

A LETTER FROM THE 2019 DINNER CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

If you are like us, you are probably concerned about the level of division and polarization in our country today. Each day, we see polarization in the news along lines of race, class, religion, political affiliation, and more.

The Virginia Peninsula is not immune from these realities. While great progress has been made to make the Peninsula a place we are proud to call home, there is still work to be done. That's why we are proud to support the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC) as co-chairs of the February 21, 2019 Humanitarian Awards Dinner.

You Should Know: The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities is nationally recognized for its effectiveness in advancing inclusion and equity in schools, businesses, and communities across our commonwealth.

You Should Know: Thousands of local students and educators benefit from VCIC programs that reduce bullying and stereotypes in Peninsula schools. One local school saw a 74% decrease in discipline referrals after working with VCIC.

You Should Know: Local businesses and organizations that seek to become more diverse and inclusive regularly call upon training and consulting from VCIC.

You Should Know: VCIC regularly convenes and supports critical dialogues that bridge divides and bring hundreds of Peninsula residents together each year.

You Should Know: From 2015-2017, VCIC saw a 1,300% increase in requests for support after incidents of bias, bullying, and discrimination.

We trust that you agree that the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities' work is critical. And VCIC has stepped up to meet record demand, recently adding an office and staff member right here in Hampton Roads!

For 51 years, VCIC has celebrated local Humanitarians who model values of understanding and respect on the Virginia Peninsula. This year's Humanitarian Awards Dinner will honor the contributions of Josh David, Kathy Edwards, "Mr. Tom" Olaisen, Jeffery Smith, Alexis Swann, and the One Hundred Black Men of America, Inc., Virginia Peninsula Chapter.

If you have supported the Humanitarian Awards Dinner in the past, we gratefully request your continued participation in 2019. Please consider increasing your gift in recognition of the growing need for VCIC's programs and services right here on the Peninsula.

If you have not supported VCIC and the Humanitarian Awards Dinner, we respectfully ask you to join this important movement by making your reservation today. You'll be investing in our community alongside hundreds of others who are committed to make the Peninsula a more inclusive place.

Learn more about VCIC at www.inclusiveVA.org and make your reservation for the 2019 Peninsula Humanitarian Awards Dinner at www.inclusiveVA.org/PEN2019.

We look forward to seeing you on February 21!

Sincerely,
Bill Downey and Charlie Hill
2019 VCIC Peninsula Humanitarian Awards Dinner Co-Chairs

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

51ST ANNUAL HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

PENINSULA CHAPTER

Presented in association with Virginia Media

Thursday, February 21, 2019

HONORING:

Joshua M. David

Katherine S. Edwards

Andrew T. "Tom" Olaisen

Jeffery O. Smith

Alexis N. Swann

One Hundred Black Men of America, Inc.,
Virginia Peninsula Chapter

Including a special presentation to the Daily Press Citizen of the Year

5:45 pm Reception | 6:30 pm Dinner and Program
Newport News Marriott at City Center | 740 Town Center Drive

Reservations required

Call 804-515-7950

or

inclusiveVA.org/PEN2019

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