



Ada Township couple to be honored by Samaritas at gala

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Dawn and Dan Carter, of Ada Township, will be honored by Samaritas for their dedication and community involvement at their Be the Rock Celebration Dinner. (Photo provided to MLive.com by Charles Pleiness)

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An Ada couple has been selected to be honored for their dedication and community involvement by Samaritas at the organization's Be the Rock Celebration Dinner.

Inspired by Samaritas' New American Services program, Dan and Dawn Carter have been involved with the organization for two decades, leading capital campaigns, the Foundation Board and the Samaritas board of directors.

"Samaritas takes care of people who don't have any other alternatives," Dan Carter said.

The pair are graduates of Valparaiso University and said they learned early on "that you have a responsibility to give back. That led us to what we do now."

Samaritas is one of the state's largest faith-based nonprofits and provides a variety of services, including help with resettlement for new Americans, adoption and foster care, and at-home services.

Dan Carter is an accountant. He and his wife, Dawn, an office administrator, have been married for 42 years. The couple has four kids and are Ada Township residents.

The Carters will be honored at the Sept. 17 gala for their dedication, commitment and generosity to the organization.

Samaritas' Be the Rock Celebration Dinner will celebrate its 84th year and take place at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Sept. 17, at Frederik Meijer Gardens, 1000 E. Beltline Ave. NE.

The event will be emceed by WOOD-TV's Terri DeBeoer and will feature live music from the 36th Street Band and a performance by The Scotty Pearson Family.

In addition to the Carters, Applied Imaging will receive the Samaritas Volunteer Service Award and the event will feature keynote speaker Bob Goff, a New York Times best-selling author who quit a 25-year legal career to dedicate his life to service.

The event is presented by Pinnacle Construction Group and chaired by Michael and Carolyn Garrett and Brett and Pam VanderKamp. Funds raised at the event will support local Samaritas programs.

Those interested in attending can visit www.samaritas.org/betherock.