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Event: **VALUES MATTER Awards Dinner hosted by Values-in-Action (Project Love)**
Honoring Students and Educators from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, Florida;
Christopher M. Gorman, KeyCorp; Anne Noonan, OMNOVA Solutions;
Ronald B. Richard, Cleveland Foundation; and, Coach Dru Joyce, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, Akron

Date & Time: This Thursday, January 31, 6:15 pm Guest Reception, 7:00-9:00 pm Awards Program

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

REQUEST FOR EVENT COVERAGE:

CLEVELAND, OHIO: On January 31st, Cleveland-based, non-profit organization, Values-in-Action will present its Rescuer of Humanity Award to students and educators from **Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School**, Parkland, Florida, as they approach the one-year anniversary (February 14) of the mass school shooting that took 17 lives and wounded 17 others. The award recognizes individuals who have chosen to use their leadership to positively change the course of humanity. Since the shooting, the MSD students and educators have inspired students across the nation to treat others well, to act and not be bystanders, to reduce gun violence and to vote to effect change. Andy Fetchik, principal at Chardon High School at the time of Chardon's school shooting in 2012, will present the award to the MSD students and educators in attendance. The award will be capped off with a performance by Logan Katoch, a student from Mentor High School, who will perform a touching song she wrote after the MSD tragedy.

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. Values-in-Action will also recognize Northeast Ohio's most-deserving, values-centered leaders in the corporate, philanthropic and education realms: **Christopher M. Gorman, KeyCorp; Anne P. Noonan, OMNOVA Solutions Inc.; Ronald B. Richard, Cleveland Foundation; and, Coach Dru Joyce II, St. Vincent-St. Mary High School.** Each of these honorees serves as an example of what Values-in-Action strives to teach today's youth through its Project Love programming.

Also on this occasion, Values-in-Action will celebrate the **25th anniversary of its Project Love school programming** which works with elementary- and high school-age students to create cultures of kindness, caring and respect in their schools. This year, the organization hit a major milestone as it reached 1,400 schools and 445,200 students in 50 states with its Be Kind® STICK TOGETHER® elementary school, anti-bullying program. It has also begun working directly with 380 Cleveland high school students through its VIA Training Program that teaches students the importance of soft-skills, character and values.

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.