

## News release: Kwanzaa Celebration honor two Ujima Volunteers

From: Padua Center  
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Padua Center is hosting its 6<sup>th</sup> Kwanzaa Celebration on December 27, 2011 at 5:00 PM at the Center located at 1416 Nebraska Ave., in the heart of the Kwanzaa Park neighborhood. Celebrating the principle of Ujima, Collective Work and Responsibility, that is, to build and maintain our communities together, Padua Center is honoring a group and an individual who have given generously to the collective work of Padua Center.

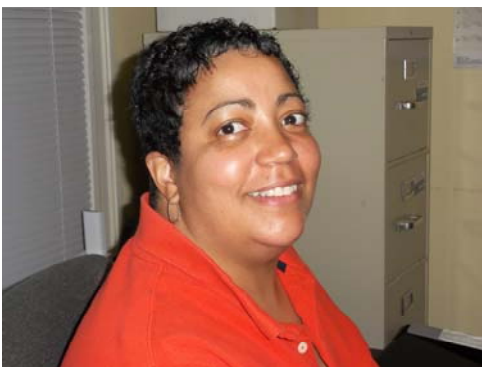
The first **Ujima** Volunteer award will go to John Schlumbohm and the parishioners of St. Mary Parish, Bluffton, Ohio. John organized volunteers to come to Padua Center in 2010 to install 53 windows at the Center. In November of this year, John organized thirty-eight volunteers (30 from Bluffton University and 8 from St. Mary Parish) to install new flooring on the third floor of Padua Center.

Veronica Flaggs will receive the **Ujima** Volunteer award for her many hours of dedicated volunteering. For two summers, Veronica provided transportation for picking up lunches for the summer camps. During the school year, she is a volunteer receptionist two days a week.

Featured MC for the Kwanzaa Celebration is Diane Gordon who has been involved with Kwanzaa for many years. The children of Padua Center, especially the *Emerging Young Ladies* will take various roles in the Candle Lighting Ceremony. Ethnic foods will be included on the table.

The Brighten Up committee of Padua Center, led by Mr. Oscar Shaheer, planned this event which is free and open to the public.

For more information, call Padua Center (419) 241-6465



Veronica Flaggs, Ujima, Volunteer of the Year.



John Schlumbohm of St. Mary Parish, Bluffton. Crew Leader