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**Highfields Presents 2021 Citizenship and Partnership Award Recipients**

*Lansing, MI –* ***March 26, 2021*** –Highfields will present the 2021 ***Robert L. Drake Citizenship Award*** to Steve Zynda. The Citizenship Award is awarded “to individuals who through commitment of time, deeds, and leadership, have brought together many citizens from all parts of our community and engaged their talents to create special opportunities for youth and families to grow stronger, thereby enriching the fabric of our community.”

Steve became involved with Highfields during his time practicing law. His passion for mindfulness and meditation helped spark the Highfields’ new program, teaching clients skills they can use to reduce stress, anxiety and bring a positive focus to their lives. Steve’s vision for mindfulness and meditation will enrich treatment for clients and give them techniques to help cope with challenges.

“Long time supporter, Steve Zynda’s commitment to making the world a better place as well as Highfields has been remarkable. I know Judge Drake would be as honored as I am to award Steve with the 2021 Robert Drake Citizenship Award,” said Brian Philson, President and CEO.

The 2021 ***Highfields Partnership Award*** will be awarded to the W.B. and Candace Thoman Foundation. This award is given annually to a company or organization that has contributed to the fulfillment of Highfields’ mission.

 The Thoman Foundation’s commitment to supporting life-enhancing programs at Highfields has been significant in providing opportunities for youth, specifically in our residential program. The foundation has helped carry out creativity and self-expression for students who are struggling with many challenges through the Arts and Technology Program.

“Highfields has truly appreciated our partnership with the Thoman Foundation, as we utilize the creative arts in the treatment of children and families,” said Philson

The Robert L. Drake Citizenship Award and the Partnership Award will be presented virtually at Highfields’ Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 28th.

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Highfields is a nonprofit human services organization which provides home-based counseling, residential care for young men ages 11-17, and experiential education and support programs for children, youth, and families in 13 mid-Michigan counties. For more information, please visit [www.highfields.org](http://www.highfields.org)