

In your own words, why does your nominee deserve recognition as a CNN Hero ?

First of all, my nominee is Catherine Leguy. Her association has helped change numerous lives since 1972. The name of the association is 'La Maison des Familles' or 'The House for Families'. It was created with the help of Menton's mayor who decided that there should be an association that deals with this kind of charity work. (Menton is a city in the south of France). Basically, what the association does is to collect goods from diverse sources and to give them to people who are in need. They also collect money and give it to young mothers who cannot afford diapers or baby food, for example. Moreover, these ladies we met have been members of the association for many years. They really impressed us because they are very devoted to what they do and they are real humanitarians. One of the main activities that they have managed to keep going even after so many years is the charity exchange market that they organize every year between the 7th and the 10th of May. My nominee deserves recognition because she has given her time and patience to reunite families and to help others for more than 35 years.

Is there a specific incident or turning point that motivated your nominee to take action?

My nominee decided to take action because she thinks that everybody needs help. She is retired and she didn't want to stay at home doing nothing. So she decided to join the association because she thought it was a good thing. This way, she knew she would be useful to people who don't have the chance to have a decent life. She decided to take action because she wanted to keep contact with others and make them happy.

How have your nominee's efforts made a difference for the better?

My nominee's efforts have definitely made a difference for the better in the sense that she and the other members of the association have helped many people to get past diverse problems in their lives or even to get by. Her impact on other people's lives has been huge as this lady gives her time and patience to help and support people she doesn't know. In other words, she represents a good source of inspiration, mostly for teenagers who find her acts extremely motivating. By always being a little kinder than necessary, she makes people want to get involved.

Is there anything else that makes your nominee exceptional or unique?

There are many other qualities that my nominee possesses. For example, she offers to drive people where they need to go and she helps sick people. Another particularity of my nominee's association is the fact that she helps many pupils and students to pursue their dreams. Once, she helped a boy who really wished to go on a trip but couldn't afford it. She takes time to embellish people's lives and she manages to make hopeless people smile again. She said that even if her actions don't change the world, at least, they help to build a better one.

How will being recognized as a CNN Hero further your nominee's cause?

Being recognized as a CNN Hero would be a 'dream come true' for my nominee because she wants everyone to know how much of a difference an association like hers can make in the world. Also, the money and recognition at stake will substantially improve the association's conditions.