



FINALISTS NAMED IN 'PURPOSE PRIZE' FOR OLDER AMERICANS TACKLING SOCIAL ILLS

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A new prize program to honor people aged 60 and older who are working to solve social problems in an innovative way has named 15 finalists.

The finalists, who will each receive \$10,000, include a former mayor who helps children of incarcerated parents, a retired businessman who created an organization to assist seriously ill children, and a woman who started an association to help caregivers of chronically ill people.

A panel of nonprofit, business, cultural, and political leaders will award \$100,000 "Purpose Prizes" to five of the finalists, who are aged 60 to 81, in September. The program is operated by Civic Ventures, a think tank in San Francisco that promotes projects to tap into the expertise of older people. "The finalists provide guideposts for the millions of baby boomers who would like to do socially significant work in a time that used to be called 'retirement,'" the group said in a statement.

The prize money comes from the Atlantic Philanthropies, in New York, and the John Templeton Foundation, in West Conshohocken, Pa.

The finalists are:
Frank Brady, 64, of

Paterson, N.J. Created Medical Missions for Children to help seriously ill children get medical care.

Conchy Bretos, 61, of Miami. Runs a consulting company that helps public-housing projects bring assisted-living services to low-income older adults.

Robert Chambers, 62, of Lebanon, N.H. Created Bonnie CLAC (Car Loans and Counseling) to provide low-interest car loans to low-income buyers.

Charles Day, 76, of Old Lyme, Conn. Created Start on Success to provide paid internships and employment mentors to disabled, mostly minority, high school students.

Bernard Flynn, 71, of Sacramento, Calif. Co-founded River Partners to help farmers restore flood-prone riverfront land as wildlife habitats.

Marilyn Gaston, 67, and Gayle Porter, 60, both of Bethesda, Md. Created Prime Time Sister Circles to help African-American women improve their health.

W. Wilson Goode Sr., 68, of Philadelphia. The former Philadelphia mayor became director of and expanded Amachi, which provides mentors to children of incarcerated parents.

Benjamin Hooks, 81, of

Memphis. The former head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People co-founded the Children's Health Forum to help prevent lead poisoning of children.

Dagney Jochem, 65, of Durham, N.C. Created Partners in Caring to bring HIV/AIDS education and care to minority rural residents.

James Ketelsen, 76, of Houston. Created Project GRAD (Graduation Really Achieves Dreams) to help minority and low-income young people graduate from high school and get into college.

Suzanne Mintz, 60, of Kensington, Md. Co-founded the National Family Caregivers Association to help people who care for chronically ill or disabled family members or friends.

Judea Pearl, 69, of Los Angeles, and Akbar Ahmed, 63, of Washington. Mr. Pearl is president of the Daniel Pearl Foundation, created to honor the memory of his son, a Wall Street Journal reporter who was killed by terrorists in Pakistan in 2002. He and Mr. Ahmed, professor of Islamic studies at American University, speak around the country and abroad at "Daniel Pearl Dialogues for

Muslim-Jewish Understanding."

Martha Rollins, 63, of Richmond, Va. Created Boaz & Ruth to provide jobs and job training to ex-prisoners in fields such as catering, furniture restoration, and home repair.

June Simmons, 64, San Fernando, Calif. Created the Partners in Care Foundation to devise innovative approaches to delivering health care.

Herb Sturtz, 76, New York. Created the After School Corporation to run after-school programs and ReServe to place retirees in part-time jobs with social-service and government organizations.

The jury that will select the five winners is headed by Sherry Lansing, chief executive of the Sherry Lansing Foundation and former chair of Paramount Pictures' Motion Picture Group. Other members include the actor and producer Sidney Poitier, the feminist activist Gloria Steinem, the broadcast political commentator Cokie Roberts, and the former presidential adviser David Gergen.