

## Commissioner Nick Fish City of Portland

## **December 18, 2013**

## Steve Lowenstein Trust Award (15 min)

Introduction by: Commissioner Nick Fish

## Summary:

This is the twenty-second annual Steve Lowenstein Trust Award. The award was created to recognize an individual who is making an extraordinary personal effort and sacrifice to improve the quality of life for distressed and vulnerable populations in the city of Portland.

# Presented by:

Michelle Harper, Steve Lowenstein Board Chair

## **Invited Testimony:**

Sandra Guyot, Award Recipient

#### NOMINATION FOR THE LOWENSTEIN TRUST AWARD

Date: November 16, 2013

NAME OF NOMINEE: Sandra Guyot

Address:: 3503 NE 161st Ave

City: <u>Vancouver</u>

State: Zip Code: Washington, 98682

Work Phone: 503-286-0750 Home Phone: 360-907-3566 Email: sandraguyot@msn.com

# 1- Please describe this person's contribution to assisting the poor and underprivileged in Portland, Or.

Sandra Guyot's contribution to assisting the poor and underprivileged in Portland, Oregon started in 2004. She was looking for something to do to pass the time after having recovered from a very serious illness and unable to return to her occupation. Sandra, living on Social Security, began as a volunteer at Golden Harvesters, Inc. soon she became compassionate about what the organization was and what it did. Her concerns about the needs of the underprivileged and Golden Harvesters program led her to the desire to help anyway she could. With her education she started writing grants to get the necessary refrigeration needed at Golden Harvesters. When the first winter arrived Sandra asked about heat. She was told there was none so again she started writing and searching for ways to get heat into the building. She worked non-stop, never taking no for an answer to achieve the goal of heat. In 2006, she became the Secretary/Treasurer. The building needed improvements, this dedicated volunteer wrote grants and looked for money to fix the building. She was successful, thus the building was fixed. Sandra never looked backed and continued moving forward to improve Golden Harvesters with the thought of helping the needy in the Portland metro area.

Soon Golden Harvester was facing a greater problem, no building, the city of Portland was taking the building. Golden Harvester was in its 20<sup>th</sup> year and with a show of hands all the member said they would fight for a new building. Sandra started a search for a building. Soon one was found, not very big, but it was workable. Golden Harvester moved in with a 5 year lease. However; in just a few short months the building was out grown, because of the increase in the needs of the poor and underprivileged members of the community.

Sandra, this dedicated volunteer, latest contribution has been the two(2) year search for a bigger building, never giving up that it would not be found. When finally found, the endless work to fix up the building for occupancy began. Sandra worked nonstop getting the members of Golden Harvesters involved. For the next six months, every weekend, and every free day you could find her working continuously in the new location. She kept working with the thought that Golden Harvesters move into a much bigger building would mean they could help more members of the community. Sandra's work and drive is only for the need to help the poor and underprivileged in the Portland metro area. She has dedicated herself to the work of Golden Harvester and their mission of providing help to the needy.

#### 2- Explain how you think this award could assist the nominee in carrying on his or her work.

I believe this award could assist Sandra with carrying out the work of moving Golden Harvesters into the future with their plans to increase and improving ways of helping the poor and underprivileged. She would like to help Golden Harvester's teach the underprivileged to cook and can in order to stretch their food budgets, how to use a computer, help them to find a job, and show them how to dress for a job.

#### 3- What inspired you to nominate this person?

I was inspired to nominate Sandra Guyot because of her dedication to the organization, Golden Harvesters and her desire to help the program grow. As Golden Harvesters, Inc grows more people can be helped. I know she is concerned with helping the underprivileged improve their lives. She has the compassion that is needed to work and understand what it takes to improve the lives of the poor in the Portland Metro Area.

Please provide the names and contact information for two references familiar with the nominee's activities:

Reference 1:

Name: Julie Talmadge

Work Phone: 503-286-0750 Home Phone: 503-2835484 Email:julesmt31@centurylink.net

Reference 2:

Name: Charisse Wall

Work Phone: 503-286-0750 Home Phone: 360-798-9843 Email: charisse\_w21@yahoo.com

#### YOUR name, address, phone number, e-mail:

Name: Hazel O'Conner Address: 9339 N Polk

City: State: Zip Code: Portland, Oregon, 97293

Work Phone: 503-286-0750 Home Phone 503-957-3867 Email: n/a

Mail /fax/email completed form (DUE November 8th, 2013) to:

Steve Lowenstein Trust,\c/o Charles R. Williamson | 520 SW Yamhill St., Suite 600 | Portland, Oregon

97204-1329 | Phone: 503-222-3531 FREE | Fax: 503-227-2980

Email - kwilkinson@kelrun.com (Please put: Lowenstein Award Nomination in the Subject line) This form may be copy/pasted into a word processing application, or email message, for completion and submission. Lowenstein Trust

Recognize Sandra Guyot as the recipient of the 2013 Steve Lowenstein Trust Award (Presentation introduced by Commissioner Fish)

DEC 18 2013

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