

What Would Marcus Do

Quarterly Newsletter



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WWMD

URNS ORANGE

June is National Gun Violence Awareness Month. While the mission of WWMD is not solely wrapped around Gun Violence we do fully support Gun Violence initiatives. As most of our followers know our foundation is based on the robbery and murder of Marcus Marquis Payne who was shot on August 30, 2021 and later died on September 11, 2021 making him Columbus, Ohio's 141st Homicide. We turn orange for the month of June to support and bring awareness to the senseless acts of gun violence in our city.

The WWMD Leadership team has made their pledge to support the Operation Under Triple Digits Campaign in conjunction with Mothers of Murdered Columbus Children. Operation Under Triple Digits is a citywide collaborative initiative that will use crime data to drive decision-making and response of community organizations, residents, Faith-based networks, elected officials, law enforcement and all stakeholders that desire to reduce crime and rebuild a safer Columbus.

You can find out more information and make your pledge at www.mothersofmurderedcolumbuschildren.com



About Us

What Would Marcus Do is a non profit organization with a mission to Provide Hope and Resources to the Hilltop Community and abroad. This mission is accomplished by WWMD providing various services throughout the Hilltop Community



Marcus Marquis Payne
1994-2021

OUR SERVICES

We support our community with year around services. Our goal is to simply meet their basic needs with a smile.

In doing so we believe we are able to be a beacon of hope to those in need.

While our focus is predominantly on the Greater Hilltop Area we service all areas of central Ohio.

Services we provide includes but are not limited to:

- Resource Navigation
- Neighborhood Pop ups
- Neighborhood Clean ups
- Laundry Services
- The Marcus M. Payne Scholarship
- Holiday Drives
- M.P. Empowerment Academy

OUR WHY...

On September 11, 2021 - As the world paid tribute to the attack on 9/11 our family suffered the major loss of our Marcus. He was robbed and gunned down in Victorian Village making him the 141st Homicide of 2021 in Central Ohio.

While we mourn his loss, we also celebrate his life, his love for family, friends, and providing support to those in need. Our goal is that this becomes an avenue to bring hope and resources to our community along with bringing a greater awareness to Gun Violence in the city of Columbus.

What Would Marcus Do
5820 Sullivant Ave. #152 Galloway, OH 43119 Phone: 614.969.7765
E: info@wwmd614.org | W: wwmd614.org



A Message from our CEO



Greetings!

I am so excited that this is our second summer as an organization, and we have had tremendous growth. From the families we have been able to reach, to the amazing partnerships we have made; WWMD is blossoming into a great work from a simple idea to keep Marcus' name alive by carrying out his compassion to help people. In this season of blooming we will remain focused on our core values to **SMILE**:

S – Selfless Service,
M – Maintaining
I – Integrity,
L – Loving-kindness and
E – Excellence

As we grow, we encourage you to grow with us. Growth is not always easy most times it requires hard work, dedication, support, vision, and resources. The M.P. Empowerment Academy is a resource to help people of all ages blossom unto the greatest they can be. It is my pleasure to announce that registration for the official start of the M.P. Academy will open on July 1, 2024 and will last until July 11, 2024.

This program will cover topics dealing with Financial Literacy, Career Development, Personal Vision, Life Skills and more. If you want to grow even more, I encourage you register for this 5 month experience of personal development and growth. More information can be found on our website at wwmd614.org.

For now I leave you with this famous quote "In order to get somewhere you've never gone before, you need to do something you've never done before." Let's grow together.

Serving with a SMILE,



Mark E. Payne Jr.
President & CEO

EVENT RECAP

The last 3 months (March, April, May) have been centered around growing our relationships with community partners and resource research to better serve the Hilltop Community. WWMD participated in multiple events below and made new friends along with working with our current friends in the community and City Officials.



Congratulation

The Marcus Marquis Payne Collegic Scholarship

The 2024 Scholarship was awarded to two West High School students who both met the WWMD Scholarship criteria and were highly recommended by West High School.

Congratulations to **Lafe Whatley and Aniyah Thompson** for receiving our first Collegic Scholarship. Special Thanks to our donors who made this possible.



Upcoming EVENTS

DON'T LET TRASH DESTROY THE COMMUNITY. LET'S DO OUR PART WITH A SMILE
#COMMUNITYCLEANUP

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY

AUGUST 3, 2024 | 9AM-11AM

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT
WWW614.ORG/EVENTS

WHAT WOULD MARCUS DO

WHAT WOULD MARCUS DO & ON THE RIGHT PATH PRESENTS

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024

Greater **HILLTOP**
Block Party

SAVE THE DATE
AUGUST 6, 2024 | 6:00PM-8:30PM
HIGHLAND ELEMENTARY

RESOURCES - VENDORS - SCHOOL SUPPLIES - FOOD - GAMES - MUSIC

BLOOM

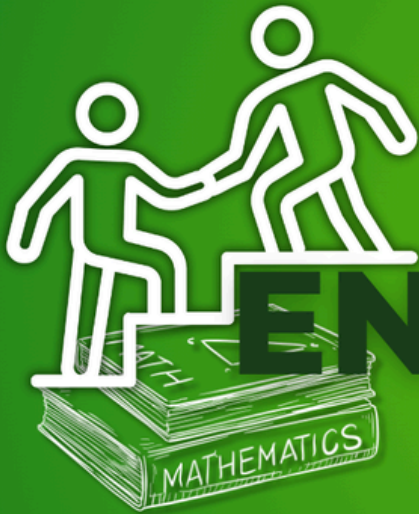
CELEBRATING GROWTH

Where do I begin other than the beginning. Seed planted, watered by nature, lit by earth's light bulb, roots digging deep. With time, a space and opportunity, it reaches it's fullest potential. It's called the process of growth. When a flower blooms it stamps its individuality on the world in its season. Whether or not you see its movement, isn't to be analyzed. But to know that it happens is the wonderment of it all. To bloom is to come into your own and own who you were always meant to be. There comes a moment when you must step out, push through all that you're buried under and **BECOME.**



No one person is meant to be the other. But we are all destined for a level of beauty if we can function through the method of growth. Sometimes it will bend and fold us into the heartache of speechlessness. Other times, it will overwhelm us with joy. But at all times, there will be development. Something new will happen inside of you no matter what you go through. Life is meant to direct us to our seasons of bloom. In flourishing, you are what your confidence says you are. Your courage is strong and true. You stand out within yourself. You take in the wind on your skin and you glow. Never think that your flowering period won't happen. And if it passes you by, like a perennial, maybe not in the same form, it will come again. For as long as you live life, always strive to be in the process of bloom.

-Behind The Lens



OPEN ENROLLMENT

CLASSES BEGIN JULY 31, 2024
2024 EMPOWERMENT SESSIONS



Register online at
WWMD614.ORG

The M.P. Academy is a Practical Educational Program provided by What Would Marcus Do, a 501 (c)3 Organization with a mission to provide hope and resources to the community with a smile. Monthly sessions for all ages include major topics covering:

- ✓ Financial Literacy
- ✓ Career & Personal Development
- ✓ Leadership Empowerment
- ✓ Life Skills Programming

This program will last monthly from July - December 2024. Participants will receive a Certificate of Completion for completing this program in December 2024. Candidates are required to attend all sessions listed below to receive certificate of completion. In the event of an excused absence candidates may make up one (1) day excused absence at the discretion of the WWMD administrative team. Acceptance letters will be sent to all candidates who are accepted into the program.



FREE MEALS & FOOD DISTRIBUTION

MONDAY'S:

- Holy Family Soup Kitchen (Behind 588 W. Gay St) - 10:30AM-12PM to-go meal; 9AM-12PM
- Jordan's Crossing Resource Center (342 N Hague Ave) - 9AM-4PM sack lunch; 11AM-2PM hot meal

TUESDAY'S:

- Holy Family Soup Kitchen (Behind 588 W. Gay St) - 10:30AM-12PM to-go meal
- MY Family Pantry by MY Project USA (3275 Sullivant Ave) - 10AM-2PM pantry
- Jordan's Crossing Resource Center (342 N Hague Ave) - 9AM-4PM sack lunch; 11AM-2PM Hot meal; 12-1PM grocery bag
- Crossroads UMC Food Pantry (Corner of Hague/Briggs) - 4PM drive-thru food distribution (serving 43204 and 43223)
- Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church (2930 W Broad St) - 12-1PM curbside pantry
- (last 2 Tuesdays, 50 clients served each day - Zip codes served: 43204, 43223, 43228; Call 614-276-5433 with questions.)
- Feed My Sheep (2364 W Broad St) - 6:30PM to-go meal

WEDNESDAY'S:

- Holy Family Soup Kitchen (Behind 588 W. Gay St) - 10:30AM-12PM to-go meal; 9AM-12PM
- Jordan's Crossing Resource Center (342 N Hague Ave) - 9AM-4PM sack lunch; 11AM-2PM hot meal
- Crossroads UMC Food Pantry (Corner of Hague/Briggs) - 11AM drive-thru food distribution (Limit to 30 households each time and serving 43204 and 43223)
- Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church (2930 W Broad St) - 12-1PM curbside pantry
- (last 2 Wednesdays, 50 clients served each day - Zip codes served: 43204, 43223, 43228; Call 614-276-5433 with questions)
- MY Family Pantry by MY Project USA (3275 Sullivant Ave) - 3-7PM pantry
- Oakley Full Gospel Baptist Church (3415 El Paso Dr, 43204) - 4:30-6:30PM drive-thru produce giveaway on every second Wednesday (Bring ID)
- Hilltop YMCA (2879 Valleyview Dr) - 4PM drive-thru produce distribution (3rd Wednesday, please bring photo ID and your own bag/boxes)

THURSDAY'S:

- Holy Family Soup Kitchen (Behind 588 W. Gay St) - 10:30AM-12PM to-go meal; 9AM-12PM
- MY Family Pantry by MY Project USA (3275 Sullivant Ave) - 10AM-2PM pantry
- Jordan's Crossing Resource Center (342 N Hague Ave) - 9AM-4PM sack lunch; 11AM-2PM hot meal; 12-1PM grocery bags
- Sullivant Gardens Rec Center (755 Renick St) - 3-5PM free produce (first Thursday, April-November 2024, Bring ID)
- Glenwood Rec Center (1888 Fairmont Ave) - 3-5PM free produce (first Thursday, April-November 2024, Bring ID)
- Dodge Rec Center (667 Sullivant Ave) - 3-5PM free produce (second Thursday, April-November 2024, Bring ID)

FRIDAY'S :

- Holy Family Soup Kitchen (Behind 588 W. Gay St) - 10:30AM-12PM to-go meal; 9AM-12PM
- Jordan's Crossing Resource Center (342 N Hague Ave) - 9AM-4PM sack lunch; 11AM-2PM hot meal; 6-7:30PM dinner
- SAFER Station (368 W. Park Ave) - 12-3PM free hot meal and resource connections
- Crossroads World Outreach Church (165 S Cypress Ave) - 5:30 to-go food
- Jericho's Light Club at St. John's Episcopal Church (1003 W Town St) - 6-9PM free meals

SATURDAY'S:

- Feed My Sheep (2364 W. Broad St)-9AM to-go breakfast (2nd-5th Saturdays)
- Saints Alive at West Broad/Davis (near Mount Carmel) - 10-11:30AM free food, groceries, personal care products, clothing, blankets (while supplies last)
- Hilltop Community Worship Center (2622 Sullivant Ave) - 1:30-3:30PM meal
- MY Family Pantry by MY Project USA (3275 Sullivant Ave) - 10AM-2PM pantry
- St. Aloysius Community Outreach (2165 W. Broad St parking lot) - 1-3PM free lunch and groceries (as supplies last & weather permitting)
- Columbus Food Not Bombs West (Corner of Sullivant Ave & S Burgess) - 12:15-1:30PM
- Crossroad World Outreach Ministries (165 S Cypress Ave) - 2:30PM
- Jericho's Light Club at St. John's Episcopal Church (1003 W Town St) - 6-9PM

SUNDAY'S:

- Glenwood UMC (2833 Valleyview Dr) - 8:30AM Free community breakfast
- St. John's Episcopal Church at Broad/Central (PNC Parking Lot) - 1PM

Free Home-Delivered Meals program through the end of 2024 for Franklin County residents aged 60 or older - Contact Senior Options at 614-525-6200

FEATURED RESOURCES



Ubuntu Conversation Series: Stronger Together for a More Inclusive and Prosperous City – June 20

Join us on Thursday, June 20 from 5-7PM at Wedgewood Middle School (3800 Briggs Rd, 43228) for a conversation focused on building a community for all where New Americans can fully contribute to Columbus' success. RSVP using the link on the attached flyer.

Ubuntu: The concept that we are all interconnected and the positive actions of one can benefit everyone.

For questions, please contact Community Relations Coordinator Lindora Howard-Diawara at LKDiawara@columbus.gov.

Free Lunches for Summer at Hilltop Library

This summer, youth will be able to enjoy a meal at the library free of charge. In partnership with Children's Hunger Alliance, 17 branches of the Columbus Metropolitan Library will offer free meals to students 18 and under during the summer months. Participating branches will offer breakfast, lunch, or dinner options beginning on June 3 and running until classes start back up for the respective school districts. Here are the participating branches: Barnett, Driving Park, Franklinton, Hilltop, Karl Road, Linden, Main Library, Marion-Franklin, Martin Luther King, Northern Lights, Northside, Parsons, Reynoldsburg, Shepard, South High, Southeast & Whitehall

Columbus Youth Jazz Summer Workshop - June 17- July 12

Join us for another amazing year of the Columbus Youth Jazz Summer Workshop! Keep in touch with your musical studies this summer as we focus on developing skills in learning jazz songs, improvisation, technique on your specific instrument, creating your own jazz music, and more!

Sessions run from 12-3pm, Monday – Friday. For more information, visit www.jazzartsgroup.org/summer.

Tire Take Back Event – June 22

Scrap tires can hold water and create a breeding ground for mosquitoes, which can carry deadly diseases like the West Nile Virus. City of Columbus and Franklin County residents can properly dispose of scrap tires for free at the Tire Take Back event. Limit 10 tires per household. Tires must be rimless. Free mosquito larvicide tablets or “dunks” will be available. The west side event is set for Saturday, June 22 from 9AM-12PM at Big Run Park (4201 Clime Rd).

Hilltop Bean Dinner – June 22

The Hilltop Bean Dinner is an 80 year old tradition being held every June in Columbus' Westgate Park. Despite the name – we don't sit around a table eating beans! The event is a family friendly festival remembering the history that made the Columbus west side. Join us on Saturday, June 22 from 10am-5pm at Westgate Park (455 S Westgate Ave, 43204) for music, a variety of food (including the famous beans), arts and craft vendors, and an antique car show. All are welcome!

Summer Youth Manufacturing Camp – June 24

My Brother's Keeper Village (MBK Village) is hosting a week-long free Summer Youth Manufacturing Camp for middle school age students. They will learn the fundamentals of 3D design and printing, create their own custom printed objects, and tour local businesses through a partnership with the PAST Foundation. The camp will be hosted at Columbus Preparatory School for Boys (3450 Medway Ave, 43213) on June 24-28 from 9AM-4PM. For more information and to register, scan the QR code on the attached flyer or visit the MBK website [here](#).

Findings from the Immigrants Make Columbus Project – June 25

Last year, the OSU College of Social Work and Columbus City Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla partnered to host town hall meetings and focus groups to research our immigrants, migrants, and refugees' sense of belonging here in Columbus. Join us in celebrating Immigrant Heritage Month with a panel discussion as we hear the results of the findings.

RSVP HERE!

Where: The Fawcett Center - 2400 Olentangy River Rd.

When: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 5:30PM

CelebrateOne Stroller Social – June 25

CelebrateOne presents the “Summer Stroller Socials” events. The social events provide a space for expecting mothers and parents with children 0 – 12 months to engage with each other, provide peer support and share resources.—while enjoying a relaxing stroll through the park. If a mother/parent is in need of additional prenatal support or resources, a CelebrateOne Community Health Worker will be present at each event as well. The West Side events will take place at Westgate Community Center (455 S Westgate Ave, 43204) on June 25, July 30, and August 27 from 12:30-2:00pm. Meet at the playground. Dress for the weather! If it is raining, the event will be cancelled.

If you have any questions regarding the events, please contact Agata Brenneman, Senior Manager of Community Engagement, either via telephone at 614/645-7368 or email her at AiBrenneman@columbus.gov

Highland Youth Garden (HYG) Community Dinner at the Garden – July 3

Join us for a picnic outside at HYG every 1st Wednesday of the month from 5-6:30pm through October, right after our free Garden Market. Get your produce, we'll stash it in the fridge for you and you can sit down and have a meal with us. HYG staff will provide a hearty dinner salad and you're welcome to bring a dish – or just yourselves! This will be a wonderful chance for us to connect with each other, share thoughts on how we want the garden to grow, and talk about neighborhood issues and concerns. No sign up is needed, just drop in!

FEATURED RESOURCES



Summer Jam West – July 13

Summer Jam West is a grassroots community arts festival held at Westgate Park. It's a celebration of, and celebration for, the Hilltop community (though we welcome everyone to attend!). Save the date for Saturday, July 13th from 11AM-7PM. Join Hilltop Arts Collective for a day filled with:

- Over 40 artist and artisan vendors
- Food trucks and food vendors
- Chalk artists
- Kids arts areas, Kiwanisaurus Park and the Kids Art Zone
- Art demonstrations
- Community Partners
- Facepainting, balloon artists, and sno-cones!

Cap City Festival – July 13 *volunteer opportunity!*

Cap City Festivals, hosted by Columbus Rec & Parks, empower families and reconnect our communities by bringing free festivals to areas with limited access to other festivities. The festivals aim to strengthen engagement between families and service providers, promote healthy community relationships, and provide a safe and fun environment for the community. The west side Cap City Festival is set for Saturday, July 13 at Westmoor Park (3015 Valleyview Dr, 43204) from 3-7pm. Volunteer opportunities are available for all dates! Click here to sign up.

2024 Columbus Book Festival – July 13-14 *volunteer opportunity!*

The Columbus Book Festival is back! This two-day celebration of books and book lovers runs July 13-14 at the downtown Main Library (96 S. Grant Ave.) and Topiary Park. Featuring popular authors, local vendors, great food and entertainment, and more. Hosted by the Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation and presented by Battelle. Find more details and updates here: columbusbookfestival.org.

Want to help? Sign up to volunteer at the festival starting May 13. Hundreds of community volunteers will be needed to make the Columbus Book Festival weekend a success! Choose opportunities for working with exhibitors, festival attendees and authors. Volunteer opportunities include: Check-in authors, exhibitors and entertainers; Monitor panel sessions and presentations; Assist festival attendees at information booths; Provide behind-the-scenes assistance to festival staff. Volunteers receive a Columbus Book Festival T-shirt, free parking and snacks.

Vocal Workshop – July 15-19

Do you sing in choir, musical theater, play an instrument or simply LOVE to sing? The Jazz Academy is here to bring out your inner voice! This in-person workshop will provide vocalists the opportunity to explore ins and outs of jazz singing, including style, improvisation, and vocal technique through a series of masterclasses, listening sessions, and private lessons. The workshop is set for July 15-19 from 12-4pm. For more information and to register, visit the Jazz Academy website at jazzartsgroup.org/Summer.

CelebrateOne West Side Community Baby Shower – July 27

Calling all expecting parents! Ready for a day filled with fun, freebies, and fantastic support? Our amazing baby shower is designed just for YOU! Join the celebration on Saturday, July 27 from 1-3pm at Westgate Park (455 S Westgate Ave, 43204).

Here are a Few Good Reasons to Attend!

- Score a FREE diaper bag packed with everything your little one needs to get started!
- Master safe sleep: Get a FREE 30-minute session on safe sleep practices (no sign-up required!)
- Win BIG! Enter for a chance to win incredible prizes, including car seats!
- Build your village: Connect with other awesome parents and create a supportive network.
- Get expert advice: Breastfeeding, health insurance and more – our experts have you covered!

The best part? It's FREE! Link to register coming soon.

Hilltop YMCA Safety City – July 29 - August 1

The Hilltop YMCA is proud to host Safety City, a free safety education program that teaches children, ages 5-7, about traffic signals, fire prevention, stranger awareness, and more. Participants will learn from local firefighters and police officers with fun, experiential activities. The event will run from July 29- August 1 from 9:30am-2pm. Drop off begins at 9am, and all students must be picked up by 2:30pm. Register today at www.NationwideChildrens.org/safetycity.

Highland Youth Garden – Garden Markets and Garden Tours

Highland Youth Garden is hosting their Garden Markets every Wednesday @ 3:00PM - 5:00PM and Saturday @ 11:00AM - 1:00PM through October. Free and open to everyone!

Highland Youth Garden is a magical place: art, flowers, beautiful structures, and dozens of crops sprawl across a half-acre plot. Please drop in anytime - the site is open to everyone 24/7, and all are welcome. We offer in-person tours open to anyone twice a month during the growing season and are happy to add private tours for small groups of adults, as well. Public tours are scheduled the second Wednesday at 5:30 PM and the third Saturday at 10:30 AM from April through October. [Advance registration](#) is encouraged but not required. Drop by and see us!

Breathing Association – Free Energy Saver Kits

Make an appointment with The Breathing Association to obtain your own free energy saver kit! Please visit:

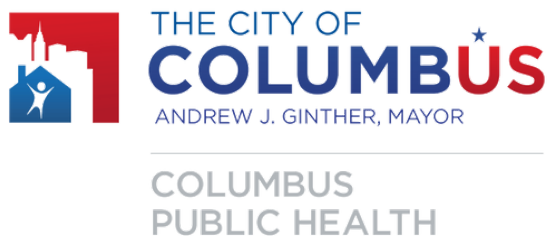
<https://breathingassociation.org/lung-health-clinic/> or call: 614-273-2843

Supporter SPOTLIGHT

The WWMD Team is proud to celebrate Ms. Adhanet Kifle as our 2024 Second Quarter Supporter Spotlight. Since the WWMD Team met Ms. Kifle she supported our mission.

It is our pleasure to show her our appreciation and love. We take this time to publicly say

THANK YOU ADHANET



Community Resource SPOTLIGHT

Counseling can help you better manage stress, sadness, anger and conflict. Columbus Public Health has partnered with the UNIK Foundation to offer 12 free counseling session to Columbus residents 18 years of age or Older through November 2024.

To Schedule an appointment , call Debi at 614-918-7754 and mention Columbus Public Health.



BECOME A WWMD Elite Supporter

What Would Marcus Do is a non profit organization with a mission to Restore Hope and Resources to the Hilltop Community and abroad. This mission is accomplished through:

- Resource Navigation
- Community Clean Up, Pop Ups
- Holiday Drives
- The Marcus M. Payne Scholarship Fund
- The M.P. Empowerment Academy and more.

Your financial contributions assists with the continuance of this mission. All donations are tax deductible.



BECOME A SILVER SUPPORTER

Silver Supporters will receive:

- The WWMD Welcome Package

Make a **\$250**
One Time Donation
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year

Make your tax deductible contribution today online

BECOME A GOLD SUPPORTER

Gold Supporters will receive:

- The WWMD Welcome Package
- Exclusive WWMD T-Shirt

Make a **\$500**
One Time Donation
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year



BECOME A PLATINUM SUPPORTER

Platinum Supporters will receive:

- The WWMD Welcome Package
- Exclusive WWMD T-Shirt
- WWMD Exclusive Hoodie
- Your Business Information & Logo on our Resources Page

Make a **\$1,000**
One Time Donation
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year

For more contribution options call us at 614-969-7769

BECOME A EMERALD SUPPORTER

Emerald Supporters will receive:

- The WWMD Welcome Package
- Exclusive WWMD T-Shirt
- WWMD Exclusive Hoodie
- One Free WWMD Event

Make a **\$1,500**
One Time Donation
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year

- In addition Business of Emerald Supporters will receive:
 - Your Business Information & Logo on our Resources Page
 - WWMD Podcast Advertisement
 - Logo advertised as a WWMD Emerald Supporter for our National Night Out Celebration August 2024



@WWMD614

GET YOUR WWMD SWAG TODAY

USB Wall Charger

*Lights up Green



\$20 Donation

Hot/Cold Tumbler



\$20 Donation

T-Shirt



*Prices vary per sizes.

*Kid sizes available

All items can be purchased online at **wwmd614.org**

WHAT WOULD MARCUS DO

MONTHLY SUPPORTER

Make a

\$5.00 \$10.00 \$25.00
\$30.00 \$50.00 \$100.00

Recurring Donation
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year

MAKE A \$30.00

Recurring Donation
in honor of Marcus' 30th Birthday
Status valid for 1 Calendar Year