

For Release: Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Contact: Melissa Rinehart, Welcoming Fort Wayne & Wellspring Interfaith

(260) 422-6618 x112

melissa@wellspringinterfaith.org

2019 Welcoming Fort Wayne Diversity Awards

Eight individuals/organizations will be honored for their contributions in the immigrant community.

Fort Wayne, Ind. – Welcoming Fort Wayne, and 15 supporting organizations, will honor and celebrate eight individuals and/or organizations for their contributions in the immigrant/refugee communities in greater Fort Wayne community. Awards will be given in the following categories: Positive Role Model, Community Organization, Entrepreneur of Excellence, Diverse Employer of the Year, Lifetime Achiever, Emerging Leader, Social Justice and Storyteller.

Winners will be presented with their awards during a breakfast, hosted by Purdue University Fort Wayne and the Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, on **Thursday, September 19 at 8:30am in the Walb International Ballroom**. The program includes breakfast, entertainment, guest speakers and the awards ceremony.

The 2019 Welcoming Fort Wayne Diversity Awards is an official registered event with Welcoming America during national Welcoming Week recognized in cities across the United States during the week of Sept. 13 to 22. Welcoming Week's purpose is to bring immigrants, refugees, and native-born residents together to raise awareness of the benefits of welcoming everyone in our communities.

Welcoming Fort Wayne is a local initiative of Associated Churches of Fort Wayne-Allen County dedicated to promoting immigrant integration into the greater Fort Wayne area by supporting economic development, ensuring equity in education, government, health and social services, as well as promoting an appreciation of arts and culture.

Organizations supporting this years' Welcoming Fort Wayne Diversity awards event include: Welcoming Fort Wayne, Associated Churches, Wellspring Interfaith, Purdue University-Fort Wayne, Manchester University-College of Pharmacy, Amani Family Services, the City of Fort Wayne, the St. Joseph Community Foundation, the YMCA, Fort Wayne Community Schools, Many Nations Church, Friends of the Third World, United Church of Brethren, METRO, Catholic Charities of Fort Wayne-South Bend, and the Northeast Indiana Regional Partnership.