Good afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen. My name is John Baker. I am pleased, honored, and humbled

for this award, and to join the past recipients of this most prestigious award. What an honor to join the

past recipients who I long admired and respected. A very special thank you to the United Way staff for

selecting me, and of course thank you to my family co workers and friends for always supporting me and

being here today.

When you receive a ward like this it makes you reflect on your career, at least it does when you are my

age (I am old). I started at the United Way many years ago as a Loaned Executive. It was there that I

became interested in social services and volunteering. In the sprit of volunteering, I offer you this

quote. “Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.” Elizabeth Andrew.

Today, I am a Community Health Worker working with the homeless population at Health Care for the

Homeless Mercy Medical Center Trinity Health. It is the best job I ever had. It only took me 40 years to

say that. I am a slow learner, I guess.

Thank you.