

NOMINATION FOR THE LOWENSTEIN TRUST AWARD

Date: October 28, 2015

NAME OF NOMINEE: Paul Schroeder, Executive Director, New City Initiative

Address: 1435 NE 81st Ave., Suite 500, Portland, OR., 97213

Work: 971-231-5423 Cell Phone:503-913-7853 Email: paul@newcityinitiative.net

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

Since 2010 Paul Schroeder has done an amazing job organizing and leading the non-profit organization New City Initiative, which soon afterward launched The Village Support Network which equips teams composed of members of local congregations to assist a family over a six month period during their transition from shelter to housing. In 2011 New City Initiative further launched CUSINA which trains homeless people to work in the food industry. Later that year New City Initiative also launched "Covenant of Hope," a project whereby congregations sponsored homeless families living in the emergency warming shelter, providing rent and utility support and community support to these families.

I firmly believe that none of these amazing grass roots efforts would have come about without Paul's vision, commitment, and organizational abilities. He is gifted with a sharp analytical mind which has helped so many of us understand the traumas that homeless people experience. Relying on the best social science, he has crafted effective team-based strategies to assist and coach the homeless toward a path of recovery and self-determination. A deeply compassionate person, Paul pours mind, body, and spirit into this servant work and the outcomes we have personally witnessed bring hope that as congregations, the larger community, government, and business team together we can indeed offer those who are currently living in shelters, in cars, with friends, or on the street a path toward a better life. What excites me about Paul's leadership is that it is effective leadership. I believe this model represents one of the best solutions to the problem I have seen in my 40 years of ministry.

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

In 2014 the Portland City Council awarded Paul's non-profit with a grant of \$25,000 to assist families in finding their way out of homelessness. On July 8 of this year, Paul and many other representatives from the interfaith community told the Council of the significant impact that had taken place as a result of that gift. One single parent spoke to the Council about the life-changing support she had received through the Village Support Network. Through this process she has been able to achieve her dream of becoming a nurse and begin to give back to our community. Unfortunately, the Council was only able to offer New City Initiative a grant of \$5,000 for 2015. It operates on a shoe-string budget yet is blessed with a leader and a staff of deeply compassionate, highly skilled people who are profoundly committed to their mission. A financial gift from your organization in honor of Paul would enable the dream to continue.

3- What inspired you to nominate this person?

Two of the congregations I have served over the past several years have benefitted from Paul's remarkable ability to educate, inspire, and engage the faith community in addressing the growing problem of homeless families in the greater Portland area. Now recently retired, my wife and I have been inspired to make ending homeless a priority concern through giving our time, energy, and money because of the inspiration we have felt from Paul and the members of his staff at New City Initiative and the Village Support Network.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to take the time to write to you. Now about to turn 70, I am still learning and growing – thanks in part to the outstanding leadership of Paul Schroeder. At this stage of life's journey I am proud to say he has become an important mentor not only for me but for many, many others here in Portland. Thank you for giving consideration to this worthy individual.

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

Reference 1:

Name: Rev. Patricia Campbell-Schmitt, Pastor Emeritus, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Portland, OR, 97219
Cell Phone: 503-432-6677 Home Phone: 503-293-2482 Email: tandpcs@comcast.net

Reference 2:

Name: Rev. Mark Knutson, Augustana Lutheran Church, 2710 NE 14th Ave, Portland, OR, 97212
Work Phone: 503-288-6174 Home Phone: 503-293-2482 Email: mark@augustana.org

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

Name: Rev. Thomas & Patricia Campbell-Schmitt, Pastors Emeritus
Address: 9708 SW 59th Ave., Portland, OR 97219:
Cell Phone: 971-275-3531 Home Phone 503-293-2482 Email: tandpcs@comcast.net

Download and mail /fax/email completed form (**DUE October 30th, 2015**) to :

Lowenstein Trust, c/o Kris Wilkinson | 6927 N. Oatman |
Portland, Oregon 97217 |
Phone: 503-283.5210 |

Email - Support@lowensteintrust.org (*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.

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CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

Amanda Fritz, Commissioner

1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Suite 220

Portland, Oregon 97204

(503) 823-3008

amanda@portlandoregon.gov

MEMORANDUM

December 9, 2015

TO: Portland City Council

FROM: Commissioner Amanda Fritz

SUBJECT: Steve Lowenstein Trust Award

Time Certain: 9:45am

Steve Lowenstein Trust Award (15 min)

Introduction by: Commissioner Amanda Fritz

Summary:

This is the twenty-fifth 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:

Paul Schroeder, Award Recipient

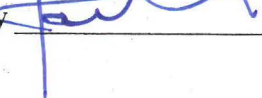
Recognize Paul Schroeder as the recipient of the 2015 Steve Lowenstein Trust Award (Presentation introduced by Commissioner Fritz)

DEC 09 2015

PLACED ON FILE

Filed DEC 01 2015

Mary Hull Caballero
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		