

Nominator:

Brother Maurice Watson

Nominee:

Isaac Taggart Jr. 1-09-Psi

Award Category: Citizen of the Year

Brother Isaac Taggart is an ideal candidate for the award. Growing up in Oakland, CA, Isaac has been able to understand and can relate to the struggles that one endures growing up in underprivileged communities worldwide, which has led to his philanthropic passion. He has co-founded two non-profits and proudly serves in communities across the nation. His motivations for creating these organizations were to help combat these issues that need improvement.

From 2013-2017, Isaac has served as co-founder and Vice President for 501c3 non-profit The H.U.G.S. Foundation, an organization committed to molding and building underprivileged communities to establish positive change. Initiatives included:

- *Feeding Homeless*
- *Thanksgiving Turkey/Grocery Drives*
- *Back to School Backpack/Supply Drives*
- *Winter Jacket Drives*
- *Christmas Toy Drives*

Not only has Isaac served in Atlanta, every August and November, he visits his hometown in Oakland to carry out similar projects which include turkey/grocery giveaways as well as back to school backpack/supply giveaways. Both projects have successfully served over 1000 people each year in which Isaac serves his community.

Not being confined to the borders of the U.S., Isaac travels to Liberia West Africa every year where his non-profit Planting A Seed International works with their adopted school. They successfully distribute adequate school supplies and scholarships to students who exemplify academic excellence. Isaac and his non-profit are currently working on an initiative called, Project Rebuild, which entails renovating the current primary school and constructing a high school next to it, creating an educational complex. This initiative will bring students in Liberia to the forefront of technology and education.

In 2017, Isaac has created the Isaac Taggart Foundation, This organization has sustained the notion by designing innovative means, partnerships and opportunities for delivering Isaac Taggart's knowledge and life experiences with the world. Molded in the perspective of a viewpoint of social change and an ideal that to those to whom much has been given, much is required, the foundation works to support, stimulate and cultivate global societies and trailblazers.

Achievements/Awards

- Oakland City Council Proclamation (Isaac Taggart Foundation) – Oakland, CA, 2017
- Alameda County Supervisors’ Philanthropic Commendation (Planting A Seed International) – Alameda County Oakland, CA, 2017
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- Alameda County Supervisors’ Proclamation (“Isaac Taggart Jr.-Planting A Seed Day / February 1, 2017”), - Alameda County Oakland, CA, 2017
- LEAD Atlanta (Class of 2018) Candidate Nomination – Atlanta, GA, 2017
- Philanthropic Commendation Letter (Project Rebuild Initiative) – Republic of Liberia’s Ministry of Education, 2017
- The Youth Opportunities Project Servant Leader / Morehouse College Alumni Representative – Republic of Liberia’s Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ministry of Sports, The World Bank and The Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment, 2017
- “No Bully” Coach Training Certification – Points of Light, 2016
- Oaklandish Innovator Award Nominee - Oakland, CA, 2016
- RICE (Rising In Community Excellence) Award Nominee – RICE Awards Committee Atlanta, GA, 2016
- Alameda County Supervisors’ Proclamation (“Isaac Taggart Jr.-H.U.G.S. Day / November 19, 2016”), - Alameda County Oakland, CA, 2016
- Oakland Mayoral Community Service Recognition- Oakland City Hall, 2016
- Alameda County Supervisors’ Philanthropic Commendation (The H.U.G.S. Foundation Inc. of Oakland) – Alameda County Oakland, CA, 2016
- Eddie Gaffney Community Service Award – Morehouse College Psychology Department, 2014
- Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated Member – Morehouse College, 2009