

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Talbert House Honors Mel Fisher, Robert Neel as Fathers of the Year**  
*Tenth annual luncheon celebrates fatherhood*

CINCINNATI— Talbert House held their tenth annual Fatherhood Celebration Luncheon, presented by the Hatton Foundation, on June 4, celebrating fatherhood and honoring great fathers in the community. Mel Fisher and Robert Neel were recognized during the event as this the 2018 Fathers of the Year. Senator Rob Portman served as the keynote speaker for the event, held at the Hyatt Regency downtown.

Mel Fisher was known in the community as a successful entrepreneur and philanthropist, but he was also a proud father, husband, and grandfather. Fisher founded and owned many businesses with his family. He is remembered for his passion for community involvement and his love of family, which is a legacy his four sons with wife Roberta proudly continue through their own philanthropic generosity.

Robert Neel graduated from Talbert House's Fatherhood Project in 2009. A father to seven, Neel utilized the educational classes and case management services offered through Talbert House to gain stable employment, maintain his sobriety, and become a more nurturing and present father to his children. Neel continues to strengthen his relationship with his children and remains involved with the Fatherhood Project.

The Luncheon chaired by Mark Addy, President and Chief Operating Officer of Phillips Edison & Company, welcomed more than 600 guests and raised over \$300,000 for Talbert House's Fatherhood Project. The Hatton Foundation, joined by Champion Sponsors Fifth Third Bank, the Fisher Family, Midland Atlantic Properties, and PLK Communities were among the many generous sponsors of this year's luncheon, making it possible for the Fatherhood Project to provide services at no cost.

Talbert House would like to thank all that attended and supported the tenth annual Fatherhood Celebration Luncheon, as well as the Fatherhood Committee members: Mark Addy, John Silverman, Savon Gibson, Dick Bodner, Bernie Calonge, Samantha Caspar, Gary Fisher, Carol Goodman, Mark Gordon, David Hoguet, Peter Klekamp, Dr. Mitchel Livingston, Alex Meacham, Bob Meacham, Greg Miller, Jesse Mullins, Austin Poston, and Ben Willingham.

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**Talbert House** is a community-wide nonprofit that operates within five service lines: Addictions, Community Care, Community Corrections, Housing, and Mental Health. Children, adults and families benefit from these proven services. Last year, Talbert House served over 21,700 clients face to face and an additional 53,000 through hotline and prevention services throughout Southwest Ohio. Talbert House's mission is to improve social behavior and enhance personal recovery and growth.