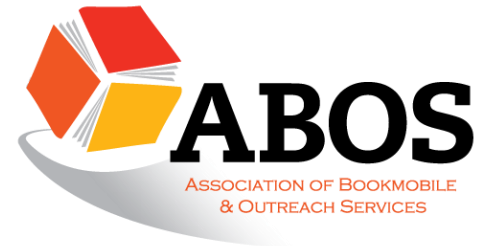


Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services

1190 Meramec Station Road
Ballwin, MO 63021



Press Release – For Immediate Release

Glenna Godinsky, Life Enrichment Liaison at the Gail Borden (IL) Public Library District, is one of the three recipients of the 2020 ABOS Rising Stars Award. The Rising Stars Award, sponsored by the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services and the United States Census Bureau, highlights the achievements of those new to the bookmobile and outreach profession.

Glenna brings enriching and engaging programs to residential communities of seniors and developmentally disabled adults/youth. Each month Glenna goes out to over 22 locations with stories, songs, illustrated books, and crafts to share with people where they are. Glenna designs innovative programs incorporating art, music, geography, nature, and other fields of knowledge to stimulate the intellectual, social, and emotional well-being of her patrons. Maintaining dignity of personhood and providing a place in the community motivates Glenna Godinsky to serve her patrons with compassion and excellence.

Glenna and her team of dedicated volunteers deliver Tales & Travel, a literacy-based program taking people with cognitive impairments around the world. Glenna's original program series Library Fun & Facts combines stories, info bytes, music, and crafts. Crusin' the Country is Glenna's newest creation: stories and crafts are delivered to her patrons, who then pass along their finished crafts to the next care facility to brighten up their spaces! Glenna not only enriches people's lives; she empowers them to do the same, adding to their quality of life. Glenna shares her knowledge and materials openly with activity directors, libraries, senior centers, and caregivers through her Facebook page: Activity Directors Idea Hub for Caregivers.

Glenna, a Certified Dementia Practitioner, has a heart for those experiencing dementia and their caregivers. She has established Memory Cafes in the Elgin area, opportunities for people with cognitive impairments and their care partners to enjoy stress-free socializing; there is even a bilingual café, - Café de los Recuerdos. She identifies with the caregivers she serves, as she and her family cared for her mother, who had Lewy Body Dementia.

Another accomplishment transformed her community: Glenna forged a task force with community partners to designate Elgin as a Dementia-Friendly Community – Dementia Friends America. Glenna and her team of volunteers have trained partners in the best techniques for approaching and communicating with people with dementia.

Glenna contributes to the profession with generosity and enthusiasm. That energy and creativity garnered her the prestigious Library Journal Mover & Shaker designation in May, 2020. Another prestigious award went to Glenna recently: the Alexander J. Skrzypek Award for 2020 from the

Illinois Library Association. The award acknowledges a contribution to the advancement of library services for the blind or physically disabled in Illinois.

Glenna serves on the ABOS Marketing Committee and is an activate participant in local networks. She frequently attends and presents at the Alzheimer's Association's roundtable discussions at Rush University Hospital, Chicago.

The Rising Stars Award will be presented at the Awards Ceremony to be held on Wednesday, October 14, during the 2020 Virtual Conference of the Association of Bookmobile and Outreach Services. The ceremony starts at 9:30 a.m. CST.