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*Just Communities of Central Arkansas advances diversity, challenges assumptions and promotes understanding through educational programs and advocacy.*

*Save This Date: Tuesday, May 19*

## *JCCA will present Humanitarian Award to Governor Mike Beebe*

*Sharon Heflin is serving as chair of JCCA's 46th Annual National Humanitarian Award Dinner on Tuesday, May 19. "We are thrilled with this opportunity to highlight the good works of Governor Mike Beebe during his distinguished career as a public servant to the citizens of Arkansas," Heflin says.*

*The reception begins at 6 p.m., and the program and dinner will be from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Wally Allen Ballroom of the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock.*

*Dr. Fitz Hill, president of Arkansas Baptist College, will present the award to Governor Beebe.*

*Former honorees are also recognized. JCCA was the first non-profit organization locally to hold an awards dinner, and long time supporters look forward to this evening of fellowship and inspiration.*

*Tickets are \$150 per person, and Patron tables for 10 are \$1,500. Sponsorships are also still available. Heflin adds, "We discussed raising our ticket price this year since we have been charging this amount for well over a decade. But, we want this dinner to be open to all, especially given our challenging economy."*

*According to executive director Ruth Shepherd, "Unlike most fund-*

*raising dinners in Central Arkansas, approximately 1/2 of the tickets for the JCCA dinner are bought by individuals. This is a great opportunity to meet some new friends who share JCCA's passion for creating communities where every person is valued, every voice is heard, and everyone has a fair chance to succeed."*

*Invitations will be mailed soon, but you can order your tickets now by phoning Mallory Jewell at 501-372-5129.*



# JCCAvoices

Just Communities of Central Arkansas

## Gathering of Friends Brings JCCA Supporters Together to Honor Three

Over 120 Friends came to help JCCA honor Rev. Wendell Griffen, Ted Holder and Rev. Ed Matthews with the Father Joseph H. Biltz award named for the late Little Rock activist priest. In her personal remembrance of Father Joe, Diane Mackey said, "Father Joe led with his heart." The same is true of this year's award recipients.

Board chair Sue Weinstein presented the awards by noting Wendell Griffen's untiring work for social justice causes, Ted Holder's long history of working for full inclusion of members of the GLBT community, and Ed Matthews' work at building community from Africa to Arkansas and many places in between.

The Central Arkansas Library System co-sponsored the Gathering, and all who attended felt that the late Fred Darragh would have been proud to know that this event was held in the room which bears his name.

Over \$10,700 was given to JCCA making this "Fundraiser," the most successful Gathering in JCCA history. All donors are listed on page 2.



Biltz Honorees Wendell Griffen, Ted Holder & Ed Matthews



Father Joe Biltz's Sister  
Mary Biltz Mobley



Former Biltz Honoree LaVerne Feaster &  
JCCA Board Chair Sue Weinstein



JCCA Board Member Derrick Smith, John Baker, JCCA Board Vice  
Chair Jay Barth and Dennis Burrow



2008 Walk for CommUNITY Co-Chair Shareese  
Kondo & JCCA Board Member Marian Lacey

Photos by Doris Krain

# Donors to Gathering of Friends

## Help JCCA Break all Previous Records

Lucy Lincoln Abraham  
Heath & Ronna Abshure  
Jenny Adair  
Kris & John Baker  
Jay Barth  
Mauzel Beal  
Judy & John Bel  
William J. & Margaret L. Bogle  
David Boling & Mine Sasaguri  
Thomas Brannon  
Virginia Brissey  
Dolores & Tom Bruce  
Wynona Bryant-Williams  
Dennis Burrow  
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Richard C. Butler, Jr.  
Julie & Bob Cabe  
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Brent David Chenard  
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Martha & Winston Faulkner  
LaVerne W. Feaster  
Greg Flesher  
Lynn Frost & Amy Edgington  
Sue Frueauff  
John Gaudin & Corky Patton  
Susan & Chuck Goldner  
Jean Gordon & Walter Clancy  
Bequita Gray  
Wanda Hamilton

Laine Harber  
Joyce Hardy  
Russ Harrington  
Merry Helen & Harold Hedges  
Sharon Heflin  
Kenneth Hicks  
Ray Higgins  
Joe van den Heuvel & Ted Holder  
Mrs. John L. Holder & Daughters  
Doc Holladay  
Annabelle Clinton Imber  
Irma M. Jewell  
Frances C. & Acie L. Johnson  
Ruthe & Philip Kaplan  
Fred Knight  
Shareese Kondo  
Marian G. & J.J. Lacey, Jr.  
Ron Lanoue  
Brian Kennerly & Mike Lauro, Jr.  
Brownie Williams Ledbetter  
Bobbie & Rabbi Eugene H. Levy  
Pat & John Lile  
Rosa Lilia Lopez-Becerra  
Maxwell (Mac) Lyons II  
Garth Martin  
Marsha & Mark Matthews,  
Hunter & James  
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Susan & Ron May  
Larry & Beth Maze  
Freeman McKindra, Sr.  
The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Samuel McKinney  
Mary Biltz Mobley & Jejo Mobley  
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Frances van den Heuvel  
Gus Vratsinas  
Betty Jo Ward  
Allan Ward & Albert Porter  
Mabel Harris Webb  
Sue Weinstein & Jeff Baskin  
Bishop Richard & Julia Wilke  
Ed & Andrea Wills,  
Nathanael & Carrie Wills  
Diana Wilson  
John & Liz Workman  
Patricia L. Youngdahl

To view photos of the Gathering of Friends by Doris Krain, go to:  
[www.digiproofs.com](http://www.digiproofs.com). password=JCCAFriends

## JCCA Board Members

### *Chair*

Dr. Sue Weinstein

### *Vice Chair*

Dr. Jay Barth

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### *Treasurer*

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### *Executive Director*

Ruth D. Shepherd

# Arkansas Cradle to Prison Pipeline Summit

April 30- May 2, 2009

*The Cradle-to-Prison Pipeline is an urgent national crisis at the intersection of poverty and race that puts Black boys born in 2001 at a one in three lifetime risk of going to prison and Latino boys born in 2001 at a one in six lifetime risk of the same fate. Tens of thousands of children and teens from all socio-economic levels and all ethnicities are lured into the Pipeline each year.*

Chaired by JCCA Board Member Dr. Beverly Divers-White, the mission of the Arkansas Cradle to Prison Pipeline is to provide a strong effective voice for all the children and to activate action plans within and across sectors in Arkansas to ensure a successful passage from childhood to adulthood for children and youth with the help of caring families and communities. Honorary co-chairs are Charles Stewart and JCCA Board Member Pat Lile.

### Goals for the Arkansas Summit:

- To raise public awareness of the urgency to dismantling the pipeline in Arkansas.
- To identify areas which impact our children from cradle to prison.
- To create strong cross-sector and cross agency coalitions for change...toward dismantling the pipeline.
- To promote a concrete plan of action that is appropriate and feasible within the local and state context.
- To empower families, youth and activists to challenge the norms which create the Pipeline.

You can be a part of this important initiative which will highlight the Cradle to Prison Pipeline areas in Arkansas, identify national and regional models that can be implemented to dismantle the Pipeline, and finally to make recommendations for enhancing the quality of life for children and youth in our state.

Go to [www.arkansascradle.org](http://www.arkansascradle.org) to get more information and a registration form. Fees for the entire conference (received by April 29, 2009) are \$150.