

NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 13, 2014

**CSPRC names Mary McMurtrey of *Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation*
“Nonprofit Professional of the Year”**

(St. Louis) The Community Service Public Relations Council (CSPRC) is proud to announce this year’s Nonprofit Professional of the Year is Mary McMurtrey, director of community engagement of the Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation. McMurtrey received the recognition at the organization’s monthly luncheon on Aug. 12, 2014.

The award honors an individual for outstanding work in nonprofit, backed by his/her body of work and specific successful outcomes. Each year, the CSPRC Board of Directors looks for individuals who take a creative approach to achieving success for their organization in a competitive market. This year’s award recipient was the embodiment of creativity in the nonprofit arena.

“For more than 40 years, our organization has brought together nonprofit professionals working for organizations with varying degrees of scope and operating budgets,” says Ryan Farmer, director of communications at the St. Louis Area Foodbank and CSPRC board president. “Mary embodies all that is great about our city and our wonderful network of nonprofits on both sides of the river. Her tireless efforts to conceptualize, plan and execute the first-ever Give STL Day helped her stand out among a very qualified field of candidates for this honor.”

McMurtrey has worked for more than 20 years in communications, marketing, public policy, nonprofit leadership and philanthropic research. Her skills were showcased to all of St. Louis as she led the Greater Saint Louis Community Foundation’s effort in launching this year’s Give STL Day, which raised 13,407 gifts totaling more than a million dollars for local charities.

“I am incredibly humbled,” McMurtrey said about receiving the award. “I’ve been working in the nonprofit field for more than 15 years, and there are so many incredibly talented and hardworking professionals that I only aspire to be like. Hearing that I won the award was an honor I couldn’t even imagine.”

McMurtrey said the key to be a successful nonprofit professional is to surround yourself with, and learn from, other outstanding professionals.

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CSPRC provides professional and organizational development opportunities for those working in nonprofit management, marketing communications, public relations, fundraising, and volunteer management. CSPRC hosts monthly networking and professional development programs and presents the annual Spectrum conference in May.

CSPRC Nonprofit Professional of the Year
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“None of us does this work alone,” she said. “I’ve been blessed to have such incredible support from my co-workers and colleagues in the nonprofits field – not to mention having some of the best mentors I could have asked for as a young professional learning our sector.”

CSPRC congratulates McMurtrey for receiving this well-deserved honor. We look forward to all her future projects in this community.

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