

March 29, 2011

ABC 15

## Valley volunteer connects those in need with much-needed items

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by Rebecca Thomas

GLENDALE, AZ - These days, many people are down on their luck. The good news is there are community services and volunteers who are standing by, ready to lend a helping hand.

"When I go to bed at night, if I've helped others, I can sleep okay," said Lorraine McDaniel.

And, that brings a lot of joy to McDaniel, who has been volunteering her time to those in need for the past eight years.

"Lorraine is our angel," said Gaye Tolman with Magellan Health Services, Maricopa County's behavioral health provider.

Magellan's "Community Exchange" program is just one of the organizations McDaniel works with. It's a web-based program that matches people in need, with those who have items to donate.

"Many times, we have items that we just don't have the capability to pick up and get to where they need to be," Tolman said.

That's where volunteers, like McDaniel, step in.

Last week, she used her pickup truck to deliver a sofa bed and other household items to Maria Enriquez -- who just moved in to a new apartment after being down on her luck.

"I feel very, very good, because I know there are people that care," said Enriquez.

Enriquez says this act of kindness helps to restore her faith in humanity.

That is thanks enough for McDaniel, who encourages you to make a difference too.

"Do unto others, as you'd want them to do unto you, she said. If you've got a truck, you've got five minutes, a little bit of time -- hey, go out and help the community."

[http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region\\_west\\_valley/glendale/Valley-volunteer-connects-those-in-need-with-much-needed-items](http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_west_valley/glendale/Valley-volunteer-connects-those-in-need-with-much-needed-items)