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(Pinellas Park, Fla.)— Shine a Light Awards hosted by Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services honors citizens whose passionate dedication to our community makes Pinellas County a great place to live. On Oct. 10, PEMHS will have honored 138 people and organizations in 29 years.

This year's honorees include Donald Turnbaugh, a founder of the Crisis Intervention Team. He helped build this program over 16 years from Pinellas County base to a statewide effort. CIT has trained 18,000 police officers to help people who are emotionally fragile. He is the perfect advocate because he spent his work life on the Baltimore police department and as a U. S. Customs officer. His wife, Judy, is the guardian for her brother who has a significant and persistent mental illness. Turnbaugh's local partner is Det. Brettina Adams of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department. She attended the first CIT training in 1999 and became its coordinator a few years ago.

Kay Dillinger and Cat Coats will receive special recognition for founding Beth's Closet at the PACE Center for Girls in Pinellas County. The closet started with \$35,000 in memorial gifts after Kay's daughter Beth tragically died. "Now five or six times a year, Kay and Cat dress up spend hours helping our girls select from some of the beautiful things in the closet. Kay and Cat love our girls even when they're stinkerbells," said Sally Zeh, executive director of PACE.

Proceeds benefit Holiday Lane for families referred to PEMHS Family Services Initiative. Some of these families are homeless or less than one paycheck away from living on the streets. You can help.

Tickets are \$30. Sponsorships start at \$500. The event will be Thursday, Oct. 10 at 6 p.m., The Coliseum, 535 4th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, Fla. 33701 beginning. Contact 727.362.4316 for tickets or to make a donation.

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Please call if you would like to arrange an interview with one of our award winners before the event. Other recipients include Sen. Jeff Brandes; Beth Houghton executive director, St. Petersburg Free Clinic; and Carolyn Rostetter, Jabil Circuit.

