



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Ken Johnson Named 2021 Community Impact Award Winner**

**MILBANK, SD, July 13, 2022** - Valley Queen is honored to recognize Ken Johnson as the 2021 Community Impact Award recipient.

Johnson has worked at Valley Queen for 29 years and has had a lasting impact on his co-workers and Milbank community members. He actively volunteers in six different organizations including the 4-H Shooting Sports, Milbank High School Trap Team, Grant County Soccer Association, American Lutheran Church, MALST, and Alban Cemetery upkeep.

"It was an honor to be nominated for the Impact Award. There are several individuals at Valley Queen that contribute significant amounts of time to worthy causes. I was very fortunate that the Impact Committee felt my contributions to organizations such as the Milbank Area Trap Shooting Team and the Grant County 4-H Shotgun Sports qualified me to win this award," said Johnson. "I am very happy that this award will help support two great organizations."

The Community Impact Award was established in 2019 to recognize outstanding Valley Queen employees who contribute countless hours to their community. As the award recipient, Johnson has the opportunity to make a \$2,500 donation from the Valley Queen Charitable Foundation. The donation will be split between the 4-H Shotgun Sports and the MHS Trapshooting Team. Johnson also has the choice to choose between 40 hours of PTO or a cash prize. A panel of seven judges reviews all nominations, and Johnson had the highest score.

"Ken actively volunteered with six different organizations and put in over 200 hours," said Karissa Karels, Valley Queen Impact team member. "He is a great role model. Ken is the type of guy that would happily and willingly give the shirt off his back to help anyone in need. We are fortunate to have Ken on our team at Valley Queen."

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Founded in Milbank, South Dakota in 1929, Valley Queen Cheese produces cheese and dairy ingredients for customers across the globe. To learn more about our commitment to the success of our customers, employees and dairy producers, visit [www.valleyqueen.com](http://www.valleyqueen.com).



CAPTION: Ken Johnson was selected as the 2021 Valley Queen Community Impact Award recipient for his commitment to six volunteer organizations. Johnson has put in over 200 unpaid, volunteer hours. L - R: Ken Johnson and Karissa Karels