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Jerry Rampelt Named Purpose Prize Fellow

Purpose Prizes Honor Americans Over Age 60 for Making an Extraordinary Impact in their Encore Careers

Columbus, Ohio — Civic Ventures announced today that Jerry Rampelt of Columbus, Ohio is a 2010 Purpose Prize Fellow. Rampelt was recognized as a social entrepreneur over 60 who, in his “encore career,” is using his experience and passion to make an extraordinary impact on society’s biggest challenges. Now in its fifth year, the six-year, \$17 million Purpose Prize program is the nation’s only large-scale investment in social innovators in the second half of life.

Rampelt was named a Fellow because of his work with Support Ohio Schools, a non-profit organization he formed to help small school districts pass much-needed operating levies to ensure adequately-funding schools and ensure a quality education for all students in Ohio. Rampelt started Support Ohio Schools in 2009 and since that time has worked with 75 school districts seeking to pass operating levies. Of these, SOS exceeded the statewide passage rate, many after multiple defeats at the ballot box.

“I am extremely honored to be recognized as a Purpose Prize fellow,” said Jerry Rampelt. “Many of Ohio’s school districts are struggling with inadequate funding. I hope that my efforts will encourage others to get involved and ensure our children find success in school.”

The 46 Purpose Prize Fellows of 2010 will be honored at the Purpose Prize Summit November 12-14 in Philadelphia. Approximately 400 attendees of the invitation-only event will hear from featured speakers such as W. Wilson Goode Sr. (former mayor of Philadelphia and 2006 Prize winner); writer and cultural anthropologist Mary Catherine Bateson (author of *Composing a Further Life: The Age of Active Wisdom*); civil rights leader and social innovator Robert Moses (founder of The Algebra Project); and bestselling author Martin Seligman (founder of the field of positive psychology).

“Purpose Prize Fellows show what’s possible in our communities – and the world – when experienced adults apply their passion and skill to improve the lives of others.” said Alexandra Céspedes Kent, Director of The Purpose Prize. “Imagine the potential for society if tens of thousands of adults focused their know-how on the social causes they are most passionate about – it’s a tremendous opportunity.”

The Purpose Prize, funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies and the John Templeton Foundation, is a program of Civic Ventures’ Encore Careers campaign (www.encore.org), which aims to engage millions of baby boomers in encore careers combining social impact, personal meaning and continued income in the second half of life.

For more information, visit: www.encore.org/prize.

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About Support Ohio Schools (www.supportohioschools.org)

Support Ohio Schools (SOS) is a new non-profit organization committed to providing school levy committees the tools and resources to aid in winning levy campaigns.

About Civic Ventures (www.encore.org)

Civic Ventures is a national think tank on boomers, work and social purpose.

About The Atlantic Philanthropies (www.atlanticphilanthropies.org)

The Atlantic Philanthropies are dedicated to bringing about lasting changes in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. Their work is aimed at ageing, disadvantaged children and youth, population health, and reconciliation and human rights.

About the John Templeton Foundation (www.templeton.org)

The John Templeton Foundation serves as a philanthropic catalyst for research and discoveries relating to what scientists and philosophers call the Big Questions. The Foundation supports work at the world's top universities in such fields as theoretical physics, cosmology, evolutionary biology, cognitive science and social science relating to love, forgiveness, creativity, purpose and the nature and origin of religious belief.