

Central Minnesota  
Community Foundation

*Engaging People, Building Community*

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HONORS LOCAL PHILANTHROPIC LEADERS\** **Awards Will Be Presented at Annual Dinner**

St. Cloud, Minn. - The Central Minnesota Community Foundation (CMCF) will recognize a longtime St. Cloud resident for her passion and vision for philanthropy in Central Minnesota at its annual awards dinner on Sept. 14.

### **Individual Award in Philanthropy**

Nancy Ehlen is a generous donor to the causes she believes in-in the places that she lives-here in St. Cloud, in Bemidji, and in Arizona. Her gifts are not only financial, as she is generous with her time and talents as well.

### **Professional Award in Philanthropy**

Colette Carlson, Principal at LarsonAllen, will receive the Professional Award in Philanthropy. Carlson has encouraged philanthropy with her clients and has advocated the use of the Foundation as a critical planning tool. In addition, Colette was a long-time member and chair of the Professional Advisors Council of CMCF.

### **Business Award in Philanthropy**

Marco, Inc. will receive the Business Award in Philanthropy. Since 1973 when Gary Marsden and Dave Marquardt acquired the company, they have been a community leader in corporate philanthropy through their financial contributions and encouraging their employees to give of their own talents and financial resources. An employee-owned company, they believe in "doing well and doing good", says Jeff Gau, CEO,

### **President's Award**

Kevin Hughes, Senior Attorney, Hughes Mathews, P.A., will receive the President's Award. The award recognizes the efforts of an individual or group that has provided significant and long-term support to the Community Foundation and the greater community at large. Hughes was pivotal in the establishment of the Community Foundation, and his support is as important today as it was nearly 30 years ago.

### **ATHENA Award**

Jan Bensen, 1st Vice President, Financial Consultant of RBC Wealth Management, will receive the ATHENA Award. Bensen's passion has been working for women and girls through numerous nonprofits she has served. The award is presented by the Women's Fund and is sponsored by HealthPartners and ROI Magazine.

The annual event is open to the public. Cost is \$50 per person. Register by Sept. 8 at

CommunityGiving.org or by calling (320) 253-4380.