

GOOD APPLE HONOREES

LOUISIANA APPESEED

2020



ACCESS TO JUSTICE

SOCIAL JUSTICE HONOREE: JOHN HAIRSTON. As the President & Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Hairston puts into practice what he preaches. Hancock-Whitney has a mission to help people and businesses realize their financial goals and dreams. For many families in Louisiana and across the region, financial stability is rooted in establishing, sustaining, and transferring homeownership across generations. This goal is particularly difficult in the face of hurricanes on our shores each year. His support of programs that enable generational wealth through homeownership to continue even in the wake of disasters is the cornerstone for many in realizing financial goals and dreams. For these reasons, and so many more, we are humbled to have the opportunity to honor Mr. Hairston as a Louisiana Appleseed Good Apple.

PRO BONO HONOREE: JEANNINE A. SULLIVAN. Jeannine, a private attorney, has supported Louisiana Appleseed in immeasurable ways since our inception in 2007. Her incredible dedication as a volunteer spans multiple projects, most notably the Preventing Teen Dating Violence project. Most recently, Jeannine spent countless hours researching and drafting the Domestic Abuse bench card that was distributed to all members of the judiciary across the state. She worked with many domestic abuse groups throughout Louisiana to ensure the card had the most relevant and current information that is pivotal to providing justice to domestic violence survivors.

ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITY

SOCIAL JUSTICE HONOREE: DAVID KERSTEIN. As the President at the Helis Foundation, David Kerstein has provided incredible support to art communities. This support is a cornerstone of economic opportunity in our city's cultural economy and advances the public's access to and understanding of the arts in New Orleans. In particular, we commend the creation of a new program at Xavier University that will facilitate students toward a Master's degree in Curatorial Practice and Exhibition Management at a Historically Black University. Providing pathways to economic growth and stability in the arts in New Orleans is a wealth building strategy that exemplifies what we support through our Access to Opportunity program.

PRO BONO HONOREE: SALYRIA GUMMS. Salyria is the Managing Attorney for Southeast Louisiana Legal Services in their Houma office. For over 30 years, Ms. Gumms has represented the poor and disenfranchised demonstrating a faithful dedication to the public interest and legal profession. Ms. Gumms and the SLLS Houma office worked tirelessly with Louisiana Appleseed on the "Protect Your Property Project" in Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes. She reached multiple residents in those parishes suffering from succession issues with vital information and resources from Louisiana Appleseed that would enable residents to keep their homes.

ACCESS TO EDUCATION

PRO BONO HONOREE: REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA SMITH. Representative Smith has served 3 terms in the Louisiana House. She is a constant advocate for judicial and educational reform in Louisiana. In the last two sessions, she's been a strong advocate for anti-lunch shaming issues and ensuring school children are fed, regardless of the ability to pay. Her dedication on this issue went above and beyond any possible expectations. Louisiana Appleseed will be proud to carry her torch in this issue for years to come.