



Embargoed until July 19, 2020

Contact: Maggie Wood, Executive Director

Maggie@inclusive-communities.org

(402) 871-9935

Inclusive Communities and the Humanitarian Brunch *Situation*

July 19, 2020 (Omaha, NE) – Usually Inclusive Communities’ largest annual fundraiser, the Humanitarian Brunch and Awards ceremony would be hosted in April. This year a pandemic had other plans. However, while COVID-19 may have prevented an in-person celebration, it has not stopped the organization from finding a way to celebrate its 2020 awardees and continue its important human relations and social justice work.

“COVID-19 has changed our plans but it hasn’t stopped our work, it hasn’t dampened our spirit, and it hasn’t broken our commitment or the work of our honorees in the community. Our honorees have continued to create brave spaces for those who need it. They have continued to lift up individuals and communities who need support,” said Maggie Wood, Executive Director. This year, Inclusive Communities is using the circumstances of the pandemic, which has pushed so much of our socializing online, to reach a wider audience by taking the Brunch virtual and reimagining it as The Humanitarian Brunch *Situation*.

This year Inclusive Communities is honoring Bobby Brumfield as the Humanitarian of the Year, Haji Weliyo as the Volunteer of the Year, and the Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) as the Partner of the Year and recipient of the Otto Swanson Spirit of Service Award. These individuals and organizations were chosen on the criteria that they have committed to consistently elevating the ideals of diversity, inclusion, and equity through their work with the wider community.

Wood continued, “We want to ensure that you know about our awardees and their community work. And we want you to know that we’re still on this path towards a more inclusive society. Yes, we’ve seen a lot of ugly words and deeds transpire in the past months, and we’ve also seen how some of that has been met with love, with understanding, with unity and with action. We’re here for it. And this is the perfect time in history to embrace diversity and strengthen community.”

All are invited to join the Inclusive Communities’ Humanitarian Brunch *Situation* celebration by visiting: <https://www.ichumanitarianbrunch.org> or finding the editorial on the front of the Omaha World Herald on July 19.

###