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NETWORKS

A publication for members of the NeighborWorks network



Greetings!

We are proud to announce that [Stuart J. Mitchell III, CEO Emeritus, PathStone Corp.](#) is the recipient of the [2024 NeighborWorks Founders Award](#). The award recognizes a leader who has brought positive, transformative change for communities reflective of the spirit that led to the founding of NeighborWorks America: community, equity, inclusion, integrity and service.

During Stuart's more than 50-year tenure at [PathStone Corp.](#), he guided the organization from a grassroots effort helping migrant farmworkers in Western New York to a national leader in affordable housing, sustainable homeownership and workforce development that now operates in nine states and Puerto Rico. His legacy can be felt by the many thousands of families that have benefited from PathStone's services.



A visionary with a lifelong commitment to racial equality, Stuart is a social innovator, advocate and change agent. When he was 21 years old, he helped [register voters in rural Tennessee and helped to organize a boycott of a segregated school system](#). He continued to address systemic inequities and poverty-induced trauma throughout his career — work he continues to this day as a senior advisor in Rochester. He is also an ordained minister.

Alex Castro, PathStone's current president and CEO noted: "Stuart's dedication, hard work and passion have not only set him apart but have also inspired those around him. We will continue our efforts and strive to reach the high standards he has set as a person, advocate and community leader."

As we celebrate [NeighborWorks America's 45th Anniversary](#), the NeighborWorks Founders Award is especially meaningful. We received a record number of nominations, trailblazers all with an enduring legacy of strong residents and communities. Our leadership was truly humbled by their accomplishments and is grateful to everyone who participated in submitting a nomination.

Stuart will receive the award at the Network of Excellence Awards Ceremony on April 11 during the [NeighborWorks Executive Symposium](#). I look forward to seeing many of you there!