step up.”

Patty’s colleagues cherish her warm personality and caring nature. “She always greets you with a warm smile and asks you about what is going on in your life,” said Cheryl Moore, Registered Client Relationship Associate.

Alicia added: “Patty is the most selfless person I have ever met. She gives out of the goodness of her heart and genuinely cares.”

“Before she came to Baird, our branch gave back in various ways,” explained Adam. “But, when she joined the team, our efforts grew. We do so much more now, thanks to her dedication and leadership.”

In recognition of receiving the Ripple Citizenship Award, Patty was presented with a crystal statue, and the Baird Foundation will make a donation in her honor to the charity of her choice. ■