

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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The Springs Close Foundation Kicks Off New Awards Program, Presents \$10,000 Each to Three Area Nonprofits

LANCASTER, SC — Members of the Lancaster County, Chester County and Fort Mill communities gathered today at the Founders Federal Credit Union Corporate Headquarters in Lancaster for the first-ever “Fabric of the Community Awards.” The Board of Directors of The Springs Close Foundation, along with the nine members of the Community Advisory Committee, created the Fabric of the Community Awards to celebrate the Foundation’s 70th year of service and to honor the legacy of giving back to the community instilled by founder Col. Elliott Springs.

“We wanted to mark our 70th year by honoring those in our community who demonstrate a commitment to service to others and to the greater good of the community — characteristics that were embodied by my father,” said Anne Springs Close, Foundation Chairman. “Our communities are stronger and better because of the many, many people and organizations that do so much to make the quality of life better for others, and who demonstrate the true meaning of character, dedication and service.”

The Fabric of the Community awards will be bestowed on one individual, nonprofit organization or business from Lancaster, Chester and Fort Mill each year. Each winner receives \$10,000 to direct to a nonprofit organization in the communities served by The Springs Close Foundation. Nominations come from former members of the Foundation’s Community Advisory Committee. Current Community Advisory Committee members select finalists and choose the award winners. The Foundation will give these awards for the next five years, culminating on its 75th anniversary, for a total of \$150,000 by 2017.

In addition to a cash award, each of the 2013 winners received a sculpture created specifically for this event by Lancaster metal artist Bob Doster.

The 2013 Fabric of the Community Award winners are:

LANCASTER

Lancaster High School Junior Civitans (Nonprofit Organization)

For more than 30 years, students of the Lancaster High School Junior Civitans have given their time and energy to serving others in their county. The club's Backpack Feeding Program began in 2009, in response to increasing financial hardships and hunger in Lancaster County. Their service has focused on providing weekend meals to 182 students at seven different Lancaster schools — that's more than 49,000 meals each school year. Junior Civitans fill backpacks of food for delivery each Friday, and collect them again each Monday. Thanks to their efforts, Lancaster students who might otherwise go hungry have food to tide them over and their school performance has improved.

FORT MILL

The High Five Club (Nonprofit)

The High Five Club helps young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities engage with one another and their community in meaningful, rewarding ways. Beginning in 2008 with just three clients, High Five now serves more than 35 clients in two locations and is the only program of its kind in the state. Clients build life skills as part of the daily Club program, but are also required to spend part of their time as community volunteers. Currently, High Five members deliver food backpacks to seven area elementary schools, volunteer at Birthday Blessings, the Caring Center and the Humane Society, and help out at events like The Springmaid Road Race and Miles for Memories. Club members not only help their community, but also raise awareness about the potential offered by adults with disabilities.

CHESTER

The Good Samaritan Medical Clinic (Nonprofit)

Since 2002, more than 3,000 low-income, uninsured residents of Chester County have received free, high-quality medical care from The Good Samaritan Medical Clinic. The Clinic was the brainchild of Dr. Sam Stone and Rev. Steve Bishop, who wished to help those who were ineligible for Medicaid and unable to afford private insurance. The Good Samaritan services include an onsite clinic, a staff physician, medications, a

laboratory, physical therapy, and a special Women's Services Clinic. In addition, Good Samaritan provides referrals for radiology and other services, as well as health education for patients and the broader community.

Other nominees for the 2013 Fabric of Community Awards were:

- In Lancaster: Mrs. Jackie Brown, who runs Jackie's Place (individual) and The Lancaster Fatherhood Project
- In Fort Mill: The Children's Attention Home (nonprofit) and Kay Carter, Executive Director, Second Harvest Food Bank (individual)
- In Chester: Geraldine Clawson, The Turning Point and The Dove's Nest (individual) and John Williams (The Turning Point)

The Springs Close Foundation has assets totaling \$40 million and since 1942 has distributed more than \$100 million into its geographic area. Anne Springs Close is Chairman of the Board of Directors and Angela McCrae is President. The main office is headquartered at 951 Market Street, Suite 205 in Fort Mill, SC. The telephone number is (803) 548-2002 and the FAX number is (803) 548-1797.

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