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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 12, 2024

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**YWCA COLUMBUS RECOGNIZED BY COMMUNITY SHELTER BOARD
WITH INNOVATION AWARD**

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(Columbus, OH) – Community Shelter Board recognized YWCA Columbus with its 2024 Heritage Innovation Award, highlighting several factors:

- Their compassionate response to the human condition, demonstrating that innovation goes beyond technology.
- Embodiment of values such as kindness, respect, and grace.
- Implementation of pilot initiatives, showcasing a willingness to embrace new endeavors despite the associated risks.
- Commitment to empowering families, fostering a greater sense of agency in addressing their own challenges.
- A forward-thinking approach, including being an early adopter of emerging practices in the field and leading efforts to scale successful interventions across the system.

The award was highlighted yesterday during Community Shelter Board’s Under One Roof event at Columbus State Community College, attended by 300 people.

YWCA is an important partner in CSB’s system for prevention and response to homelessness in central Ohio, operating safe shelter for families with children and permanent supportive housing for the most vulnerable and people of highest need experiencing homelessness.

CSB honors courageous innovation with its Heritage Innovation Award. Established by CSB’s Board of Trustees in 2023, this annual award honors Michelle Heritage’s legacy of relentless innovation to improve and expand programs and services for people facing homelessness during her tenure as President + CEO from 2010-2022. This accolade honors individuals or organizations whose relentless pursuit of innovative solutions has made a meaningful impact in improving programs and services for those facing homelessness.

FOUNDING SPONSORS//

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United Way of Central Ohio

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VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/bl9z0-DhQTK>



CSB Board Chair Susan Carroll-Boser and the YWCA Columbus Team



CSB President + CEO Shannon TL Isom, YWCA President & CEO Elizabeth Brown

ABOUT COMMUNITY SHELTER BOARD

CSB leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home in Columbus and Franklin County, Ohio. As the system leader for the prevention and response to homelessness in central Ohio, CSB collaborates with service provider organizations in Franklin County, creating a responsive network to ensure an effective and readied use of community resources for people experiencing homelessness. Over the past 10 years, CSB's system of care has housed more than 35,000 men, women, and children facing homelessness.

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

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