Volunteers of America Honors John F. Barrett with Outstanding Community Service Award

CINCINNATI, OH – Volunteers of America today presented John F. Barrett with the Outstanding Community Service Award for his exceptional service to the Cincinnati community. The award was presented at an awards luncheon during Volunteers of America’s national conference entitled “Spark a Change!” that focused on how innovation, engagement and impact can affect social change and make a long-term difference for individuals and communities.

“Throughout his career, John Barrett has always remembered the vulnerable and underserved,” said Charles Gould, national president and chief executive officer of Volunteers of America. “We honor his achievements in recognition of his continued support for Volunteers of America and the people we serve—especially those in Ohio.”

Barrett is chairman, president and chief executive officer of Cincinnati-based Western & Southern Financial Group®, a Fortune 500 company and one of the ten highest rated life insurance groups in the world. He is one of Ohio’s most determined supporters of economic development, education and fine arts, and serves on the boards of trustees of many prominent organizations in Cincinnati, including the Cincinnati Arts Association, the Cincinnati Art Museum, the Taft Museum and Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation. He also serves as co-chairman of the Greater Cincinnati Scholarship Association, chairman of the Medical Center Fund of Cincinnati for the University of Cincinnati, and is a member of the advisory board of the University of Cincinnati Barrett Cancer Center. Nationally, Barrett serves as a member of Washington, D.C.’s Business Roundtable and the Financial Services Roundtable. He has been the recipient of many honorary awards, including the 2004 Award for Excellence for outstanding service to the University of Cincinnati, and the 1999 Heart of Gold Volunteer Award from Boys Hope/Girls Hope.

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Volunteers of America is a national, nonprofit, faith-based organization dedicated to helping those in need rebuild their lives and reach their full potential. Through thousands of human service programs, including housing and healthcare, Volunteers of America helps more than 2 million people in over 400 communities. Since 1896, our ministry of service has supported and empowered America's most vulnerable groups, including at-risk youth, the frail elderly, men and women returning from prison, homeless individuals and families, people with disabilities, and those recovering from addictions. Our work touches the mind, body, heart-and ultimately the spirit-of those we serve, integrating our deep compassion with highly effective programs and services. For more information about Volunteers of America, visit [www.VolunteersofAmerica.org](http://www.VolunteersofAmerica.org).