

## The MAVA Award for Excellence in Youth Volunteerism

### *Jennifer Honmyhr, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of MN*

This award recognizes two young Minnesota volunteers who have distinguished accomplishments and shown extraordinary interest in the area of volunteerism. These youth, through his or her personal examples, demonstrate the impact young people can have on the improvement of their community through an outstanding commitment to volunteerism.



Jennifer Honmyhr (center) with family and Children's Hospital staff

Jennifer has been a volunteer with Children's Hospital and Clinics of MN for the past two years and has given over 990 hours of service. Not only is she an asset to the volunteer department, Jennifer is an essential role model of what hospital volunteerism looks like. She partners with many different departments in activities that benefit patients and families, both in the hospital and in the greater community. Besides volunteering on the inpatient units, Jennifer has been designated as the primary trainer; when new volunteers come to Children's, it is Jennifer who teaches them the "ins and outs" of the volunteer office, gives them tours of the hospital and helps them feel comfortable in their new roles. Jennifer represents the qualities of an idea volunteer at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of MN. She demonstrates a gentle and caring approach when working with children and families. She also has a positive spirit and great energy that is appreciated by families in stressful situations. In everything she does, Jennifer exemplifies strong leadership qualities. Besides volunteering on averages fifteen hours per week at Children's, Jennifer is able to balance a full time work schedule and a full time class load at Concordia College where she has pursued a degree in kinesiology.

*Inspiring excellence in the leadership of volunteers to impact communities.*