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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 8, 2018

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UPPER ARLINGTON ROTARY CLUB & TRI-VILLAGE CHAMBER PARTNERSHIP HONORED WITH COMMUNITY SHELTER BOARD'S 2018 HERO AWARD

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(Columbus, OH) – The Upper Arlington Rotary Club and the Tri-Village Chamber Partnership were recognized with the 2018 Hero Award. Given by Community Shelter Board, the award recognizes those whose actions have impacted the lives of people facing homelessness.

There is a real problem with homelessness in our community, yet one can live and work in Columbus for a lifetime without coming face-to-face with this truth. Especially in suburban areas, people tend to think of homelessness as a sad, yet far away and intangible problem that doesn't affect them or anyone they know.

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Leaders in Grandview Heights and Upper Arlington took on the challenge to mobilize their communities, to raise awareness about how prevalent homelessness is, what can and is being done about it, and why every person with a safe, stable home should care. The Tri-Village Chamber Partnership and Upper Arlington Rotary Club led an incredible, widespread community effort to provide winter coats to people facing homelessness.

The Tri-Village Chamber Partnership reached out to its members and organized 18 coat collection points, including businesses, retailers, banks, and the Upper Arlington Library. The Upper Arlington Interact Club coordinated collection points at Jones Middle School, Hastings Middle School, and Upper Arlington High School. Students decorated collection boxes and promoted the coat drive throughout their schools. Because of their efforts over the last two winter seasons, 1,200 people were warm and protected from the elements.

More than seven hundred people attended an awards ceremony held at Under One Roof benefiting Community Shelter Board on June 7, 2018 at the Southern Theatre.

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Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home. CSB is the collective impact organization driving strategy, accountability, collaboration, and resources to achieve the best outcomes for people facing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. With the support of a compassionate community, our system of care served more than 12,000 people last year

with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Community Shelter Board is funded by the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the State of Ohio, and many other public and private investors.

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