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MEN OF EXCELLENCE AT WHO'S WHO PUBLISHING



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# Striving for Excellence AND Exceeding Expectations

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By De Lena P. Scales



According to St. Vincent Family Center Board Officer and Past Chair Oyauma Garrison, "Community is everything. It is where we are at all times. We cannot expect to live our lives successfully if we are not doing what we can to help the community."

If Mr. Garrison's words hold any truth, Ernie L. Sullivan a native of Columbus, Ohio, can expect to live a long successful life. Going above and beyond to assist the Columbus community, Sullivan donates his wisdom and resources to St. Stephen's Community House, St. Vincent Family Center and Direction For Youth and Families.

Since 1995, the Columbus community has repeatedly recognized his dedication and passion for serving its citizens. His collection of community awards include the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award for youth development, the Roosevelt Carter Award for community service and the Greater Chamber of Commerce Lazarus Award for Volunteerism. Sullivan also received the The National Eagle Leadership Award as well as the Outstanding Board Partner Award from the Jobs for Columbus Graduates program.

"The calling of the Lord will lead you to your passions and allow you to do great things," states St. Vincent Board member Mark Huddy.

Program, Workforce Development Commission, Columbus Works and the Governor's Commission for Teaching Success.

Currently, Sullivan is partnering with St. Vincent Family Center to help make good kids better. St. Vincent Family Center provides mental health prevention, intervention and treatment services to children and families in Columbus and throughout the state of Ohio. As president of the organizations Board of Directors, his goal is, "to meet the mission of making good kids better by being a premier provider for specialized behavioral health support to children and families."

As an active member of Directions For Youth and Families (DFYF), Sullivan contributes his time and money to the organizations annual State of the Child Luncheon. This luncheon shares the challenges facing today's youth while raising money for programs that help them achieve promising futures.

This mighty man of excellence can also be seen taking strides through Gahanna as he and his friends and family participate in the DFYF "Taking Strides for Kids 5k Run Walk" which raises money to support after-school activities at the Short Stop and Ohio Avenue Youth Centers.

Having received a Bachelor of Arts from Capital University, he also holds a Professional in Human Resource Certification from the Society for Human Resource Management, a Recruiting Architect Certification from Lominger Limited and completed the Executive Education Program at the University of Virginia's Darden School.

That calling has allowed Sullivan to do great things for the executive committee of Jobs for Columbus Graduates, The Blue Chip Foundation, Urban Advisory Board of Simon Kenton Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Central State University, the United Negro College Fund, Columbus Area Leadership

Sullivan is also forever present in the Linden Area, where he and his family personally benefited from the services at St. Stephens Community House. Mr. Sullivan proudly partners with the organization to continue to brighten lives in the community. ■







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