

Capital Area United Way

### 2015 Awards & Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Volunteering



is a work of heart

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

**Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center** 

# To all United Way volunteers, committee members and chairpersons...

## Thank You!

For your time, talents and treasures.
You make our community a
vibrant place for everyone.

Thank You for Living United.

#### **2014 Board of Directors**

Debra J. Bittner, Clerical Technical Union of MSU Mark L. Brett, Sparrow Health System Sam D. Clark, Clark Construction Claire Corr, Sparrow Health System Dr. MaryLee Davis, Michigan State University Price Dobernick, UA Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 333 Tiffany Dowling, M3 Group Mark Emmert, Dart Bank Melanie Foster, MSU Trustee Emeritus Myron S. Freeman, Midbrook Industrial Washers, Inc. Venceslaus G. Gore, Michigan State University David Houston, Dickinson Wright PLLC Joshua L. Hovey, Truscott Rossman Paula Kaiser VanDam, Michigan Department of Human Services Scott G. Keith, Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority Jerry L. King, Retired - UAW Local 652 Katherine Lipsky, Retired - City of Lansing Linda J. Lynch, KI Technology Group Dorothy E. Maxwell, Max Weingar Group Dr. L. Robert McConnell, Western Michigan University Ronda G. McCoy, MSU Federal Credit Union Janene McIntyre, City of Lansing John R. Miller, General Motors Patricia K. Munshaw, Community Volunteer David A. Pasant, Retired - Jackson National Life **Brian Priester**, Lansing State Journal Steven J. Quinlan, Neogen Corporation Jamie Rabe, Andrews Hooper Pavlik PLC Willard C. Reed, UAW Local 602 Andrea M. Rodriguez, Capital Area District Library James Schumacher, Auto-Owners Insurance Company Kenneth O. Slater, Retired - Community Mental Health Authority Tom Stewart, Quantum Medical Concepts and NEO Center Jerry K. Swartz, Lansing Schools Education Association Mike Trevorrow, General Motors Robert E. Warner, UAW Local 652 Keith A. Williams, Pondera Advisors, LLC Kristine Zayko, Michigan State University

Joel M. Zylstra, Granger III & Associates



#### **TONIGHT'S PROGRAM**

#### Welcome

#### **Annual Meeting**

- 2014 Achievements
- Retiring Board of Directors Members
- Nominees for the 2015/2018 United Way Board

#### **Volunteer Recognition**

- Volunteer of the Year/Youth & Adult
- Walter A. Campbell Award

#### **Closing**

PLEASE NOTE: A photographer will be on-site tonight to capture the event. Photos will be used in a variety of materials and venues for marketing, educational and promotional purposes. By participating in today's event, you are providing permission to Capital Area United Way, and their representatives, to photograph you for the purpose of promotion and/or education. If you have any concerns or questions, please email t.stevens@micauw.org. Thank you!



#### **United Way's Local Goals**

CAUW concentrates on making an impact in three areas of health and human services through our grant allocations and human capital.

#### 1. Basic Needs

Supporting programs that provide access to healthcare, basic needs and short-term emergency assistance.

#### 2. Student Achievement

Supporting programs that improve high school graduation rates through school readiness, student retention, early childhood education, tutoring, mentoring, after-school and out-of-school academic resources and parenting programs.

#### 3. Secure Families

Supporting programs that build family stability through financial literacy, education and money-management programs.



#### Adult Volunteer of the Year 2014 Nominees

#### **Rachel Bailey**

It takes a special volunteer to be willing to step into a splatter-paint cross-fire with a group of teenagers! But Rachel, a classroom assistant at REACH Studio Art Center, is always willing to sacrifice her clothing and her hair (which takes hours to comb out afterward) so teens can enjoy this freeing experience. Hundreds of students at REACH look up to Rachel as a mentor because she is very comfortable to talk with. Rachel has volunteered an average of seven hours a week for the past year helping students with art making, preparing artistic materials, cleaning and organizing. And she's not afraid to spearhead innovative projects – like the REACH splatter tent. REACH is asked to lead many art-making activities for community events each year and Rachel willingly volunteers when staff is unavailable. She is a true spirit of inspiration for the entire organization.

#### **Mary Bromley**

Marv is a retiree of the Michigan Attorney General's office and has been volunteering at Elder Law of Michigan (ELM) since 2009. For approximately 7 months out of the year Marv assists seniors with their legal problem for free on ELM's legal hotline and has volunteered over 100 hours of time in 2014. Without Marv's service these seniors may not have had access to services. Getting legal advice by experienced attorneys on legal issues ranging from handling creditors, to working out landlord/tenant issues empowers seniors, improves their economic security and provides seniors with peace of mind. Due to budget restrictions, the demand for free legal advice greatly outweighs the current ELM staff. Marv's dedication to ELM means they can assist many seniors with legal advice. Marv is kind, patient and always willing to go the extra mile for each client, selflessly sharing his time, knowledge and expertise with callers to the legal hotline.

#### Stefeni Collar

Stefeni's love for reading, along with her strong desire to share that love with at-risk youth at St. Vincent Catholic Charities Children's Home, resulted in the creation of a Book Club five years ago. Not only does Stefeni actively recruit volunteers for the Book Club, she was also instrumental in arranging discounted books from Schuler's and personally contributes to purchasing books. The Book Club meets twice per week for two hours and the kids have excelled educationally, moving from non-readers to becoming avid readers. The Book Club has also expanded from one unit of 10 to 20 children. Through her innovation, youth have been provided an opportunity to explore new worlds and use their imagination through reading. Stefeni illuminates how reading can touch human emotions and can be an uplifting experience for children.

#### **David Drayton**

For the past six years, David Drayton, or Deacon Dave as he's known at St. Vincent Catholic Charities (STVCC), has averaged one-to-two hours a week leading spirituality groups. He is also a newly-appointed board member at

STVCC. Deacon Dave goes above and beyond to support the children at St. Vincent Catholic Charities. While not every child is spiritual, David makes all feel welcome, providing a caring, listening ear to all in need. He has been a crucial support for youth at the Children's Home, building meaningful relationships with many. David is extremely supportive and adjusts to the needs of the child, not his own agenda or personal motives. He truly volunteers from his heart and not for personal gain or recognition.

#### **Dwayne Freeman**

Dwayne has been a dedicated volunteer with the Ingham County Department of Human Services (DHS) and works with the most vulnerable children and families in Ingham County. For more than two years he has averaged 5 to 10 hours a week supervising parenting times for children in foster care and transporting individuals and families to and from doctor appointments located outside the county. Dwayne also recently began working in the DHS lobby as a navigator, assisting individuals in applying for DHS programs online. Because of Dwayne's volunteer service, DHS staff can focus on case management and other urgent services. Dwayne excels at making everyone he encounters feel important and valued and always exceeds expectations with his flexibility of time. With Dwayne's unwavering dedication, DHS is able to lessen the hardship on vulnerable families.

#### **Ronald George**

Ron is an exceptional volunteer who has gone above and beyond for clients of St. Vincent Catholic Charities Refugee Services. In 2014, Ron spent 162 hours volunteering multiple times a week performing tasks such as leading a weekly men's group, teaching general life skills and other topics such as taxes, banking, entrepreneurship, and much more. Without this group, many of these men would have had a very difficult time adjusting to life in the United States. Ron also assisted in employment trainings multiple times a week and even took over teaching the class when the instructor took an unexpected leave. He taught clients resumè building and interview skills. Ron exceeds the agency's expectation of a volunteer and makes every effort to ensure his time impacts clients as positively as possible. He is kind, personable, outgoing and makes everyone feel at ease. Ron's service is critical to the community because it helps ease refugees' adjustment and provides education and encouragement that help them become self-sufficient and successful.

#### Melissa Gibson

Since the inception of CASA – The Voice for Clinton County's Children in 2013, Melissa has provided exceptional leadership as president of the organization's board of directors. She has volunteered approximately 50 hours of time attending and facilitating board and committee meetings plus additional time in meetings and communicating with the executive director and other board members,



#### 2014 Adult Volunteer of the Year Nominees (Cont.)

reviewing and preparing for meetings and presenting CASA at community events. Melissa's service is essential to CASA's advocacy in the community. She is a valuable leader and through her service, CASA advocates can provide a voice to children in the foster care system, many who are involved in court proceedings due to abuse and neglect. Because of Melissa's board leadership, CASA has achieved desired service and advocacy results in Clinton County since it was founded.

#### Josh Gillespie

Josh offers much time to several charitable organizations on a regular basis; however, his philanthropic efforts are best exemplified by "Taking it to the Street," a biannual day of service he founded. Taking it to the Streets enables Michigan State University residence education students and professional team members to give back to the greater Lansing community. It gathers hundreds of people from across the MSU campus each year who collectively donate time to several local charities and organizations. Under Josh's leadership, the event is coordinated through MSU's division of Residential and Hospitality Services with the support of several campus and community partners. Taking it to the Streets generates about 5,000 hours of service for the community annually, empowering many charitable agencies to achieve goals that might be restricted by their budget and staffing. The fruits of his labor can be seen in the beautification of the community and the progression of the missions of local nonprofits.

#### **Harold Hough**

As pastor of Community of Christ Church, a position he has held for more than five years, Harold spends a minimum of 14 hours a week serving his community in many capacities. Harold serves primarily low-income residents, many in need of food and other public assistance, by helping them apply for the food assistance program to help get food on their tables, by overseeing the weekly hot dog dinner night – which serves 200 people each week – and by being involved in a free, weekly computer class. He is also working with the Department of Human Services to launch a new program, Faith Community Coalition of Foster Care, to encourage those in the faith community to become parents. Harold's involvement and dedication has helped build trust between the community and his church.

#### **Margaret Keeler**

As a longtime member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Lansing Board of Directors and its longest serving president, Margaret helped expand programs for family education and mental illness awareness, including NAMI Connection, a support group for persons living with mental illness that focuses on solving problems. Margaret served four terms as president of NAMI Lansing and teaches the homegrown Families Helping Families classes. She also teaches new leaders for the class and increased the frequency of the class to three times per year. She also brought Peer to Peer, a new signature program for persons with mental illness, to the Lansing area and coordinated two major

mental illness awareness events in Lansing that created cutting-edge research on early intervention in mental illness in the criminal justice system. Under her leadership, she has helped increase memberships, donations and grants and also increased the visibility of the organization through articles in the Lansing State Journal, interviews on Current State and LCC radio, and other news media. Due to Margaret's leadership, NAMI Lansing is positioned to continue to grow and expand its service in Michigan.

#### Lori Keilen

Since 2012, Lori has provided Hospice of Lansing and their patients with more than 525 hours of dedicated volunteer service. Lori is a professional hair stylist and provides services at no cost to patients. By providing hair styling services to patients when they are not able to get to a hair salon, Lori brings the aesthetic benefits to patients wherever they are. She gives them the gift of feeling refreshed and beautiful during very hard life situations. Her time spent as a companion to patients leaves everyone feeling as though they have been visited by an angel. Comfort, peace and understanding are often the qualities described by those in need. Lori gives with a selfless heart. After the loss of her own mother, she honors her mother's memory by giving faithfully to the patients of Stoneleigh Residence. Every week she drives from Pewamo to provide this care to patients and their families.

#### **Adam Kogelschatz**

Adam presides over the MSU Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which includes an executive board of seven students and 100 active student volunteers. He also volunteers his time as a VITA site coordinator to manage operations and quality review of hundreds of tax returns. Adam has contributed approximately 117 hours of service to MSU (VITA) in 2014 and his commitment to grow VITA has led him to meetings with faculty, staff, community partners and elected officials. Because of the direct service component, he is relentless in his pursuit to make VITA the premiere pre-professional experience for accounting students at MSU. His efforts have led to the recruitment and training of approximately 125 student volunteer tax preparers who have assisted low-income residents in gaining \$270,076 in tax refunds from this site alone. Thanks to Adam's service, MSU VITA has expanded the number of its volunteers and enhanced pre-service volunteer training. Adam also played a critical role in sustaining MSU's partnership with the Asset Independence Coalition, ultimately better equipping the volunteers to prepare taxes which translates to improved services to greater Lansing residents.

#### Marilyn "Joey" Latterman

Since 2009, Joey has provided Hospice of Lansing clients more than 485 hours of volunteer service as a bereavement counselor. With a background as a teacher and social worker, Joey brought her expertise to Hospice's bereavement program. She also brings her gifts of compassion and



#### 2014 Adult Volunteer of the Year Nominees (Cont.)

understanding to those who are grieving and need someone to listen. Joey's patience, honesty and wisdom bring great comfort to family members after the death of a loved one as she calls family members on a regular basis to assess how the family is adjusting. She is able to listen to client needs and direct them to available resources. As a bereavement counselor, she also provides a shoulder to those who simply need someone to talk to. In our fast paced world, Joey is able to stop and assist those in need.

#### Kate Lein, MS, FNP - BC

For the past 7 years, Kate has provided more than 4,000 hours of competent and compassionate volunteer services for the patients of Care Free Medical. In addition to her daily primary-care services, Kate created and leads an after-hours diabetic counseling program that enhanced Care Free's success in treating hundreds of patients with complicated conditions who often have a limited understanding of their medical needs. As a nurse practitioner herself, Kate also serves as a mentor to nurses in the MSU Nurse Practitioner program which further adds to the number of patients able to be served. Kate has been a valuable, compassionate and skillful provider, providing quality medical care to thousands of low-income, uninsured patients. Kate recruited several of her nurse practitioner colleagues from the MSU Nursing faculty to volunteer at Care Free, further enabling them to serve an otherwise-underserved population. Her constant attention to the medial and psycho-social needs of patients has made her respected and beloved by the patients and staff at Care Free.

#### Dr. Pam Miklavcic

Pam has tirelessly dedicated the past several years to starting a charitable organization that assists seriously ill children and their families in the Lansing area. The Davies Project provides a transportation program to ensure children could get to sub-specialty appointments that were otherwise missed. Founding the organization, Pam developed a board of directors and a network of supporters. She began working with local clinics to locate families in need and developed a process of referral. The Davis Project began transporting its first families this year. The commitment from clinics and their staff along with word-of-mouth has enabled the organization to reach its first quarter goals with volunteers and families served. Pam's efforts in developing a relationship between the clinic, patients and community volunteers has been highly successful. In addition, Pam continues to successfully bring in funding and increasing the recognition of the project and its goals. Without Pam's drive and determination, the Davis Project would not exist. The families served are extremely grateful not to worry about how to transport their child to critical medical appointments.

#### **Alfonso Salas**

Alfonso has been a valuable volunteer for Cristo Rey Community Center, hosting fundraising events and advocating tirelessly without thought of recognition. Providing more than 100 hours of volunteerism, his efforts have had a significant impact on Cristo Rey's ability to continue providing essential

basic-need services by raising funds and community awareness. Alfonso has consistently demonstrated through both his words and actions that he is a strong advocate for strengthening Cristo Rey and for reinforcing the entire community through neighborly care for the vulnerable populations. Alfonso has coordinated, sponsored and hosted several fundraisers on behalf of Cristo Rey Community Center such as dances, dinners and coat drives.

#### **Pat Tabbert**

Since 2008, Pat has dedicated more than 580 hours of service to Hospice of Lansing. Pat faithfully gives to Hospice patients with determination and a strong spirit of dedication. In spite of her own personal losses, Pat remains dedicated to the hospice philosophy by providing excellent patient care. She also exhibits her dedication to our community by managing the recycling program for Hospice, routinely traveling to all locations to pick up recyclable materials and deliver them to a local recycling station. She organized the recycle stations at each location and educated staff on the importance of and guidelines for recycling. Pat provides extended patient care and vigil services to patients and families at the end of life, creating a calming and loving atmosphere during a difficult life stage.

#### **Jenny Thurber**

Giving back, volunteering, community engagement and involvement, being a positive role model, encouraging and inspiring others to give to others whether it be time, funding, and acts of kindness are all a part of Jenny's everyday personal and professional life. She devotes an estimated 8 to 10 hours a week volunteering both internally at Davenport University and externally in the community. Jenny has a positive influence on community engagement through Davenport's advising team at the Lansing campus. With each student she encounters she is highly professional, passionate, empathetic, kind, persistent and committed to Davenport's vision, mission and core values. Whether she is advising the student government club, mentoring or attending various student club meetings or serving as ambassador to the Alumni Club, Jenny makes a positive difference with her optimistic attitude. She also participates in many other activities, such as food drives, managing the soup kitchen at a local church and participates in several walks supporting diverse causes. Jenny is that one person everyone knows who consistently assists individuals, groups, organizations and animals in need.

#### Kylie VanderMeulen

Kylie is an exemplary young adult who, at an early age, is already pursuing a career path that will enable her to serve some of our community's most deserving individuals. In 2014, Kylie volunteered more than 117 hours of service at the Refugee Development Center while juggling two semesters as a full-time college student. She spent the majority of her college career not simply involved in programs for the area's refugee population, but demonstrated maturity beyond her years by gravitating toward newer families



#### 2014 Adult Volunteer of the Year Nominees (Cont.)

that required the most intensive support. Kylie volunteered weekly in three programs in 2014. At Gardner Middle School, she led a tutoring program for 40 refugee students, helping them complete their homework and organized activities to help them adjust successfully to their new community. Kylie was also involved with two evening classes for refugee adults where she tutored individuals and led group activities to help adults build their English skills and learn about community services. Kylie's service is invaluable to the Refugee Development Center and her particular commitment and passion to service has made her unique among the 200+ dedicated volunteers engaged with the agency.

#### **Kathleen Veith**

Since 2012, Kathleen as faithfully provided 461 hours of dedicated service to Hospice of Lansing. She is the person everyone wants on their team, tirelessly giving her time and defining a reliable, dedicated hard worker. Kathleen is the go-to office volunteer, consistently providing patients and their families with companionship and caregiver respite support. She cooks, cleans, reads and provides comfort care to patients. Kathleen is always the first to volunteer for outreach events and fundraisers and her service has a profound impact on the families she serves, giving Hospice great assurance in knowing her capable hands are on the job. Caregivers trust they can leave their loved one in Kathleen's compassionate hands. Kathleen is an integral part of the Hospice team and helps us reach the goal of compassionate care at the end of life.

#### **Robin Weaver**

Robin has volunteered hundreds of hours helping nurture, raise and train numerous foster puppies in the "For Better Independence Assistance Dogs" program. She has tirelessly helped organize fundraisers and demonstrates both responsibility and generosity in her services to help the program succeed. It is very important that the For Better Independence Assistance Dogs program has the necessary number of trained dogs available and ready for disabled community members and for centers that request a therapy dog. Robin helps provide valuable first steps for socialization and training of dogs that will eventually be placed as either a service or therapy dogs. The dogs that Robin raises have incredibly-desired skills, demonstrating the talents of this wonderful woman.

#### **Cynthia Wright-Pratt**

Cynthia is an exemplary volunteer, coach, teacher, designer and dedicated board member at All-of-Us Express Children's Theatre (AECT). As the champions of the costuming crew, she teaches youth the skills of the costuming profession, including sewing, pulling, altering, designing, organizing the collection. She also inspires new designs and designers and teaches valuable life skills such as team work, critical thinking, time management and leadership. Cynthia has accumulated 600 hours of direct contact hours at rehearsals and productions and easily provided 180-200

hours keeping the costume shop organized, attending board meetings and serving in various capacities. She also designs and sews stuffed characters as a fundraiser for the children's theater, modeled after the animals and characters of the current play. Because of Cynthia's leadership and Mentorship, numerous students have included their new skills into a career such as fashion design.

#### Dr. Tim Zielinski, DDS

Dr. Zielinski has been involved with Care Free Medical & Dental for more than seven years, serving 602 underinsured and under-served patients in 2014 alone! That equates to 250 hours of dental care in the clinic, plus he treated an additional five patients through the "Pay-it-Forward" dental program; a program that provides free dental care in exchange for an individual's volunteerism in the community. He has provided \$10,000 in free treatment to patients. He is committed to providing necessary oral health care and a dental home for patients who cannot receive care elsewhere, primarily due to a lack of insurance, all while maintaining his own full-time dental practice in Mason. Dr. Zielinski runs the extraction clinic for Ingham County residents as part of the Care Free's Dental Clinic. He frequently donates large-scale dental equipment in an effort to keep the clinic expenses low. Without Dr. Zielinski's generous time and support, the Care Free Dental Clinic would not be able to survive and patients would not receive often life-saving treatments. Dr. Zielinski has accomplished results in a population without other dental health options, frequently alleviating chronic pain and severe health problems. For many, a new healthy smile changes their life and ability to find or keep employment.





#### Youth Volunteer of the Year 2014 Nominees

#### **Brandon Beckum**

Brandon has volunteered for various organizations since he was 10 years old, most recently at the Turning Point of Lansing (TPOL). Since 2011, he volunteered in numerous capacities including musical performances, run/walks, serving meals and usher/host duties for various events...logging approximately 75 hours of service! As a National Honor Society member, he fulfilled 60 required hours but continued to volunteer beyond the requirement. Brandon is a positive role model for the younger generation and is a champion of change whether at TPOL, at his high school, on the baseball team or at church. He embodies service to others to ensure the greater good is fulfilled and teachers others to aim for the best and give your all to every activity. Brandon's consistency, reliability and "can-do" attitude makes him uniquely stellar...all traits that will take him very far in life.

#### Zuleiha Rachid

Zuleiha is a volunteer at Sparrow Hospital working with patients and assisting staff in a variety of departments. Zuleiha balanced an extremely difficult class schedule while volunteering three hours every Saturday for the past two years. As part of the National Honor Society, she fulfilled the required 20 hours of community service but didn't stop there! She continued to volunteer above and beyond that requirement, demonstrating her commitment to serve others. Zuleiha exhibits a core value of every person's heart ... that volunteerism is an important component of a life well lived.



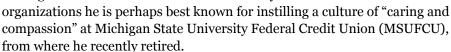
#### Walter A. Campbell Award

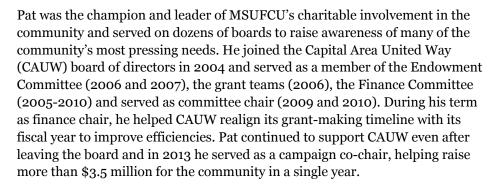
For Outstanding Volunteerism

Capital Area United Way is pleased to announce this year's recipient:

#### **Patrick McPharlin**

This year's Walter A. Campbell recipient, *Patrick McPharlin*, is known to many as a champion for the greater Lansing region. Having volunteered with dozens of community





Pat infused the element of "fun" into MSUFCU's United Way fundraising campaign. Once spearheading a pie-in-the-face contest against his vice president for the most vote-getters, he graciously took the pie in his face at an all-employee meeting. He was a role model to each credit union employee by leaving a legacy of "giving back." As he states about community involvement, "It is just the right thing to do."

**ABOUT the AWARD:** Capital Area United Way's highest and most prestigious service award was established in 1981 after its namesake, Walter A. Campbell. It has been stated that Mr. Campbell did more for the community during his retirement than many individuals do in a lifetime. He was a labor pioneer and

community activist, serving CAUW more than 40 years. The award celebrates his spirit and legacy of volunteerism still alive in mid-Michigan today.







330 Marshall Street, Suite 203 Lansing, MI 48912

Lansing, MI 48912 ph: 517.203.5000 www.micauw.org

FB: micauw

Twitter: @micauw