



2022

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

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JOBS FOR OHIO'S GRADUATES

Who We Are

We are an award-winning non-profit serving people ages 16 - 24 in Medina, Summit, Stark, and Trumbull Counties. Since 1987, Jobs for Ohio's Graduates (JOG), an affiliate of the nationwide Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) organization, has helped over 30,000 people with multiple barriers, to successfully complete their education and successfully transition to employment at a livable wage or post-secondary job training.

Are you hiring? We can help you find the right candidates for your open positions by contacting employment@jogworks.org



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Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Thank you for participating in the 21st Annual Employee of Distinction Awards program.

We are pleased to honor the shining stars nominated by local employers.

As a workforce leader, Goodwill recognizes all the honorees as outstanding role models for area employees, including the people we serve.

Goodwill's mission is straightforward – to help individuals prepare for, find and retain employment. Our mission not only helps people, but it improves and strengthens the region's overall workforce and economy.

Our ability to continue Goodwill's mission is made possible by the support of the community, sponsors and individuals. We are pleased you could join us today and thank you for the generous support!

Agenda

2022 Employee of Distinction Awards

Welcome – Ray Horner, Radio Personality, WAKR

Introduction – Marc Servodio CFP®, AIF®, Chair, Board of Directors, Goodwill Industries

Introduction of Speaker – Pamela Crombie, Program Manager, Jobs for Ohio's Graduates

Keynote Speaker – Christine Fowler Mack, Superintendent, Akron Public Schools

Introduction of Honoree Portion of Program – Chrissy Myers, CEO, AUI

Introduction of Honorees & Winners – Ray Horner

Special thanks to the event chairs:

- Pamela Crombie, Jobs for Ohio's Graduates
- Chrissy Myers, AUI

Closing Remarks – Nan McClenaghan, President & CEO, Goodwill Industries

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**Today is the
reward for what
you do every day.**



Congratulations to all of the 2022 Employee of Distinction Award Winners and Nominees. We couldn't be happier to see you recognized for the commitment and dedication that you bring to your organization.

Contact Brighid Hillmuth, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking
brighid.hillmuth@pnc.com • 330-375-8376 • pnc.com

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Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Hattie Larlham

Summit County Executive
Ilene Shapiro's Department
of Job and Family Services

SILVER PROGRAM PARTNER

The Blick Center
Child Guidance & Family Solutions
Community Support Services
IBH Addiction Recovery
Summit County Children Services

IN-KIND

Akron Civic Theatre
Akron Zoo AUI
Jobs for Ohio's Graduates
The Peanut Shoppe

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**Community
is the
commitment
we make to
each other**

When a community is strong, it's more than a collection of streets and buildings. It's a place that nurtures and helps its residents thrive. That's what happens when people share the commitment to make things better together. That's why we're proud to support The Goodwill Industries of Akron, Ohio.



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Congratulations



Christine Justiss
NIHF-STEM middle school science teacher
*APS 2022 Teacher of the Year and
Goodwill Employee of Distinction nominee*



Akron Public Schools.

 Akron Public Schools  @akronschools  @akronschoolsoh

10 N. Main St., Akron, OH 44308 | 330.761.1661 | akronschools.com



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& family solutions**

CELEBRATES OUR
2022 EMPLOYEES OF DISTINCTION
for their hard work and dedication to providing
hope and health for families:

**Rainy Boucher | Amanda Rearick
Cheryl Richards**

We extend our congratulations to all
2022 Goodwill Employee of Distinction Honorees.

cgfs.org



Christine Fowler Mack

Superintendent, Akron Public Schools

Born and raised in Akron and educated in Akron Public Schools (APS), Superintendent Christine Fowler Mack is an experienced school district leader whose first classroom experience was in the APS system as a teacher at Robinson Elementary School from 1989 – 1995. Following that, Fowler Mack was a student dean and teacher leader for two years in APS.

Named superintendent of Akron Public Schools in 2021, Christine Fowler Mack began her leadership of the 21,000 student system July 1. With more than 4,100 teachers and staff, APS budget stands at more than \$565 million.

Between her first teaching position 32 years ago and her appointment as superintendent, Christine Fowler Mack's experiences in the field of education led her to raise student achievement and graduation rates dramatically, and to increase community and parent engagement. Immediately before joining APS, Fowler Mack was responsible for overseeing school accountability, portfolio management, and community engagement functions as chief portfolio officer at Cleveland Metropolitan School District (40,000 students).

Before joining the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, Christine Fowler Mack served the Cleveland Heights-University Heights School District as interim superintendent and assistant superintendent. She earned her Bachelor of Science and her Master of Arts degrees from the University of Akron and her superintendent's license from Ashland University.

She is a Martha Holden Jennings Scholar and recipient of Summit County Leadership Academy's Emerging Leader Award. Fowler Mack was also named Akron Public Schools Coach of the Year, recipient of the Heights Association of Black School Educators Award, and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Schools Educational Leadership Award.

Additionally, Christine Fowler Mack is listed in *Who's Who Among Educators & Women in Leadership* and is a 2019 Northeast Ohio Women Leading and Learning in STEM honoree. She is a graduate of the first cohort of the American Association of School Administrators and Howard University's Urban Superintendent Program and participates in the National Coalition of State and District Chiefs for Change.

Learn more at: www.akronschools.com





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Congratulations to

Adam Sharpless

for being an Employee of Distinction for 13 years!

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Congratulations to all the Employees of Distinction

Most of all, our honorees:

Stacie Lockett

LoriLee Stein

&

HOMELESS OUTREACH TEAM:

Michael Harhager

Stephanie Hylton

Annaliese Russell

Kay Wirth

Zach Brown

Tina Clark

Jennifer Canfield

Carl Slaton



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2022 Employee of Distinction Honorees

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority Diversity Committee

Jason Colon

Committee Team Member

Clyde Elkins

Committee Team Member

Mike Gerzeny

Committee Team Member

Trent Gil

Committee Team Member

Melissa Haskins

Committee Team Member

Yvette Mahone

Committee Team Member

Amy Marsteller

Committee Team Member

Jenny Mehen

Committee Team Member

Crystal Neloms

Committee Team Member

Matt Odeh

Committee Team Member

Shary Page

Committee Team Member

Kathy Patton

Committee Team Member

Kevin Stone

Committee Team Member

Darrin Toney

Committee Team Member

Tammy Zents

Committee Team Member

Nominated by:

*Christina Hodgkinson,
Director of Resident Services;
& Debbie Barry,
Deputy Director*

“A diverse team comprised of committed and passionate people at all levels of the organization striving to make a significant impact in our organization that celebrates and fosters growth.”

Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank Major Gifts Team

Jo Dangel

Major Gifts Officer

Debbie Hagarty

Estate & Planned Giving Officer

Nominated by: *Gina Campbell,
Director of Development
& Stewardship*

“During COVID relief efforts, that continue today, Jo and Debbie’s expertise has been pivotal in securing and stewarding major gifts that assisted the Foodbank in distributing more than 80 million pounds of food.”

Rainy Boucher

Sr. Human Resources Generalist

Child Guidance & Family Solutions

Nominated by: *Patricia Roy,
Director, Human Resources
& Development*

“Rainy distinguishes herself with her friendly interactions with staff, attention to detail, willingness to take on challenges, and ability to represent human resources professionally.”

Elaine Bowen, RD

Nutrition Services Manager

Hattie Larlham

Nominated by: *Sandy Cinch,
Vice President, ICF Services,
Quality Improvement,
and Compliance*

“Elaine has a superb work ethic. This has resulted in high quality care and commitment for persons served and those that she supervises.”



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We recognize Goodwill Industries' efforts to provide workforce development services to individuals throughout the Greater Akron Area. By providing career, employment, and individualized support, we applaud and remember that
Goodwill is more than a thrift store.

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2022 Employee of Distinction Honorees



Community Support Services Homeless Outreach Team

Zach Brown
Team Member

Jennifer Canfield
Team Member

Tina Clark
Team Member

Michael Harhager
Team Member

Stephanie Hylton
Team Member

Annaliese Russell
Team Member

Carl Slaton
Team Member

Kay Wirth
Team Member

Nominated by: *Tim Edgar,*
Housing Manager

“The Homeless Outreach Team conducted in-person, face-to-face contact with our homeless clients and kept the dayroom open every single day of the pandemic.”

Jada Garrison

UX – Front End Developer,
Accessibility Specialist

Innovative Global Solutions

Nominated by: *Elizabeth Orley,*
Digital Marketing Director

“Jada works with our clients on user experience in web design. Her focus on details and designing with end-user experience in mind is priceless to our team.”

Jon Hall

School Van Driver

Hudson Montessori School

Nominated by: *Jackie Burdett,*
Director of Operations

“Jon embodies the spirit of Hudson Montessori School in all of his actions – he is kind, generous, and supremely dedicated to his young riders.”

Jaclyn Harvey

Habilitation Manager

Hattie Larlham Center for Children with Disabilities

Nominated by: *Dianna Bluso-Miller,*
Program Director

“Jackie is a natural leader. She jumps in to handle issues as they come from scheduling concerns to facility processes. She is professional and capable.”

Hattie Larlham Adventures Day Program Team

William “Brooks” Schuman
Manager

Brenda Gardner
Activity Leader

Laura Gregory
Quality Manager

Kimberly Haywood
Activity Leader

Nominated by: *Frank Cowans,*
Transportation Manager

“Consistency, consistency, consistency! Day in and day out this team arrives at work to provide meaningful opportunities to the participants of the Day Program.”

Christine Justiss

Division Teacher of the Year
Akron Public Schools

Nominated by: *National Inventors*
Hall of Fame STEM Staff

“She is a dedicated educator who develops exceptional student-teacher relationships, works to identify real-world problem-solving experiences for students then provides the students an opportunity to showcase their work within the community.”

Congratulations
to all
Employee of
Distinction
Honorees!



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**GOODWILL
DESERVES A ROUND OF
A-PAWS!**

The Akron Zoo is a proud
supporter of Goodwill.



akronzoo.org





2022 Employee of Distinction Honorees



Christine Kovacich
Bookstore Supervisor
**Northeast Ohio Medical
University**

Nominated by: *Michelle Mulhern,
Chief of Staff and Secretary,
Board of Trustees*

“On a daily basis, Ms. Kovacich demonstrates an exemplary work ethic, dedication, initiative where and when necessary and maintains a strong service-oriented attitude.”



Stacie Lockett
Forensic Assertive Community
Rehabilitation Specialist
Community Support Services

Nominated by: *Sean Lynch,
Forensic Manager*

“Stacie goes above and beyond her regular job duties to meet clients where they are, to engage them in services, and build a rapport.”



Sarah Lupsor
Assistant Vice President,
Financial Center Manager
Fifth Third Bank

Nominated by: *Dan Romano,
VP Regional Manager
Akron/Canton*

“Sarah is a selfless leader who cares deeply about her immediate team and the Region. Her positive influence goes far beyond her individual branch.”



Robin McNichol
Executive Assistant
**Akron Metropolitan Housing
Authority**

Nominated by: *Debbie Barry,
Deputy Director*

“Robin goes above and beyond when it comes to serving our residents, the community, and her colleagues. Her contributions improve the quality of life for our residents and staff.”

Tiffany Mealy
Career Specialist
Jobs for Ohio's Graduates

Nominated by: *Pamela Crombie,
Program Manager*

“Tiffany has a huge heart working with every client. She magically is able to build a strong rapport with her clients and keep them engaged in JOG services.”



Tracy Pittinger
Respiratory Therapist
Hattie Larlham



Nominated by: *Hannah Bratcher,
Director of Respiratory Therapy*

“Tracy has shown up to work every day for the last five years, worked – 12-hour shifts most of the time, to take care of our children and adults here.”

Amanda Rearick
Manager, School-Based Services
**Child Guidance & Family
Solutions**

Nominated by: *Cassi Galloway,
Chief Clinical Officer*

“Because of Amanda’s extra efforts, the agency’s School-Based therapy programs and community outreach efforts are a great success!”



Cheryl Richards
Office Coordinator,
Barberton Office
**Child Guidance & Family
Solutions**

Nominated by: *Cassi Galloway,
Chief Clinical Officer*

“Cheryl is always willing to step up to help anywhere she is needed, especially with training new staff and being a part of process improvements.”





**AMHA builds stronger neighborhoods.
The award-winning Edgewood Village is only one example.**

**Congratulations to all
2022 Employee of
Distinction Honorees**



AMHA Board of Directors
Herman L. Hill, Exec Dir
Marco S. Sommerville, Chair

Roberta E. Aber, Vice Chair
John C. Fickes

Thomas L. Harnden
Stephanie N. Norris



2022 Employee of Distinction Honorees



Adam Sharpless

Maintenance Worker

The Blick Center

Nominated by: *Karin Lopper-Orr, Executive Director*

“Adam lives our mission, enhancing lives. He uses his talents creatively to make fun items for our clients as well as to complete repairs.”



Richie Stefan

Store Crew Member

Speedway

Nominated by: *Matt Kelly, Goodyear Environmental, Health and Safety Manager, Goodwill Akron Board of Directors*

“Richie is always in a great mood and says hello to everyone that comes in his Speedway station. If he has met you, even if only once, he will remember you.”



LoriLee Stein

Chief Financial Officer

Community Support Services

Nominated by: *Stephanie Sanders, Assertive Community Treatment Manager*

“She works diligently to explore and obtain financial opportunities for the agency and for our clients.”



Alissa Strickland

Career Specialist

Jobs for Ohio's Graduates

Nominated by: *Pamela Crombie, Program Manager*

“She is warm and outgoing, yet holds her students accountable. Her students love her – because she sees them for much more than where they are – she sees who they can be.”

Summit County Children Services Independent Living Unit Team

Sara Woolridge

Supervisor

Cheyenne Boyd

Caseworker

Jeannie Cargill

Caseworker

Jennifer Cranston

Caseworker

Patrice Henderson

Caseworker

Nominated by: *Traci Foley, Department Director Placement Services*

“They strive to ensure that all teenagers and young adults involved with SCCS have access to resources so they can succeed and be productive citizens.”



Maria Urick

Insurance Specialist

AUI

Nominated by: *Chrissy Myers, CEO*

“She is constantly looking for ways to help her clients and continue to grow the business. She also takes the time to take care of every client as if they are a member of her own family.”

Michael Wiandt

Admissions Specialist

IBH Addiction Recovery

Nominated by: *Jess Rist, Chief Development and Communications Officer*

“Michael is an ally, friend, and a true professional. We are grateful that Michael continues to fight the good fight every day to serve our community.”

Danny Wyszynski

Manager IT

Brennan, Manna & Diamond

Nominated by: *Jeana Singleton, Member, General Counsel*

“Danny exemplifies BMD's core values of Clients First, Business Family, and Entrepreneurship.”





Empowering All Abilities

CONGRATULATIONS!

Many thanks to our outstanding Hattie Larlham employees who go above and beyond in service of the children and adults with disabilities they serve.

LAURA GREGORY

Manager, Adult Day Services

BRENDA GARDNER

Activities Assistant

TRACY PITTINGER

Registered Respiratory Therapist

ELAINE BOWEN, RD

Manager, Nutrition Services

WILLIAM SCHUMAN

Manager, Adult Day Services

KIMBERLY HAYWOOD

Direct Support Professional

JACKIE HARVEY

Manager, Habilitation

Our **EMPLOYEES** make us
#BrighterTogether



hattielarlham.org





Mary Beth Sawyer Kluge (1936-2022)

Inaugural Honoree: Sept 7, 2022

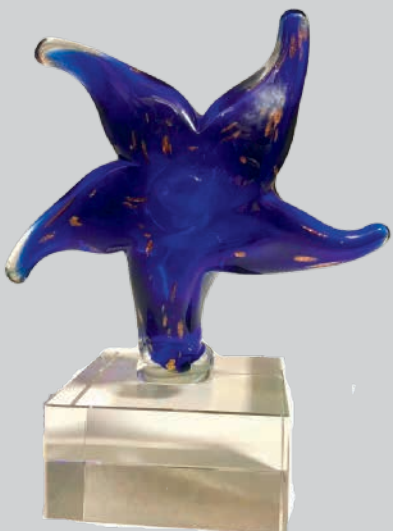


Mary Beth Kluge served as Goodwill's Board Chair from 2001-2002. Her first board term began in March 1996. When she moved to the Honorary Director status in 2019, she had served a total of 21 years as a director.

Mary Beth led the Workforce Development committee for many years and she always reminded us to put participant services first.

An exemplary director, Mary Beth loved "Mission Moments", Goodwill's Celebration of Champions, and its Employee of Distinction Luncheon.

The agency will be presenting a special award each September at its Employee of Distinction Luncheon in Mary Beth's honor:



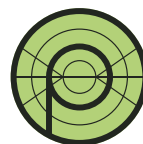
The Mary Beth Kluge "Making A Difference" Award



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to retire
early...

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Congratulations to this year's Employee of Distinction honorees!



Judging Guidelines

Choosing a few individuals to receive an Employee of Distinction Award is a challenging responsibility. The panel of judges starts with a group of stellar employees, and then endeavors to find individuals nominated who have distinguished themselves among a truly outstanding group.

To make this difficult choice, Goodwill  enlisted the help of area leaders in human resources. Each judge received the submissions

for the honorees, with their names and companies omitted. Judges were then asked to select their top choices based on quality of work, dedication to the business and extraordinary efforts. 

Individuals with the highest average rankings receive the Employee of Distinction Awards.

Goodwill congratulates all the honorees and wish each continued success!

Thank You Judges

Bob Chess



Jim Gill



Angela Oney



Julie Wheeler

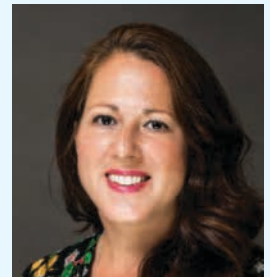
2021 Winners

Congratulations

TO TOP 5 & ALL EMPLOYEE
OF DISTINCTION HONOREES



Erin Mills,
Ohio START family
peer mentor,
Summit County
Children Services



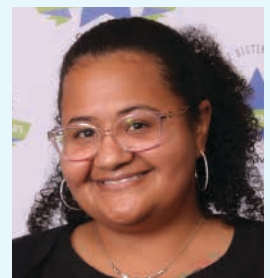
Beth Ferguson,
RN, medical services
coordinator,
The Blick Center



Emily Bon
manager, healthcare
Integration and trauma
informed services,
Child Guidance &
Family Solutions



Ben Yourkvitch
career specialist,
Jobs for Ohio's
Graduates



Erika Saulsberry
operations assistant,
Akron Metropolitan
Housing Authority

NEXT NEXT NEXT NEXT NEXT

DID YOUR GOVERNMENT BENEFITS GET CUT DUE TO A RAISE OR A NEW JOB?

Summit County NEXT program is for individuals who experience a reduction in public assistance benefits due to an increase of income, commonly known as the “benefits cliff.”

NEXT NEXT NEXT NEXT NEXT

SUMMIT COUNTY NEXT OFFERS RETENTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES, INCLUDING INCENTIVES TO ASSIST YOU ON **YOUR PATH TO STABILITY.**



Personal Success Planning

NEXT will provide outreach, engagement, job coaching and retention services. Additionally, NEXT will help remove obstacles to success.



Financial Wellness

Partners will provide household budgeting, financial planning, and debt removal to maintain and advance employment and self-sufficiency.



Cash Incentives

Participant can earn up to \$4,000 if all employment and performance benchmarks are achieved.



Work Supportive Services

Participants may directly access car repairs, work supports, rental and utility assistance, and other PRC work supportive services to maintain employment.

Program qualifications and restrictions apply. Participation is necessary to be eligible for Summit County NEXT benefits and incentives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 330.434.3101 or
email SummitNEXT@AkronUrbanLeague.org



The magazine of The 330
akronlife.com
akronlife
congratulates all of this year's
Employee of Distinction Award Winners



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Offer ends 9/14/22 at 11:59 p.m.



Summit County
CHILDREN SERVICES
Building Families . . . Building Futures



Congratulations!

Summit County Children Services
wishes to recognize the

Independent Living Program Unit

nominated for this year's Goodwill
Employee of Distinction Award.

*Pictured (from left): Supervisor Sara
Woolridge, Patrice Henderson, Cheyenne
Boyd, Jennifer Cranston and Jeanne Cargill.*

Summitkids.org



WHERE WINNING PERFORMANCE MEETS WELL-EARNED RECOGNITION

THE PARTNERS AND STAFF AT BMF
proudly congratulate each of the

2022 GOODWILL EMPLOYEE OF DISTINCTION
Award Winners and Nominees

The contribution and dedication that you bring
to your organization is inspirational!

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