

Welcome to the Awards Luncheon!



IOWA
RECYCLING &
SOLID WASTE
Management Conference

CORALVILLE
SEPT. 29 - OCT. 1
iowaconference.org

Recently Retired

We thank our waste & recycling industry friends that have recently retired for their positive impact to this industry!

- Sue Johnson
- Lorrie Hanson
- Mick Leat
- Bruce Rehwaldt
- Hal Morton

In Remembrance

We thank our waste & recycling industry friends that have passed on for their positive impact to this industry & we remember them fondly.

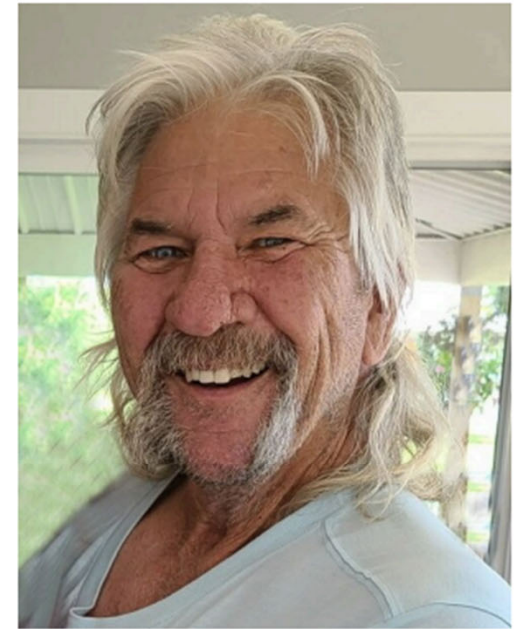
Photo Sources: <https://www.hskfhcares.com/obituaries/Don-Vogt?obid=35174817#/obituaryInfo>; <https://hendersonbarkerfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/1247/Darrel-Brothersen/obituary.html>; <https://www.caldwellparrish.com/obituaries/laura-rasmus>



Laurie Rasmus



Don Vogt



Darrel Brothersen



2025 Recycling Excellence Awards



2019
Recycler of the Year

Pam Blake



2019
Business Recycling
Program of the Year

Kum & Go



2019
Government Recycling
Program of the Year
City of Iowa City
Resource Management



2019
School Recycling
Program of the Year
Southeast Polk Community
School District

Business / Organization of the Year



- Principal Charity Classic – Des Moines
- Beyond its mission to tee up over \$60 million for Iowa youth charities, the tournament leads sustainability efforts through a finely tuned, seven-stream waste and materials recovery system. This system, developed in partnership with Blue Strike Environmental, an expert in sustainable event management, is an integrated strategy that encompasses recycling, composting, edible food recovery, reuse, and landfill minimization.



Business / Organization of the Year

In 2024, the Principal Charity Classic successfully diverted over 12,000 pounds of materials from the landfill, including:

- 3,500 pounds of plastic
- 4,200 pounds of aluminum cans
- 2,000 pounds of cardboard



Project of the Year



- “Little to Big” Campaign – Metro Waste Authority
- To generate excitement and educate the public, the agency launched "Little to Big" — a fun, engaging video series that showcased how compost can enhance projects of all sizes.



Project of the Year

Released in spring 2025, the campaign achieved

- Over 11,000 organic views
- Reached more than 7,000 individuals
- Generated more than 400 interactions

2024: 2,188 bags sold

Spring 2025: 7,354 bags sold

236% increase.



Nonprofit Leader of the Year

- Mary Palmberg – Iowa City

For over 30 years, Mary has dedicated herself to supporting many of our local Johnson County area non-profit organizations including

- Iowa City Free Lunch Program
- Table to Table
- Houses into Homes

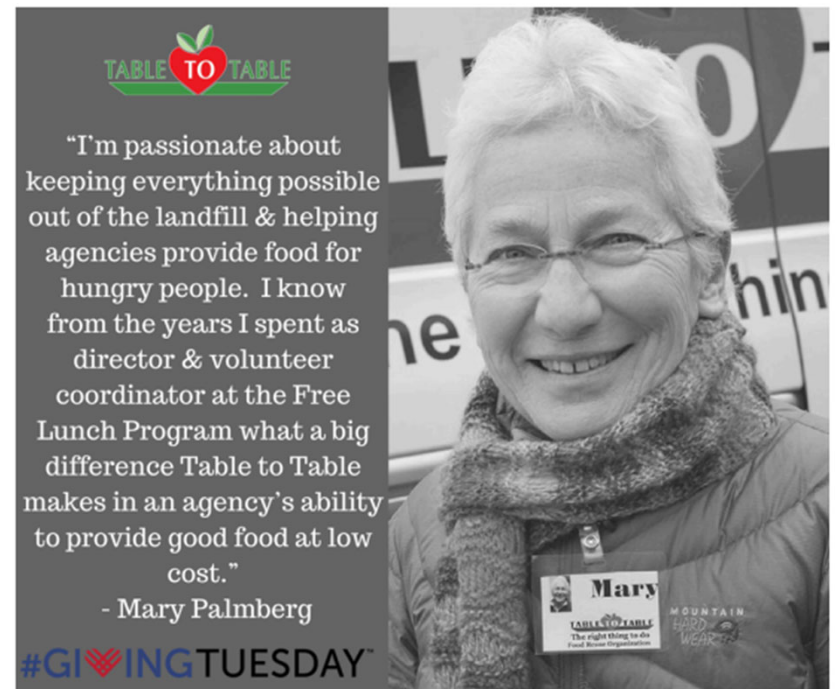


Nonprofit Leader of the Year

- Mary Palmberg – Iowa City

All of these programs offer essential services to the community while saving significant tonnage of materials from being landfilled including

- Food
- Household goods
- Furniture
- Mattresses



Laurie Rasmus Impact Award

The *Laurie Rasmus Impact Award* recognizes a dedicated person who has made a significant contribution to recycling and waste diversion in Iowa.

This award honors Laurie's legacy by celebrating an individual's passion, leadership, and unwavering commitment to environmental stewardship, just as she did her entire life.

It is given to those who have gone above and beyond to educate others, develop innovative solutions, or lead by example, inspiring positive change within their community or organization.



Laurie Rasmus Impact Award

Jane Wilch

Recycling Coordinator
City of Iowa City

