



Inspiring and preparing youth to succeed through goal setting, mentoring, and scholarship programs.

The Home of RARE Everyday Heroes

SAVE THE DATE - NOW IN FEBRUARY!



What: 5th Annual Corks & Forks wine tasting and strolling dinner.
When: Saturday, February 9.
Time: 5:30 p.m. VIP Reception, 7:00 p.m. General Admission.
Where: The Reserve at Big Rock Chop House in Birmingham, MI.
VIP Tickets (includes unique wines, martinis and hors d'oeuvres): \$125.
General Admission: \$75.

Guests must be 21 or older.

Buy tickets [here](#) or by calling **586-698-4364**.

BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



One of Winning Futures' newest board members is **Kerri Ross**, Director of Strategic Advisory Services for **O'Keefe and Associates**.

In this role, she advises clients on business and growth planning, profit improvement, turnaround and restructuring, due diligence and corporate finance.

During the past 20 years, Ross has worked with more than 200 companies as their accountant, CPA, interim CFO and financial consultant. Over the past 12 years she has worked intensively with companies experiencing financial trouble or unexpected events outside their own expertise.

Through this experience, Ross can quickly identify the most critical facts and issues from large amounts of data and recommend clear strategies for clients. As a result, her clients and their stakeholders have been able to address the issues causing their financial distress so they can continue operating their businesses and return to profitability while stabilizing their banking relationship and positioning themselves for future growth.



December 2012

Nominate for the Sam Cupp Impact Award



In honor of our amazing founder, Sam Cupp, Winning Futures will award one individual with the **Sam Cupp Impact Award** at our February 9, 2013 Corks & Forks event. As a successful business owner, Sam created Winning Futures as a way to impact local youth through mentoring, goal setting, strategic planning, and scholarship programs. He not only funded the organization, he also worked directly with the students, mentors, and teachers. He saw an issue and did something about it.

We are looking to have individuals nominated who are successful in business, saw a need in their community, and did something about it. The impact could be through charity work, education, or creating opportunities for individuals to have their own business. Nominees must possess one or more of the characteristics that made Sam Cupp such an amazing man.

Click [here](#) for more information and to nominate a deserving individual today.

Mentor Profile: Sheriff Anthony Wickersham

Newly-elected **Macomb County Sheriff Anthony Wickersham** has been a Winning Futures mentor for two years. Once a week, before heading into work, he comes to Warren's **Community High School** to work with students Ramsin, Pedro, Palo and Moamer on goal-setting and life skills activities.



Sheriff Wickersham began volunteering with Winning Futures after attending a mentor recruitment breakfast. "I became interested in helping our youth and becoming more involved in the community where I grew up," he said.

"What's most impressive about Sheriff Wickersham is that he is 100-percent dedicated to the mentees," said Winning Futures program director **Laurie Tarter**. "He goes above and beyond what's expected of a mentor - he really cares about the young men he works with."

Sheriff Wickersham lives in Macomb Township with his wife Lois. He has two children and four stepchildren. When not volunteering or protecting the citizens of Macomb County, he enjoys playing golf, hockey and the guitar.

"I think it's great that, for as busy as he is and the responsibilities his job demands, he still finds time to work with us in addition to all the other community service organizations he supports," Tarter said.

Sheriff Wickersham stated, "Winning Futures is a great program to be involved in. As a mentor, it helps me realize that there is a need to help our youth because of the many obstacles in their lives. I think once you experience being a mentor, you will be one for a long time."

If interested in becoming a one-time or long-term mentor, please click [here](#) or call **586-698-4387** today.

**HOST A "CASUAL JEANS" DAY
TO BENEFIT WINNING FUTURES**



You can join companies like **Diversified Industrial Staffing** in giving your employees a chance to dress down and help Winning Futures raise money at the same time by hosting a "Casual Jeans" day! Simply choose a date to host the casual day and designate a colleague to act as the point person to collect money from your staff.

Winning Futures will provide you with promotional materials to help you spread the word about your "Casual Jeans" day's date. Most businesses that have participated select a price-point of \$5.00 per employee to take part, but you are free to choose any amount you want.

To sign up, please contact Brad at Winning Futures by clicking [here](#) or calling **586-698-4364**.

MGM Grand Detroit Awards Winning Futures a \$2,000 Grant



Winning Futures has been awarded a \$2,000 grant from **MGM Grand Detroit** thanks to votes submitted by supporters, mentors and friends in the Merry Merry Monday grant competition. This contest took place on Monday, November 26 and had five metro-area charities and nonprofits competing for a total of \$10,000 in grants. Voting

took place on MGM Grand Detroit's Facebook page. Winning Futures placed second overall in the number of votes submitted.

A special thank you goes out to all of those who voted for Winning Futures. The grant will surely help make it a merry, merry holiday season for all of Winning Futures' students and mentors.

Alumni Corner: Kamrul Hussain

Winning Futures recently caught up with **Kamrul Hussain**, a 2011 **Warren Mott High School** graduate and Winning Futures alumni, at our November 16 Networking Café event. There, Hussain filled us in on what he's been doing since leaving high school and the Winning Futures program.

Winning Futures (WF):

What have you been doing since high school?

Hussain: I am currently attending **Macomb Community College** and am pursuing a career in accounting. I am in my second year of college and will transfer to **Wayne State University** next fall.

WF: Do you still keep in touch with your mentor?

Hussain: Yes! He's [current Winning Futures mentor] **Dylan Tanaka**. I work for him as an assistant.

WF: Do you take part in any mentoring program now?

Hussain: Yes, I am a mentor at the [Youth of Ummah](#). It is a local organization that reaches out to kids in the community by organizing sporting events.

WF: Do you have anything you would like to say about your experience in the Winning Futures program?

Hussain: It was a great experience. I didn't think it would impact me this much and I never expected to work for my past mentor. I want to thank [program director] **Laurie Tarter**, Dylan and all of Winning Futures for that. Students should definitely take advantage!

