

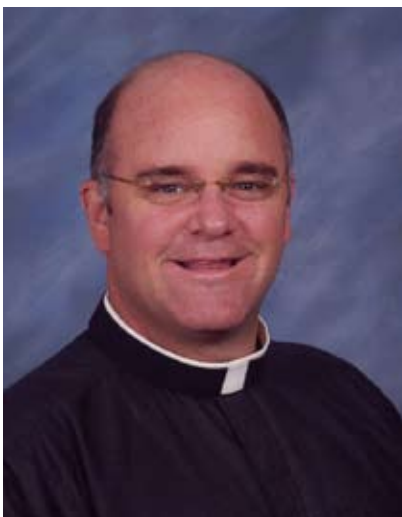
Advocate Award Luncheon Honorees



Tessie Edwards, for her work with children and youth.

With more than 46 years as an educator, Edwards was a founder and major driver for the establishment and growth of the Black Student Catholic Scholarship Fund. She also created a global history course at Creighton Preparatory School and many other enrichment opportunities for students. Additionally, she mentored other educators, which led to her

being elected to Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society encouraging careers in education. She has participated on the boards of several nonprofits including the YWCA, The Women's Fund and All Our Kids, and has garnered multiple recognitions for her contributions to these fields.



The Rev. Thomas Fangman, for his work in family and neighborhood development.

Rev. Fangman has served as Pastor of Sacred Heart Church and School for the past 13 years, furthering its reputation for diversity, commitment to the poor, welcoming spirit and lively liturgies. In 2004, he envisioned and established the Heart Ministry Center as a separate nonprofit built on the Sacred Heart mission to

support those in poverty. He is also the executive director of Christian Urban Education Service (CUES), the fundraising arm of Sacred Heart School. Additionally, he serves on boards including Root to Fruit, Creighton Preparatory Alumni Council and many more.



Jamie Gutierrez, for her work in the Latino community.

The president of Midwest Maintenance Company, Inc., Gutierrez has served on the boards of the United Way of the Midlands, the Latino Catholic Scholarship Fund, Girls Inc. and more. She also serves as a Councilor for the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben. As a team leader of the Escuela de Evangelizacion de Santa Ana, Gutierrez serves the Spanish-speaking community. She

has been awarded several honors for her community work, including the YWCA's Woman of Excellence Award.



Rhonda A. Hawks, for her work in behavioral health.

Hawks is one of the founders of the Behavioral Health Support Foundation and serves on the Lasting Hope Recovery Center Committee and Continuum of Behavioral Health Care Committee. In June 2008, Hawks was appointed as Chair of the Behavioral Health Oversight Commission by Gov. Heineman. She is also president of The Hawks Foundation, which

focuses on social issues such as mental health, substance abuse and homelessness; education through scholarships for need-based students, most of whom attend Midwestern colleges and universities; Christian ministry; and the arts. She has garnered many awards and other honors for her extensive work in the community.



Mary and Charles Heider, for their philanthropy.

The Heiders have served on numerous boards, including Creighton University, Sacred Heart and Boystown. Among their many acts of generosity are their endowed Chair in Cancer Research at Creighton University; their endowed Chair for The Charles & Mary

Heider Endowed Jesuit Faculty; and funding The Heider Center at Creighton Preparatory School. In 2010, Creighton University named the Heiders as Honorary Doctors of Humane Letters, recognizing more than 25 years of major support for the University and the Omaha community.



Dianne Seeman Lozier, for her work on behalf of domestic violence victims.

Lozier is corporate counsel of the Lozier Corporation and a trustee of the Lozier Foundation. She served as a board member of Santa Monica House, Girls, Inc., the College of St. Mary and many other organizations. Lozier also was a founding member of the Women's Fund. Under her leadership, the Women's Fund produced a report,

"Can We Stop the Violence in Omaha?" which defined the widespread incidence of domestic violence in the community and led to the founding of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council of Greater Omaha (DVCC).