



## HOPE THRU NAVIGATION

### *Our Mission:*

*To Provide Individuals*

*Detoured in Life by*

*Addiction,*

*Imprisonment,*

*Discrimination, and*

*Homelessness,*

*Specialized,*

*Wrap-Around,*

*Navigation Services and*

*Support (WANNS)*

*Routes to Housing,*

*Employment, Education,*

*and Self-Sufficiency.*

806 S. Westnedge Ave.

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[hope-thru-navigation.org](http://hope-thru-navigation.org)

February 1, 2024

From all of us at HOPEtN, we would like to take a moment of recognition to thank everyone who made our 6th Annual Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute - "The Audacity of HOPE" a resounding success and the best one yet! Our hearts are full with gratitude. Thank you all for joining us in celebration and paying tribute to this year's EXTRAORDINARY Tributes.

**To the Honorable Judge William Schma** for your committed trailblazing work throughout the years, and to his daughter, Suzanne, for continuing to embrace our Vision of HOPE. Having your continued support means everything to us!

**A Special Thanks to Our Sponsors:** The Honorable Judge William Schma, Family of Pastor Michael Stewart, Franklin Public Affairs, The United Way of South Central Michigan, Choices for Change, Southwest Michigan Behavioral Health, Nation Outside, YWCA Kalamazoo, Campaign for Criminal Justice Transparency, Public Media Network, Reach Sober Living, and SAGI Housing. Thank you so much for your Sponsorship and for believing in the HOPE that Changes Everything! We wouldn't be able to do this without your support!

**Our Partners and Collaborators:** Douglass Community Association, Kalamazoo County Government, Davis Delectables, DJ Conscious, Dr. Hooks, A. Cohn Photography, HardStylin' Photography, Dominica's, Confections With Convictions, JAG Services, Kalamazoo Community Foundation, Families Against Sexual Assault and Drugs (FASAAD), Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE, Tiny Houses of HOPE (THOHP), Kalamazoo Alliance to Prevent Gun Violence (KAP), Moments by MightyStream, HMG Navigation & Planning, LLC-Event Management & Decor, No Sleep, Vine Neighborhood Association, Mattie Jordan-Woods Consulting, and Bill Play. We appreciate your special contributions to this event and are very grateful to be in partnership and collaboration with you.

**To Our 2024 Trailblazers Award Recipients:** A heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for accepting the nominations for these well deserved awards! We see all of your hard work and the positive impact it makes in our community. You all shine so brightly blazing the trail, and we are eternally grateful for all you do!



Helping Other People Exceed



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**2024 Award Recipients:** Judge William Schma Trailblazer of HOPE Award - The Honorable Judge Carolyn Williams; Rev. Dr. Otha Gilyard Pioneer of HOPE Award - The Late Pastor Michael Stewart; Veteran of HOPE Award - Antonia "Toni" Kennedy, US Army, SP4; Robert Granville Legend of HOPE Award - Troy Zukowski-Serlin; Trailblazer of Transformation Community Organization Award - Nation Outside; Commissioner Tami Rey Equity of HOPE Award - Patrese Griffin; Joseph G. McClean, Jr. Survivors Award - The Family of Austin James "AJ" Hankla and Shanae Moore; Inaugural Mattie Jordan-Woods Visionary of HOPE Award - Mattie Jordan Woods; and the Volunteer of HOPE Award - Angela Anderson aka Double A.

**Supporters, Allies, and Friends:** To all family, friends, and supporters of this year's award recipients, thank you all for showing up and showing out! It was truly beautiful to see everyone come together to celebrate the trailblazing work of those being honored this year.

**To the Resolution Presenters:** 41st District State Representative Julie Rogers, 44th District, Representative Jim Haadsma, and State Senator Sean McCann and Tributes from The Governor's Office. Thanks to each one of you for sharing your meaningful tributes to the Award Recipients. We are very appreciative of all the work you do!

**To Our Mistress of Ceremony and Award Presenters:** 95.5 The Touch Radio Personality Angela Anderson aka Double A, Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners Chair Tami Rey, MKB NAACP Vice President Lola Clark-Atkinson, Justyce and Jaide Calvert - Justice Against Bullying @ School (JABS) Co-Founders, JABS LIT (Leaders In Training) and Combined Clubs, Ashlee Hooker-Tomak - Inaugural Recipient of the Joseph G. McClean, Jr. Survivors Award and HOPEtN Outreach Coordinator, and Gwendolyn Hooker - CEO & Founder of Helping Other People Exceed thru Navigation. Thank you for doing the honor of presenting these awards, we appreciate you making the evening so special for those being honored!

**Entertainment, Arts, and Media:** Music by DJ Conscious, Photography by HardStylin' Photography, Video Presentations by Moments by MightyStream - Director of the Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE and 2024 Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Co-Chair, Program/Banner design by Shaina McLain - HOPEtN Event Navigator & 2024 Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Co-Chair. Thank you all for sharing your creativity and making this event one to remember!

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**HOPEtN Statement of Equity:** MightyStream Anders - Director of the Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE and the 2024 Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Co-Chair.

**Land Acknowledgement:** Douglass Community Association Interim Executive Director Stacey Ledbetter.

**Special Thanks** to the Douglass Community Association for opening up your space for us to host this very special event, Pat Davis of Davis Delectables for serving up delicious appetizers, dinner, and dessert for guests, Rod's Printing for our event banner, and Printmill for all our printing needs.

**To the HOPEtN Crew:** You all did an amazing job putting on this special event and it was so beautiful to see us all come together as a team!

**HOPEtN Crew:** Wanda Eaton (Ms. E) - Property & Office Management (decorations/centerpieces), MightyStream Anders - Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE Housing Director (Moments by MightyStream video production), Shaina McLain - Event Navigator (graphic design/marketing), Ashlee Hooker-Tomak - Outreach Coordinator, Kimbery Shuler - Outreach Navigator, Travis Brown - Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE Navigator/Maintenance, Summer Sommerville - Program Support Navigator, JABS LIT (Leaders in Training) Club & JABS Combined Clubs, ToH24 Planning and Development Committee, our Board of Directors, and our Visionary of HOPE, Gwendolyn Hooker, CEO & Founder of Helping Other People Exceed thru Navigation (HOPEtN).

**To Our Dedicated Volunteers:** A special thank you to Mattie Jordan-Woods, Artrella Cohn, our three men from the Recovery & Resiliency Trauma Center of HOPE, Jessica Boyd, Giacomo Scavone, Harold Woods, Angelita Aguilar, and our JABS Club Members for being table escorts. Thank you for giving your time and talents to make the 2024 Trailblazers Tribute one for the books!

Last, we would like to thank each person who purchased a ticket or table to make the 6th Annual Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute another SOLD OUT event!

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### **With Gratitude,**

MighyStream Anders, 2024 Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Co-Chair  
Shaina McLain, 2024 Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Co-Chair  
Gwendolyn Hooker, CEO & Founder of Helping Other People Exceed thru Navigation (HOPEtN)

### **Links for Viewing:**

- **95.5 The Touch Radio Speak on It interview with Gwendolyn Hooker:**  
<https://omny.fm/shows/speak-on-it/soi-january-20th-2024>
- **Live Stream Courtesy of Public Media Network:**
  - [bit.ly/41YQVfq](http://bit.ly/41YQVfq)
  - <https://fb.watch/pTK5SoipJd/>
- **Moments by MightyStream Tribute Videos:**
  - <https://youtu.be/eL8KY6nanHk?si=0QISTm hvKAnGHpCe>
  - <https://youtu.be/qJDT0DGGXy0?si=N9ghl31j8QWJ-hbS>
- **Trailblazers of HOPE Tribute Photo Album:**  
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/y484ygDpfzUZY5LR8>

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