FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DOUGLAS KRIDLER HONORED WITH COMMUNITY SHELTER BOARD’S 2019 MEL SCHOTTKENSTEIN LEADERSHIP AWARD

(Columbus, OH) – Douglas Kridler, President of The Columbus Foundation, was recognized with the 2019 Mel Schottenstein Leadership Award. Given by Community Shelter Board, the award honors deep and far-reaching commitment to people facing homelessness, in memory of Melvin Schottenstein’s legacy as a founder of Community Shelter Board.

Douglas Kridler is a strong champion and change-maker for youth facing homelessness and for others living in poverty. As president of The Columbus Foundation – a community foundation serving the central Ohio region since 1943 – his passion for central Ohio and vision for a stronger community have created a groundswell of support for the most meaningful and impactful causes.

“Doug was inspired by the knowledge that children born in certain zip codes are destined to a path of limited opportunity, and he committed to change the trajectory of the lives of young people,” said Holly Schottenstein Kastan, daughter of Mel Schottenstein. Kridler hosted a bus tour for key stakeholders and members of the media to learn more about youth homelessness and the devastating impact on our community. Because of his personal commitment and invitation, a circle of champions began to grow.

Because of his strong belief in system-level work and collaboration, The Columbus Foundation supported critical infrastructure that positioned Community Shelter Board to receive significant new federal funding. This funding will support the development of a coordinated system to reduce youth homelessness.

Through a Critical Need Alert, Kridler and The Columbus Foundation called on our community to join together to support quality early childhood education and collaborative efforts to end youth homelessness. The campaign eclipsed its goal in just 44 days—making it the largest and most successful Critical Need Alert in the Foundation’s history. This is one of many examples of Doug’s leadership to inspire The Columbus Foundation donor family to leverage change and impact for a stronger community.
Prior to joining The Columbus Foundation in 2002, Kridler served for eighteen years as the President of the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts. Before his selection as CAPA’s President, Doug was part of the national campaign staff for Senator John Glenn’s Presidential Campaign, and Tour Manager of The Cleveland Orchestra.

More than seven hundred people attended an awards ceremony held at Under One Roof benefiting Community Shelter Board on June 12, 2019 at the Jo Ann Davidson Theatre at the Vern Riffe Center.

Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home. CSB is the collective impact organization driving strategy, accountability, collaboration, and resources to achieve the best outcomes for people facing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. With the support of a compassionate community, our system of care served more than 12,000 people last year with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Community Shelter Board is funded by the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the State of Ohio, and many other public and private investors.