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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gary Sams and Steve Bennison were awarded the Charlene Schultz Volunteer Award from Employment For Seniors, a nonprofit job-assistance agency for central Ohioans age 50 and older. The awards were presented at a recent Thanksgiving luncheon, hosted by First Community Village, for the agency's volunteers, board members, supporters and friends.

Sams was honored for his many years of service as the Volunteer Network Administrator for EFS. A retired engineer with AEP, Sams has provided pivotal guidance to the agency, located at 4500 East Broad St. Increasing the technological capacity of the agency and strengthening the infrastructure, are just a few of the many services he has given, to help mature job seekers find employment in Central Ohio.

Brett Johnson, president of the EFS Board of Directors, said of him, "Gary Sams has provided Employment For Seniors with significant advancements in our programs and processes, allowing for efficient and effective client services. We are incredibly fortunate to have his support and dedication. Providing us with countless hours of assistance, his guidance has allowed us to maintain a strong foundation and continue building this excellent organization."

After 35 years directing human resource units in the manufacturing, technical and distribution industries, Steve Bennison has devoted his time to Employment For Seniors as a Volunteer Job Counselor, since 2002. EFS Executive Director, Carol Ventresca, noted, "Steve is our "go-to-guy! At Employment for Seniors, we depend on him to assist many clients needing his particular expertise. Whether it is on-site registration, mock interviewing, resume reviews, or just helping clients to "think outside of the box" regarding potential career paths --- Steve helps clients to reach success. He not only devoted his working career to the fulfillment of human capacity, he now devotes his retirement to that same goal – helping EFS clients reach their capacity and thrive in today's workforce."

The award was created to honor the memory of Charlene Schultz. Ventresca stated, "Charlene's many years of service to EFS, her dedication and dependability, provided much needed office support to our staff. EFS serves over 1,100 new clients each year; we could not successfully continue our mission without the support of our many volunteers."

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