



Health Partners Plans and the Health Partners Foundation  
cordially invite you to our

# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Awards Reception and Ceremony



Wednesday, October 8, 2014 – 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

901 Market Street, Suite 500, Philadelphia, PA 19107



**Health Partners** Foundation



**Health Partners** Plans

901 Market Street, Suite 500  
Philadelphia, PA 19107





The Health Partners Foundation supports communities through anti-violence efforts, perfect attendance programs, scholarships, and more.

For more information about the Foundation, visit [HealthPartnersPlans.com](http://HealthPartnersPlans.com).

There is no charge for attending. Donations received by September 19 will be acknowledged at the reception.

RSVP to Vonda Pearson at 215-991-4058.



## 2014 HONOREES

### Health Partners Foundation Partners Award

Inquirer Reporter Maureen Fitzgerald is founder of My Daughter's Kitchen, which teaches children in 10 area schools the value of good nutrition and teamwork. During after school programs, children learn to prepare healthy, inexpensive food that they can take home with them.

### Making a Difference Award

The One Less Foundation is dedicated to providing financial education and personal mentoring to individuals and families to help them gain the skills needed for a pathway out of poverty. Their programs target youth and adults in underserved communities, and are geared toward helping educate them on personal finance, higher education and personal development.

### Health Partners Foundation Jr. Partners Award

Musa Konneh is being recognized for his academic achievement, community service, participation in various disease awareness walks and volunteerism at the Home Cook Heroes Program at the Gift of Life Family House, which provides meals for families of transplant patients who are staying at the House. Musa is a Senior at Jules E. Mastbaum Area Vocational Technical School.



October 8, 2014 – Phila, PA  
Health Partners Foundation  
Making a Difference Awards  
2014 Making a Difference Honoree - Organization

Thank you Quental, for that wonderful introduction. On behalf of our board and our staff I'd like to begin first by thanking the employees of Health Partners Plan and the Health Partners Foundation for selecting us as this year's Making a Difference award honoree as an organization.

As founder of The One Less Foundation, I'm still a little amazed that this little idea that I had, has grown into this organization and that people recognize us for the work that we do. The catalyst that spurred me to start this was some volunteer work I'd done at a church I was attending. One of the youth I was working with said to me one day". I never thought I could even think about attending college let alone be getting ready to attend, because I don't know anyone who's ever gone. Thank you for helping me". And then she gave me this hug that I will never forget and it sparked the inspiration for our youth programs, because I knew there were more kids like her out there who with the guidance, patience and trust of a caring adult would be able to fulfill dreams they never knew they could dream. Similarly during this same time, I was also working with an older woman, in her 50's who needed to find work. The only kind of work this woman had done in previous years was low paying cleaning jobs, as she had barely graduated high school when she attended many years ago. She had not had a job in the last few years so I worked with her to create a resume based on the jobs she had in the past and the skills that she had, but didn't recognize as skills that would be helpful and could translate into employment. After a few months of working with her, she was able to find a permanent job at Target as a cashier making more money than she ever had in the past. These were the experiences that provided the inspiration for The One Less Foundation. As I set to work creating this organization and as we remember each day we're at work "if I help just one person realize they can be one less person who stays in poverty then everything will be worth it".

This is truly is an honor for our organization, as we haven't been around for decades like other past and very deserving recipients of this award, and we are honored to be included in the same space as them.

We are The One Less Foundation, because although we serve many people we always remember and do what is best for each individual so they are one less person who stays in a situation they don't want to be in.

What we do at TOLF on a high level is bridge the difference between academic theory and real life implementation. We know what works and we know why it works however we teach things at the simplest level possible without being patronizing or demeaning to those we work with. Our goal is to provide education related to our defined areas of focus so that those we work with are empowered with the knowledge and skills they need to transform their own lives.

We have quickly learned that although we are currently a small organization that we have a big impact in Philadelphia. We are regularly contacted by much larger organizations and asked to provide our expertise and programs and collaborate with them. We currently provide our programs to 3 schools in Philadelphia and 2 other nonprofit agencies. We will begin working with another local nonprofit to provide an afterschool program we designed for them based on our youth Financial Literacy classes and mentoring programs. In the fall we will begin working with our largest partner to date, whom we've partnered with on a few community workshops. In addition to the work we currently do in Philadelphia, we've designed curriculum for a teacher at a charter school in Brooklyn, NY, a teacher in a youth detention center in Denver, Co and have been contacted by an organization in California that works to help women get back on their feet about our adult programs. I'm amazed as to how these organizations learn about us and our programs as we do no advertising, except for being on social media, but I think it speaks to the quality of our work and the impact they are having.

On behalf of The One Less Foundation, we want to thank everyone for coming out to learn more about our organization, and for acknowledging and honoring the work we do in Philadelphia, and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

