



CONTACT: Amanda Guarnieri

Office: 440.442.5683

Cell: 440.463.6205

amanda@projectlove.org

Event: **VALUES MATTER: 23rd Annual Rescuer of Humanity Awards Dinner**
Honoring The Riverside Company, Stewart Kohl, Dwyer Group, Dina Dwyer-Owens, Marc Byrnes, Town of Gander, Newfoundland, Canada accepted by Mayor of Gander Percy Farwell, Tom Pasko, St. Ignatius High School & WKYC Channel 3

Date & Time: This Thursday, January 18, 2018, 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Executive Caterers at Landerhaven, 6111 Landerhaven Dr., Cleveland, OH 44124

Presenter: Values-in-Action Foundation (Project Love)

REQUEST FOR EVENT COVERAGE (January 18):

CLEVELAND, OHIO: On January 18th, Cleveland-based, non-profit organization, Values-in-Action Foundation (Project Love) will honor notable Cleveland philanthropist **Stewart Kohl** and **The Riverside Company** alongside nationally-recognized author and featured *Undercover Boss* participant, **Dina Dwyer-Owens** and **Dwyer Group**. All of the evening's honorees are being recognized for their values-driven works and for promoting kindness, caring and respect in their respective industries.

Also among the honorees is the **Town of Gander, Newfoundland, Canada**, which is being honored for its community efforts during the 9/11 tragedy when the town welcomed 7,000 stranded flight passengers that descended on Gander (a small town of 10,000) for several days while flights were diverted from American airspace. This touching story of humanity has since been made into the new Broadway musical, ***Come from Away***, and Gander Mayor Percy Farwell will be in town to accept the honor.

This annual event serves as a night that celebrates and recognizes companies and individuals who shape community culture and inspire others to do the same. Other honorees to be recognized that evening include Cleveland community leader, **Marc Byrnes**, beloved, long-time, St. Ignatius educator, **Tom Pasko** and **WKYC Channel 3**. These honorees are drivers of the positive values and activities that become our community's "culture." They each serve as an example of what Values-in-Action strives to teach today's youth through its Project Love character-education, school programming.

Values-in-Action Foundation is committed to empowering students and adults to build communities of kindness, caring and respect through programs that teach, promote and provide skills and tools that enable individuals to make values-based decisions every day. Most recently, the organization has re-branded the iconic John Adams High School in Cleveland the ***John Adams-Project Love High School of Character, Values and Community***. It is the first public high school in the state of Ohio to be totally imbedded with social-emotional learning (SEL) through a comprehensive Project Love urban-education program called WOW (Win or Waste). The program's objective is to teach students how to "win at the game of life" so that they don't "waste" their life promise, purpose and potential. During the summer of 2015, 70% of violent fatalities in Cleveland came from a current or former John Adams High School student or from a student who passed through the school.

The link between school, community and workplace is powerful, and showcasing VALUES-IN-ACTION inspires us all. The event's honorees are true role models who lead with their values! All proceeds from the event support Values-in-Action's character-education programming.

Visit www.viafdn.org to learn more or call Amanda Guarnieri at 440.463.6205.