Since then, REACH has operated a winter warming shelter and recently transitioned into a year-round shelter for people experiencing chronic homelessness. As Chair of REACH Advocacy, Andy led this effort. When funding constraints became apparent, Andy rolled up his sleeves and began a multi-year advocacy campaign. His ability to draw in partners across various sectors and professions speaks to his integrity, competence, and commitment to the forgotten in our community. His innovative ideas cannot be ignored because they are practical and solution-based. He knows when to step back, and let others step up, because he believes in people.

As if this isn't enough, every year, Andy supervises numerous social work interns from our Local colleges and also employs city summer of opportunity youth. I don’t know when Andy sleeps, but he somehow finds quality time to spend with his loving family - his wife and three children.

Andy is so very deserving of this award. His perseverance and commitment to actualize dignified housing and treatment solutions is relentless. His eternal optimism in spite of challenge after challenge is inspiring.