

Building Capacity through Collaboration

The Ward 7 Honors Gala

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY SHANNON HOLLOWAY



Chairman Morris Redd was the host of the Ward 7 Honors Gala, held June 25, at IDEA Public Charter School.

The event provided nourishment for the soul, with nonprofits and individuals being honored, as well as nourishment for the body with the delicious food and drinks catered by Southern Comfort Specialty Catering, prepared in part by Deborah Johnson, head chef and owner. The speaker for the evening was Lisa Burford Hardmon. Lisa is currently the president of LCB Consulting LLC, which is a full-service management consulting firm specializing in nonprofit capacity building. Lisa has been working with local/national nonprofits and their affiliates, governmental agencies, universities and grassroots organizations as a part of the community for over 20 years. Her speech was encouraging both to individuals and organizations.

“Nonprofits have arisen to provide the public with services that the

government has not,” and in order to maintain and keep the network healthy for the benefit of the community nonprofits must become a well-organized and efficiently run network, says Hardmon.

“We must share in collaboration with equal parts input and output,” coming together in an effective process; talking to colleagues, sharing knowledge, using our energy to provide services, implementing advocacy to avoid cuts for state provided government services, and putting to use volunteers and sponsorship. The priorities of a great nonprofit and community provider are the knowledge of the services that are being provided and the skills that are needed to improve their offer of help.

The Ward 7 Nonprofit Network is meant to empower the nonprofits of



TOP to BOTTOM

1. Ward 7 Nonprofit Network honors gala awardees.
2. Award Statue



Morris Redd, Ivy Hylton and Phyllis Powell

Ward 7 by cultivating a community among the network's 18 diverse organizations. By providing support, sharing knowledge, resources and techniques, the network is able to increase both the efficiency as well as the effectiveness of the nonprofit services. The utilization of the nonprofit network throughout the ward is helping to ensure that the full potential of each organization is reached by turning the goal to improve quality of life into a collaborative effort.

Selfless Service, Loyalty, Honor, Integrity, Duty, Respect, and Personal Courage – these are the words that grace the base of the stage at IDEA Public Charter School. A stage which the award recipients of The Ward 7 Nonprofit Network Honors Gala were supported by and were considered worthy enough to stand upon. The awards honored volunteers, individuals, organizations, leaders of nonprofits and business leaders who support nonprofits for their outstanding contributions to the nonprofit work being done in Ward 7.

The awards were given to the following recipients: Outstanding Volunteer – Mrs. Mamie Jackson, an office assistant for the Better Way Program; Community Investment Award – Annie

E. Casey Foundation; Ward Business and Professional Association Collaboration Award – East River Family Strengthening Collaborative; Quality Program Award – Deann Ayer, executive director of College and Career Connections; Executive Award – Julius M. Ware, president of Ward Business and Professional Association; Networks Choice Award – Yvette Alexander's

Office; The Impact Award – Chairman Vincent C. Gray, presented by Chuck Bean, executive director of The Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington; Essential Piece Award – Phyllis Powell, program director, Ward 7 Nonprofit Network.

"Nonprofits offer the people whose lives they touch local impact through the services they provide within the community, and national impact with the recognition of the need for care and a better quality of life. We hope the [Ward 7 Nonprofit Network's Honors Gala] ceremony helps encourage the empowerment of more nonprofits," said Phyllis Powell, program director.

For more information on the Ward 7 Nonprofit Network, call 202-399-2780 or visit w7npn.org.

Shannon Holloway is a local artist living in the District. You may reach her via e-mail at holloway.shannon@gmail.com. ★

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