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**Volunteer leader recognized for unparalleLED commitment and vision to helping older adults live a life of meaning**

KANSAS CITY, MO. –Shepherd’s Centers of America (SCA) announces Ann McClung, with Shepherd’s Center of Greenbrier Valley (Lewisburg, WV) and immediate past chair of SCA’s Board of Trustees, the recipient of the 2020 Rusty and Nancy Ryan National Visionary Award.

This prestigious award recognizes exceptional volunteer leaders with the Shepherd’s Centers of America network for their determination, imagination, integrity, and dedication to the Shepherd’s Centers movement to ensure older adults have meaningful opportunities for service and lifelong learning that promote individual well-being and independent living. McClung has been vitally important in advancing new and ongoing initiatives locally, regionally, and nationally.

“Ann continually infuses energy and creativity to support the Shepherd’s Centers of America mission,” said Sarah Cheney, Executive Director of Shepherd’s Centers of America. “She never strays from our focus of empowering older adults while furthering collaborative efforts of the network and enhancing our capacity with technology. It’s this approach that ensures the SCA network will remain a vital resource for generations to come.”

This award celebrates visionaries, like Rusty and Nancy Ryan, who personify the spirit of volunteerism, faithfulness, and innovation, and whose influence continues to shape opportunities for older Americans. “It is a testament to the passion, ingenuity, and vision of its creators,” says Cheney.

McClung is a founder of Shepherd’s Center of Greenbrier Valley, which celebrated its 20th anniversary last year. Her commitment to the mission extends to the national network where she has held executive leadership roles, including Chair of the Board of Trustees (2017-2019) and treasurer (2016-2017).

Annually, the Shepherd’s Centers network of 55 centers supports more than 13,000 volunteers who donate 660,800 hours of service. As a result, nearly 55,000 older adults are provided informal caregiving services at no charge. The estimated value of these services is $17.9 million, based on the Independent Sector’s value for volunteer time.

The distinguished Rusty and Nancy Ryan National Visionary Award was announced at the 2020 national conference on October 30,2020. McClung was one of 25 select speakers for the conference. She is an admired mentor for network leaders.

**About the Rusty and Nancy Ryan National Visionary Award**

Established in 2014, this award is a tribute to the extraordinary leadership and vision of Rusty and Nancy Ryan. It is the highest award given to individuals affiliated with the Shepherd’s Centers of America network to recognize their contributions and impact now and in the future. Knowing how the SCA network calls forth the best in people and brings them together around a shared sense of purpose, the Ryan’s created this award to propel the vision forward.

**About Shepherd’s Centers of America**

Headquartered in Kansas City, MO, Shepherd’s Centers of America is a network of faith and community-based organizations serving older adults and promoting service to others. Founded in 1972 by the late Rev. Dr. Elbert C. Cole, Shepherd’s Centers are one of the first organizations in the nation advancing the health and well-being of older adults in ways they value most.

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