

Congratulations to David Laird, Volunteer of the Quarter!

As his fellow employees may know, David Laird has been enjoying the prime parking spot that comes with the title of Volunteer of the Quarter. And boy, did he earn it! Did you know that David volunteers with his local church, a food pantry, and the "Friends of Falmouth" animal shelter, as well as used vacation time from KVH to visit Honduras and volunteer with "Mission Honduras," helping people bring themselves out of poverty with faith-based education and vocational and technical training? For David, volunteering is a family affair -- he volunteers with his wife, Kathy, to support various youth and fundraising initiatives, and the trip to Honduras included the whole family, as well!

When David isn't working on projects here at KVH, you can find him:

- Helping out at the Christ The King food pantry -- accepting donations of food and bagging food items for pick-up by those who rely on the pantry on a weekly basis
- Supporting his wife, Kathy, who is the Youth Minister of their church, on various fundraising projects that benefit youth activities
- Working at the "Friends of Falmouth" animal shelter, which cares for abandoned dogs until they are adopted; you'll find David walking and exercising the dogs, cleaning out their pens, or providing clean food and water

International Volunteerism

Even considering all David and his family do for their church and local community, perhaps the most impressive project David has completed recently was his trip to Honduras. The goal of Mission Honduras is to help the people of Honduras to bring themselves out of poverty through faith-based education and vocational and technical training, and the Lairds travelled there to help.

They worked on several projects, including cleaning and painting five residential buildings at an elementary school for boys, making and hanging curtains for a girls' school, working as office help for a sponsorship program, performing maintenance projects around the mission, and turning an overgrown concrete slab littered with nails, broken glass and syringes into a playground. In addition, they raised enough money through their church here at home to make a sizeable monetary donation to the mission, as well.

"Through our church's Youth Ministry, which happens to be run by my wife, we were able to raise enough funds to donate over \$4,000 to the mission," David says. "The donations are going to be used to purchase new, quality mattresses with waterproof liners, repair the leaky roofs of the five homes at the boys' elementary school and provide funding for transportation and doctor visits for a 5-month-old baby with a life-threatening heart condition."

It is no wonder that David was nominated and chosen as KVH's Volunteer of the Quarter -- thanks for inspiring us all to volunteer, and congratulations!



Check out the bunny ears that David's pal at right is giving him -- he clearly took his great sense of humor with him to Honduras!



Like father, like son -- David's son volunteering with children in Honduras



Just two of the many children who benefit from Mission Honduras and generous volunteers like David Laird



David, his son, and fellow volunteers pose for a photo while volunteering in Honduras



Because of the funds David and his church raised, this baby will have access to lifesaving healthcare for her heart condition



Different setting, same smile -- David proudly accepts his Volunteer of the Quarter award at the employee luncheon