



Benefitting



Saturday, May 20, 2017, 6 pm  
GM Wintergarden  
Renaissance Center, Detroit, MI

## *2017 Lifetime Achievement Honoree*

**Joan Duggan** has spent her life helping others and working with people to help them improve their lives. Spanning three decades, Life Directions first became connected with Joan in the early 80s through her work with the first-time offenders program in Wayne County. She joined Life Directions staff in 1991. As a director, she was instrumental in raising the necessary funds to increase our programs. Her accomplishments include:



- Securing a major 5-year \$500,000.00 grant from the Skillman Foundation to get to the cause of violence in the Brewsters and Jeffries Projects working with Murray-Wright High School and their feeder schools. Our programs increased school attendance, raised test scores and had positive Peer to Peer inspiration throughout the school and the neighborhoods. Through this grant U of M Dearborn conducted a yearly evaluation that demonstrated major accomplishment from Life Directions program including less violence, gang reduction and increased school attendance.
- Spearheading in 1994 Life Directions' staff to become the facilitator of a multi high school assembly process to lower the tensions created by the killing of children at that time.
- Crafting the proposal for a "National Training Institute for Life Directions" in 1996. We to this day still use elements of the model as we train volunteers, adult mentors, staff and boards.
- Increasing attendance and funding through our annual Tribute event allowing us to increase programming and serving Southwestern, Western, Northwestern, Cody, Henry Ford, Martin Luther King, Jr., Denby and Murray Wright High schools and their feeder schools.

Joan is a former registered nurse who was an executive assistant to Ed McNamara when he was mayor of Livonia, and ran for the office herself in 1986, becoming the first woman to do so. She is married to Patrick J. Duggan since 1957. Their sons include Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan, Dan, Jim, Tim, and Robert (deceased), and 13 grandchildren.

Photo by John Meiu