



### **THANKS FOR CARING AWARD**

***honoring outstanding commitment to neighborhood, grassroots community philanthropy***

**Elmer Duckinfield**

Elmer Duckinfield first served his country in the Army and then the Navy. He has not stopped looking out for others since.

On any given day, Elmer can be found collecting bread and pastries for St. Agnes Parish, driving pregnant homeless women to emergency shelters, or serving lunch at Safe Harbor. Elmer is always willing to do what needs to be done.

Elmer is a founding volunteer and former Board Member of Safe Harbor, a nonprofit providing food, shelter, friendship, counseling and recovery opportunities to help homeless men and women. At Safe Harbor, Elmer helps rebuild lives and life skills, reestablish self-esteem, and helps people overcome the issues that prevent them from leading independent, productive lives.

He is also a founding volunteer of the Chester County Food Bank. Since 2008, via the Food Bank Elmer has helped over 85 food cupboards and agencies obtain the food they need to support the 70,000 people who go hungry every day in Chester County. Retired for 21 years, Elmer has not let his age slow him down. He continues to contribute countless hours and oversees the 330,000 pounds of fresh produce that the Food Bank now grows annually. Elmer's reason is simple: "No One Should Go Hungry."

Elmer has headed up the gleaning program in Chester County since 1996, as it grew from 100 volunteers to 2,200 volunteers in 2013. From homeschoolers to corporate volunteers, Elmer is the inspiration and the friendly face that welcomes them when they come to serve, and works alongside them as they help in the fields.

Elmer's tremendous volunteer spirit and constant compassion has left a lasting impression on friends, family, and those who need a helping hand.