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A Community Hero

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A Community Hero

06.01.2007 | Faculty, Campus and Community The development corporation will present its Second Annual Outstanding Service Award to Lovelace at 8 a.m., Monday, June 4, at Sinclair Community College's David H. Ponitz Center during the organization's annual award breakfast.

"Dean Lovelace has served on the St. Mary Development Corporation board for seven years," said Dick McBride, the development corporation's president and CEO. "His input and counsel have been a critical part of achieving our mission. His broad view of the community has enriched our decisions, and his commitment to the good of Dayton and its people make him the perfect recipient of our second annual Outstanding Service Award."

The Outstanding Service Award is part of National NeighborWorks Week, a national celebration of the accomplishments of the NeighborWorks network whose members work in more than 4,400 communities across the nation, including Dayton. In 1999, the development corporation was chosen as a Charter Member of NeighborWorks America and has received more than \$2 million in grants from NeighborWorks to support low-income housing projects.

U.S. Rep. Michael Turner, who received the award last year, will make the presentation to Lovelace.

A city commissioner since 1993, Lovelace joined the office of Strategies for Responsible Development Office at UD as director of neighborhood development in 1983. SRD is now the Raymond L. Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, where Lovelace heads the Dayton Civic Scholars Program.

Through the Dayton Civic Scholars program, students interested in urban affairs, social justice and careers in public service are afforded opportunities to explore community leadership and public service and to become agents of change and activists in their communities.

St. Mary Development Corporation is the largest non-profit provider of high-quality, affordable housing to low-income seniors and working families in Southwest Ohio. St. Mary's completed its first tax-credit project in 1993. Since then it has developed or co-developed 24 housing tax-credit projects—a total of 2,281 housing units.

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