

Mary Frances “Fran” Adams-Eades
Class of 1965
MCHS Hall of Fame Induction 2025

Mary Frances (Fran) Adams-Eades dedicated her life’s work to the most disadvantaged of Jefferson and Switzerland counties during her 38.5-year career with the State of Indiana.

Her career began in 1969 at the Switzerland County Welfare Department as a food stamp eligibility caseworker. Later that year, she moved with her active-duty military husband to Germany, where she worked at the base education center and encouraged soldiers to continue their education and attain their GED Certificate. In 1972, upon returning to the US, Fran began her work with the Jefferson County Welfare Department as a homemaker. As a homemaker, she visited the homes of clients to help them organize, safeguard, and create a nicer environment with little to no budget.



She was promoted to Case Worker and assigned to financially disadvantaged homes that needed help ranging from improvement of living conditions, special health assistance needs, and most importantly, strengthening of the family unit. From there, her career shifted to a Public Assistance Worker, where she helped families navigate public assistance programs, and eventually became a Child Protective Services caseworker.

As an advocate for neglected, innocent infants and toddlers whose families struggled to know how to care for them, she provided guidance and support while keeping a protective eye. With a highly sensitive caseload, her work was admittedly stressful and heartbreaking. Her work ranged from infants to young adults up to age 18, and the prospect of having to remove a child from a home was never easy. Throughout her career, Fran was able to connect with children and families to create lifelong relationships. Whether a foster child in the system who she remained in contact with or a young man who successfully turned his life around following a prison stay, she knew she was making a difference a few children at a time.

As a servant leader with an abundance of mutual respect, Fran gave hope, encouragement, support, and confidence to families for a better tomorrow in situations where it may have felt like they had no chance to succeed. Her life’s work as a role model in public service proves it is a rewarding yet challenging career. One vital to our community's survival. Helping the most vulnerable, disadvantaged, and innocent is a selfless commitment that makes us all better. Fran’s entire career was based on the idea of helping others succeed. From new mothers, to children, to GI’s overseas, and to her fellow mentees who she supervised daily until her retirement in 2010, she served the people of her community with love, honor, and grace.