

MTV AWARD WINNERS, 2016-2017

SAMUEL HUSTON, Neighborhood Family Practice



When Sam Huston closed a successful 44-year career in hospital administration, it didn't end his desire to help ensure that Clevelanders have access to high-quality, affordable health care. For the past five years, he has served on the board of directors of Neighborhood Family Practice, stepping in as chair when unexpectedly needed. He has used his knowledge and experience to guide the organization through a period of rapid growth and innovation, including the opening of two new health centers and integration of behavioral and oral health services with primary care. His colleagues admire his leadership style, integrity, humility, sincerity, and candor. They say that he looks at things with a fair eye, questions things in order to make everyone think, truly cares, and represents what a volunteer should be.

LINDA JENKINS, Cleveland Sight Center



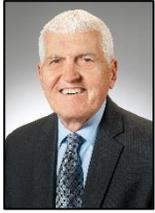
"Proactive, positive, kind, dedicated, warm, inspirational" ...all words used to describe Linda Jenkins in her work with the Cleveland Sight Center's Share the Vision program, helping others who experience vision loss by discussing anxieties and fears, providing information and motivation, and empowering them to adjust to day-to-day life with new circumstances. She perseveres in her volunteer work despite her own trials—including not only loss of vision but also a house fire and significant health issues that would have caused others to stop. In fact, she insisted on continuing her work with the conviction that it would inspire her to regain her own mobility. And she was successful. In the first half of 2017, Linda had already logged 233 volunteer hours. Linda's motto? "I have not lived if I haven't gotten up and done something for someone each day."

BRYAN JONES, Garden Valley Neighborhood House



Bryan Jones is affectionately known as "The Condom Man" in his community. He is dedicated to educating about HIV risk and prevention, and makes it his mission to provide condoms and bring experts to Garden Valley Neighborhood House to help educate, test, and connect people to helpful resources. On his own, he walks through the community and engages residents in "straight-up-no-chaser" conversations that they never used to be willing to have. He talks with everyone—where they are and in whatever circumstances they find themselves. Those who used to whisper about him now embrace him and his work thankfully. He also performs a one-man show to raise awareness: "AIDS...And I Die Slowly." Bryan says, "If one of us has it, we all have it. It's up to community to take care of community."

JAMES MASON, United Way of Greater Cleveland



Fifteen years—that’s a long time to be a cheerleader. That’s how long Jim Mason has led fundraising efforts; participated in meetings; promoted, supported, and attended events; and been an ambassador for United Way of Greater Cleveland. Jim managed his employer’s workplace campaign and, upon retirement, just kept working on campaigns. He is responsible for raising more than \$15 million—and he’s not done yet. Jim also travels to share United Way’s advocacy concerns at the state level. His passion for volunteering is not limited to one organization; he is active with several others as well.

Jim’s enthusiasm is incalculable and contagious. In sum, “Jim is a great guy—a dedicated, generous, responsive, and conscientious volunteer who is willing to go above and beyond to help out in any way he can.”

BETSY SAMPLINER, Cleveland School of the Arts



Math and hugs—not things that often go together. But Betsy Sampliner has combined tutoring math with giving personal attention, a listening ear, and, yes, hugs, to students at Cleveland School of the Arts for over 23 years. Her students know that she both knows her subject and cares about them as individuals. She believes that math is 99% about how you feel about yourself as a math student. She patiently, persistently, and generously helps students gain skills they will need to succeed and create the future of their dreams. One student said, “She helped me know myself better, face my fears, and change my thoughts!” Now he refers others to her for help, and she is working to formalize and institutionalize the school’s volunteer program. Betsy is trusted, respected, and uniquely revered by the school community.

The Center for Community Solutions
1501 Euclid Avenue, Suite 310, Cleveland, OH 44115
101 E. Town St., Ste. 520, Columbus, OH 43215
216-781-2944
www.CommunitySolutions.com