

OUTREACH TIMES

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FIRST FUNDRAISING CONCERT A SUCCESS

On October 4, 2003, Senior Outreach Services held its first *Celebration of Aging: Lives of Inspiration and Insight* at the Tri-C Metro Campus. The evening began with a cocktail reception that allowed award recipients to meet with SOS Board members and agency donors. Our event moved to the Tri-C theatre where the first award was given to and named after SOS Founder Dr. Henry D. Ziegler. Awards were also presented to Dr. May Wykle, Dean of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at CWRU and Dr. Jim Campbell, Director of

Geriatrics at MetroHealth Medical Center. *Celebration* attendees were then treated to the dynamic sounds of Roberto Ocasio's Latin Jazz Project and the evening culminated with the masterful music of Cleveland's own Horns & Things led by saxophonist J.T. Lynch. The Senior Outreach Services Board and staff were heartened by the warm reception the agency received from concert attendees, many of whom were being introduced to SOS for the first time. The success of our first fundraiser, through the support of individual donors



The SOS Celebration of Aging

and major sponsors MetroHealth System, The Cleveland Community-Building Initiative and Reminger & Reminger, sets the stage for an even more enjoyable and successful event in 2004 when Senior Outreach Services celebrates 25 years of serving

SENIOR OUTREACH SERVICES MISSION

To assist older adults to optimize their health, independence and quality of life through community outreach and support.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Personal Care*
- Homemaking*
- Home Delivered Meals*
- Congregate Meals*
- Telephone Reassurance*
- Friendly Visits / Companionship*
- Socialization / Wellness Activities*
- Field Trips*
- Information and Referrals*

MAYOR CAMPBELL CONGRATULATES AWARD RECIPIENTS

Joining us for the evening was the Honorable Mayor Jane Campbell to help congratulate the individual award recipients as well as Senior Outreach Services for its years of service to Cleveland's elders. Mayor Campbell joined Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Tri-C Metro Campus President Dr. Alex Johnson and Cleveland City Council reps Patricia

Britt and Sabra Pierce Scott as host committee members, lending their names and support to planning the event. Mayor Campbell shared her admiration of Dr. Ziegler "You've led this community in cutting-edge programs". The Mayor also congratulated the evening's final award recipient and her "baby brother", Dr. Jim Camp-



bell. "Outreach to seniors is not something Jim does during working hours, its something he and his wife Dr. Patricia both do on a regular basis".

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DR. HENRY ZIEGLER



Dr. Henry D. Ziegler, SOS Founder with agency Executive Director Delores Lynch

As the first recipient and namesake of the Henry D. Ziegler Award for Innovative Interventions, Dr. Ziegler expressed his delight at seeing how much the organization that he started has grown since its inception in 1979. Dr. Ziegler recalled that when he and the late Anna V. Brown, former Director of Aging for the City of Cleveland were conceptualizing what would eventually become SOS, the agency would be built in a

“spirit of caring and respect. Our elders are special, they are our teachers and helpers; they will help each other, we will help them, it’s a family.”

During his career, Dr. Ziegler has been involved in a variety of community-based health initiatives both locally in Cleveland as well as internationally in Ethiopia, Uganda, Haiti and Uzbekistan.

While in Cleveland as Vice

President of MetroHealth Community Health Dr. Ziegler was involved in the development and support of a number of creative, non-traditional community programs including Health Care for the Homeless, KAP Wellness Program and Senior Outreach Services (formerly Project GoH).

DR. MAY WYKLE

May Wykle has long been an advocate for health issues of older Americans. In her acceptance speech for receiving the Henry D. Ziegler Award for Outstanding Education and Research in Geriatric Nursing Dr. Wykle said “It’s overwhelming to be honored for what I love. I love teaching, I love older people and I love nursing”

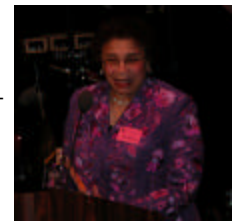
Dr. Wykle is Dean of the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at CWRU and President of the Honor Society of

Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International. Dean Wykle has completed extensive research projects in areas such as geriatric mental health, family caregiving, minority caregivers, and caring for patients with dementia.

Senior Outreach Services selected Dr. Wykle because of her dedication to the field of geriatric nursing and her undying and often contagious enthusiasm for the field of nursing. Mayor Campbell noted that Dr. Wykle is such

an influential representative of the nursing profession

that she convinced former County Commissioner Mary Boyle to enroll in the nursing program. Said Mayor Campbell “there’s life after politics & May Wykle will get you signed up!”



“IT’S
OVERWHELMING
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LOVE.”

DR. MAY WYKLE

DR. JIM CAMPBELL



Dr. Jim Campbell, head of Geriatrics at MetroHealth with SOS Board Chair Dr. Linda Noelker

Dr. Jim Campbell, head of Geriatrics at MetroHealth Medical Center has always focused on caring for the unique needs of elders in the community.

While at the Cleveland Veteran’s Administration, Dr. Campbell helped initiate Silver Pathways, one of the first alcoholic treatment programs for seniors.

Dr. Campbell also helped to develop Concordia Care, a joint venture of Benjamin Rose and MetroHealth to provide service to frail elders who want to stay independent in the community rather than go into nursing homes. Dr. Campbell was recently chosen by the Hartford Foundation as one of 11 future national leaders in geriatrics.

“If we’re going to lead elders into the next century,” said Dr. Campbell, “then the one word I’d like to take out of our vocabulary, maintain, I don’t want to help seniors maintain a quality of life but rather have our goal be to have this truly be the best years of their lives.”

A MUSICAL CELEBRATION

The festive part of the *Celebration* began with the music of Roberto Ocasio and his Latin Jazz Project. Roberto Ocasio has been writing, arranging and playing music steeped in the best Latin traditions since the mid-60's. The Latin Jazz Project was voted the 2002 Free Times Music Award for Best Jazz Band - and they proved just how they got that distinction with several selections of hot Latin jazz much to the enjoyment of the *Celebration* audi-

ence.

Headlining the evening was a local powerhouse of contemporary Jazz music, Horns & Things. This band has played with such musical legends as Grover Washington Jr., Dexter Gordon, and Joe Sample.

The *Celebration* audience was not only treated to the sounds of band members Sakait Bak-sar, Ray Harvin, Derrick James, Ken Leegrand and J.T. Lynch but also guest percus-

sionist Bill Ransom.

Horns & Things entertained all with a variety of songs from a jazzy rendition of "People make the world go 'round" to selections from their latest CD.

All in all, the combination of Latin and Contemporary Jazz made for an enjoyable music experience and a fitting first *Celebration* of Cleveland's elders.



Roberto Ocasio's Latin Jazz Project

"I AM NOT
YOUNG ENOUGH
TO KNOW
EVERYTHING"

OSCAR WILDE

MEMBERS OF SOS FAMILY RECOGNIZED FOR TWO DECADES OF SERVICE

Part of what made Project Goh / Senior Outreach Services so unique was its introduction of the Street Health Worker to the field of community health-care in Cleveland.

The Street Health Worker (SHW) was a volunteer member of the community who acted as the eyes and ears of the agency in keeping track of the well-being of neighborhood elders. The SHW helped elders with errands, tasks and monitored their overall well-being.

Seven members of the SOS

family were recognized at *Celebration* for over twenty years of service to the agency and community. Some of these women began as Street Health Workers. Some are a part of agency administration as well as senior companions while others went on to become certified Homemakers and Personal Care Aides.

The recognition plaques for over twenty years of service were given to Mary Bland, Helen Coolen, Lillie Gideon, Catherine Johnson, Ella Lashley, Mae Luckett, and Mattie

Moody.

Mary Bland, an active 77 year old, was one of the first Street Health Workers and is still an SHW as well as volunteering as a Senior Companion for SOS. She said of her experience in the SHW program, "The neighborhood got to know you, even the younger people knew to treat you with respect." Of the elders in her care, Mrs. Bland said, "I really came to love them, they were like family."



Senior Outreach Services elders created their own signs during SOS art therapy sessions and took them to Columbus

SOS RECEIVES AWARD

Senior Outreach Services was recently given an **Outstanding AAA / Provider Partnership of the Year Award for 2003** by The Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging. This award was given for the SOS Advocacy efforts in the Senior Lunch Bag Campaign launched earlier this year in which elders in our socialization and home delivered meals programs created letters on lunch bags and delivered them personally to the Ohio Legislature to protest proposed cuts in the State Budget earlier this year that would have affected supportive services for elders like the Home Delivered Meals programs. This creative approach coupled with demonstrations in Columbus helped the awareness effort to save this vital service from being cut from the State Budget.





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SOS TURNS 25 NEXT YEAR

Next year, 2004 will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary for Senior Outreach Services, Inc. Our agency, programs and services have grown significantly over the past 25 years yet we see so much more that can be done for elders in Cleveland's communities.

SOS will continue to develop innovative, culturally-competent programming for families in Cleveland in the years to come. AND we also plan to celebrate our 25th!

We look forward to an even more enjoyable annual event next year and we hope that you'll also be a part of next year's *Celebration of Aging*.



YOUR SUPPORT IS ALWAYS WELCOMED

Your tax-deductible contributions to help Senior Outreach Services continue to provide the support that our elders so richly deserve is always welcomed.

For example, a \$50 contribution provides an elder with home delivered meals for one month while a \$150 contribution provides elders with 8 hours of nurse-supervised in-home care.

For more information or to send a donation, please contact Saroya Queen-Tabor (216) 231-0003.