

Heroes Against Heroin win community humanitarian awards

[Terry DeMio](#), tdemio@enquirer.com Published 2:10 p.m. ET Aug. 5, 2016 | Updated 3:19 p.m. ET Aug. 5, 2016



Tina and Tony Garera of Taylor Mill, in Northern Kentucky. (Photo: Provided)

Leaders in the anti-heroin fight in Greater Cincinnati and NKY are named for humanitarian awards

They are community leaders in the fight against the heroin epidemic in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

Five individuals who were selected among people nominated by the community as Heroes Against Heroin will receive humanitarian awards at a gala in September.

Announced Friday, here are the winners and the categories for which they are honored:

- Warren County Common Pleas Judge Robert Peeler, elected official.

- Dr. Mina "Mike" Kalfas, a Northern Kentucky certified addiction expert, professional.
- Tony and Tina Garera, of Taylor Mill, facilitators for Parents of Addicted Loved Ones, volunteers.
- Garren Colvin, president and CEO, St. Elizabeth Healthcare, nonprofit organizations.
- John N. Simons, Jr., president and CEO, Advance Pierre Foods, corporate/business.

The Heroes Against Heroin humanitarian awards program is led by Transitions Inc, the largest the largest substance use disorder treatment center in Northern Kentucky. The program and benefit for the nonprofit organization started in 2015.

The Enquirer and [Cincinnati.com](http://www.cincinnati.com) are the premier media sponsor this year, and Executive Editor and Vice President of Content Peter Bhatia was among eight members of a selection committee that reviewed the nominations and chose the winners.

Bhatia served with Trey Grayson, president and CEO of the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce, Perilou Goddard, Northern Kentucky University professor, Kimberly Moser, executive director, NKY Office of Drug Control Policy, Jean Mize, R.C. Durr Foundation, Mark Hansel, managing editor, NKY Tribune, Kimberly Wright, recovery advocate and 2015 volunteer Hero Against Heroin, Holly Specht, NKY Hates Heroin founder and 2015 Hero Against Heroin recovery advocate.

The 2016 Heroes Against Heroin Humanitarian Awards Gala and WEBN Fireworks Viewing Party to Benefit Transitions is set for Sept, 4 at the Metropolitan Club, 50 E. Rivercenter Blvd., Suite 1900, in Covington. To reserve, visit transitionsky.org.

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/2016/08/05/heroes-against-heroin-win-community-humanitarian-awards/88293434/>