

COMMUNITY SHARES



2025

COMMUNITY SHARES CIRCLE OF CHANGE

~ Program ~

Silent Auction, Live music, Cash bar

Buffet dinner

Live auction

Silent Auction closes - 7:45 pm

40th Anniversary Remarks

TONY GARR

Community Shares Board President

40th Anniversary Long Haul Recognitions

Circle of Change Video and Awards

SHELLEY WASCOM

Executive Director, Community Shares

**Community Shares thanks the great team at
Knoxville Community Video
for their production of the Circle of Change video.**

2025 CIRCLE OF CHANGE

DANNY MAYFIELD CHAMPION OF CHANGE: June Rostan

The Danny Mayfield Champion of Change Award honors a leader in our community who has championed an initiative or campaign whose goal is to change conditions that create injustice. This year's award goes to June Rostan for 50 years of working for social justice especially in the areas of labor justice and equality.



HEART OF CHANGE AWARD: Lee Ann Swarm

The Heart of Change award was envisioned as an award to honor those who are often behind the scenes working to strengthen social change organizations and causes. We have resurrected this award (which was retired in 2013) for our 40th Anniversary in order to honor Lee Ann Swarm for her tireless dedication to Community Shares and quite a few of our member groups with both her time and financial support.



INSTITUTION FOR CHANGE: The Bottom

The Institution for Change award honors a business or institution that demonstrates socially conscious practices in the community. This year's award goes to The Bottom, a multi-use space for fostering change, building community, celebrating culture, engaging the creativity of Black people through curated events, ongoing projects, shared resources and physical space and to provide a sense of Black safety.



CAMPAIGN FOR CHANGE: Public School Strong Tennessee

This year's Campaign for Change award honors Public School Strong Tennessee for their work to stop private vouchers from defunding public education in favor of private, making education less accessible, and killing jobs in our state. PSS is a coalition of parents, students, educators and community members who are committed to honest, equitable and fully funded public schools.



JOBS WITH JUSTICE OF EAST TENNESSEE

is proud of our Co-Chair



JUNE ROSTAN

recipient of the
2025 Danny Mayfield Champion of Change Award



JWJET, the local chapter of national Jobs with Justice, is a coalition of labor unions, community groups, and individuals committed to social and economic justice for working people and their families in East Tennessee.



Co-Chairs June Rostan and Tracy Fair invite you to JwJET's monthly meetings on the second Saturday at noon at the CWA Union Hall, 1415 Elm St., Knoxville and to monthly solidarity actions!

Website: www.jwjet.org
Email: jwjetn@gmail.com

The Community Shares story

FORTY YEARS AGO there were great organizations in Tennessee working to make change and trying to figure out how to get the money to do so. Save Our Cumberland Mountains, The Carpetbag Theatre, Knoxville Recycling Coalition (under the auspices of the Knoxville Community Food Cooperative), Knoxville Communications Co-op, and the Legal Environmental Assistance Foundation put their heads together to try and figure out a better way of raising money than bake sales and car washes.

Through the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, they learned about organizations what were raising money from donors in the workplace for social change organizations. (NCRP had been working since the late 70s to loosen the United Way monopoly on workplace fundraising and in effect, open up this type of giving to organizations who work to create progressive social change rather than the United Way standard of funding only direct service charities.)

There were a lot of skeptics who felt that this could not work in Tennessee—especially Knoxville. After all we're a conservative town in a conservative state and we were going to try and get regular people to give money to change makers and to get businesses to agree to let us solicit their employees. But they decided to give it a try, and they came up with the name Community Shares, the slogan "A World of Change in Our own Backyard," and got the University of Tennessee to agree to let them participate in the Campus Chest campaign alongside United Way. They raised about \$6000 that year but more importantly they proved that regular people would give money to help create change.

Over the next 40 years, one dollar at a time, one donor at a time, we have raised more than \$12 million for Tennessee social change organizations. Instead of focusing only on the wealthiest few who are able to make the largest gifts, we've consistently reached out to new donors and broadened the definition of the word "philanthropist" to include all who give. Community Shares has changed a lot over the last 40 years, but our values remain the same.

- We value choice in giving in workplace fundraising.
- We value working for progressive social change made on a systemic or institutional level in communities throughout Tennessee.
- We value justice, fairness and equality in ourselves, our member groups, and the world.
- We value working together to create a strong statewide organization.
- We value the trust of our donors.

Our goals are the same as well:

- To create a more just and caring community.
- To connect individual donors with organizations that are creating positive & lasting social change on a systemic or institutional level, protecting our environment and working to build a world that supports all its inhabitants.

We've come a long way in the last 40 years but social change organizations still struggle daily to raise enough money to continue their work of helping people and communities find their power and fight for justice. Together we will continue to make it possible for this great work to continue.

40th Anniversary Long Haul Recognition

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE



UT was the first workplace to take a chance on Community Shares and allow us to solicit their employees for donations. UT employees have been steadfast donors and supporters of Community Shares for our whole 40 years.

SOCM: STATEWIDE ORGANIZING FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

SOCM, known then as Save Our Cumberland Mountains, was one of the founding members of Community Shares and is the only organization that has been a member group for our whole 40-year existence.



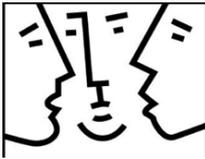
*Thank you, June Rostan,
for your activism, inspiration and mentoring.*

SOLIDARITY FOREVER

Judy Roitman

**Congratulations and gratitude to
the determined and influential
2025 Circle of Change Award Winners:**

**June Rostan, Lee Ann Swarm, The Bottom,
and Public Schools Strong Tennessee.
We are inspired and mobilized by your example.**



Nina Gregg
Communication Resources
4210 Sevierville Road
Maryville, TN 37804
865.977.7399 office 865.607.7399 mobile
n Gregg@att.net

*Strengthening non-profit and social justice organizations
through consultation, planning, evaluation and coaching*

*Congratulations to Susan Williams
on her retirement from Highlander!*

Huge gratitude for your many years and your thoughtful
answers to our thousands of questions! You are simply
the best!

Wishing you much happiness and good health!

Barbara Mott



**KUB is proud to sponsor the
2025 Circle of Change Awards.**

**Thank you to Community
Shares for its commitment to
our community and supporting
local nonprofits.**

KUB is proud to serve the community
with industry-leading energy, water,
and high-speed internet services.

CONGRATULATIONS
TO JUNE AND LEE ANN.

With thanks and love,
Glenda

*The donors below have contributed to Community Shares in
honor of tonight's Circle of Change recipients*

Pamela Schoenewaldt & Maurizio Conti

Bingham Graves

Carl Nichols

Scott Rostan

Martha Lionberger

Ann Myers

Marsha and Terry Uselton

Sylvia Phillips

in honor of Mrs. Bessie T. Graves

Mary Ann Reeves

in memory of Fran Ansley

Linda Ewald

Corinne Rovetti

Susan Houchins

Carol Green

Gerry Larkin

**WE CELEBRATE
JUNE ROSTAN
OUR CHAMPION OF SOLIDARITY**

Lee and Jim Sessions



With appreciation for June Rostan's lifelong commitment to,
and leadership of, organizations that work for justice for all people

~and~

With love and appreciation for the many decades of friendship
between our families!

Brenda, Laura, Anna, Maggie, Katie, Pete,
Wiley, Johanna, Willa, Ellie, Mavis



TENNESSEANS
for alternatives to the
DEATH PENALTY

CONGRATS LEE ANN!

**Thank you from all of us at
Tennesseans for Alternatives to
the Death Penalty**

TADP works to honor life by abolishing the death penalty, preventing violence, and supporting those who experience harm.

Scan me



WWW.TENNESSEEDeATHPENALTY.ORG

The Tennessee Health Care Campaign

gives a full-hearted congratulations to Lee Ann
Swarm for this well-deserved honor!

Please save the date for our annual conference
September 18 and 19th at the University of
Tennessee in Chattanooga.

As always, if you or someone you know has a
healthcare story they would like to share, we want to
hear from you. Your story can make an impact!

To share your story contact:
Lacey at 615-227-7500 ext. 7.
or lacey@tnhealthcarecampaign.org

Let's get healthier together!

Tennessee Health Care Campaign



Congratulations

to a well deserving sister and aunt.

Renee Rostan

Holly Anderson

Robert Rostan

Scott Rostan

Simplicity
Peace
Integrity
Community
Earth Restored

Lee Ann inspires us
to try to live these Quaker testimonies.

Thank you, Lee Ann!

Friends from West Knoxville Friends Meeting

The OAK RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL PEACE ALLIANCE

congratulates

the 2025 Circle of Change honorees—

especially our Board President

Lee Ann Swarm

the Heart of Change!



BEARING WITNESS :: 80 YEARS AFTER HIROSHIMA

August 2025 marks 80 years since the United States destroyed the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and ushered in the nuclear age. Today, a nuclear exchange—even a “small” one—would trigger nuclear winter, a ten year famine that would render the entire Earth uninhabitable for those who survived the initial radiation blast.

OREPA invites you to join us this August as we commemorate Hiroshima and Nagasaki and call for the United States to join the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

A slate of activities is being planned for the first week in August. Details will be announced on our web site <orepa.org> and our instagram account (follow us by snapping the QR code!) Events will include:

- *An evening with Hideko Tamura* who was a ten year old schoolgirl in Hiroshima when the bomb dropped
- *A Banner Build* workshop with Todd Drake, the Quaker Pirate
- *A photo exhibit* by Oak Ridger Yvonne Dalschen
- *An 8-80 spiritual Fast*
- *A Names and Remembrance Ceremony* on August 6 in Oak Ridge
- *A Rally, March and Action* in Oak Ridge on August 9
- *A Peace Lantern Ceremony* in Knoxville on the evening of August 9
- and more!

We bear witness in East Tennessee because it started here — the Y-12 Plant produced the highly enriched uranium that destroyed Hiroshima. And because it continues here—Y-12 is still producing the thermonuclear core for nuclear weapons today.

Creating a safer world for our children and their children is not up to someone else; it's up to us.

THE OAK RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL PEACE ALLIANCE
P O Box 5743 Oak Ridge TN 37831 • orepa@earthlink.net

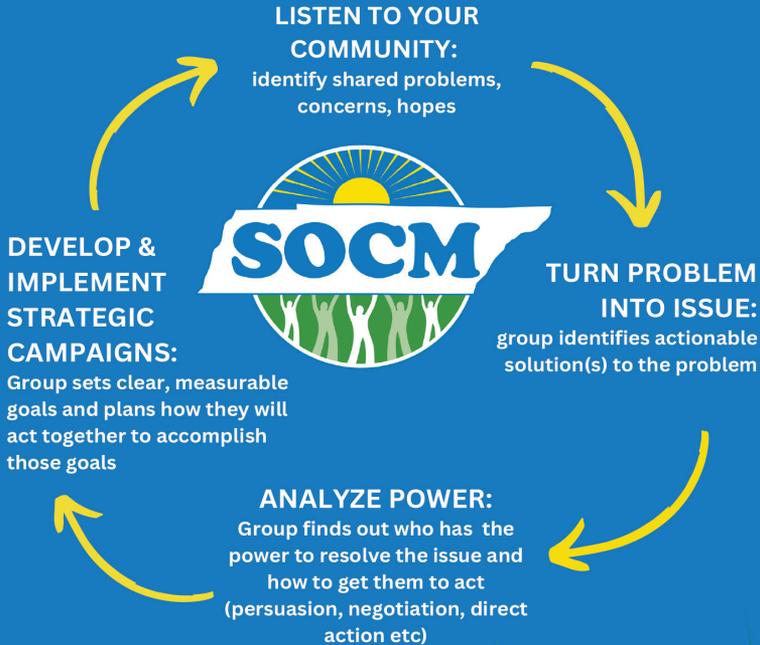


COMMUNITY SHARES MEMBER GROUPS

Appalachian Community Fund
Black Children's Institute of Tennessee
Bridge Refugee Services
CISV Smoky Mountain Chapter
Highlander Research & Education Center*
Ijams Nature Center
Jubilee Community Arts
Little River Watershed Association
Mid-Tennessee Council of the Blind
NAMI-TN
Nashville Peace & Justice Center
Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA)
Organized Neighbors of Edgehill (ONE)
People for Animals
Planned Parenthood of TN and North MS
Radio Free Nashville
Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE)
Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment
Tennesseans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty
Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning
Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence
Tennessee Disability Coalition
Tennessee Environmental Council
Tennessee Health Care Campaign
Tennessee Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition (TIRRC)*
Tennessee Pride Chamber
Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA)
Workers Interfaith Network

Congratulations to all Circle of Change Honorees

HOW WE ORGANIZE



Local Roots . . . Statewide Impact!

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

bit.ly/SOCMMembership

BUILDING OUR BASE

*listening to other people in our community, inviting new people into the work, and developing leaders are all at the *root* of how we create positive change.