

## STATE &amp; LOCAL

## RMC recognizes volunteers

BY JAY JONES  
Staff Reporter

CONYERS — Volunteers with the Rockdale Medical Center Auxiliary often provide a friendly face and helping hands for patients, and this week the hospital honored their contributions with a luncheon and by naming the volunteer of the year.

Velda Jones, a 15-year RMC volunteer who helps out at the hospital's speech therapy department, was named as the first RMC Volunteer of the Year during Monday's luncheon.

Jones, 86, said she has always enjoyed her work at the hospital and was quite surprised when her name was called.

"It's therapy for me, because it's great to know I can help people," she said.

The luncheon and award were presented in conjunction with National Volunteer Week.

The event was an opportunity for the RMC Auxiliary to remind



Velda Jones, center, receives the first Volunteer of the Year award at Rockdale Medical Center during a luncheon Monday.

Special Photo

the community of the need for more volunteers. The Auxiliary is known in recent years for its fundraising efforts with its annual golf tournament and Love Light Christmas tree lighting.

Today, the RMC Auxiliary's membership is down to about 40 active volunteers. The group is looking for more volunteers to help with work at the information desks in the hospital's lobbies. Primary duties include greeting patients and visitors, answering the telephone, delivering flowers, assisting with mailings and other

clerical support.

RMC President and CEO Mike Potter said volunteers provide a significant service to the community through their work at the hospital.

"Ask a patient of what they remember about their experience of care at a hospital and almost always they will tell a story about a volunteer who greeted them or helped them in some way," Potter said.

For more information on RMC volunteering, call the RMC Auxiliary office at 770-918-3007.