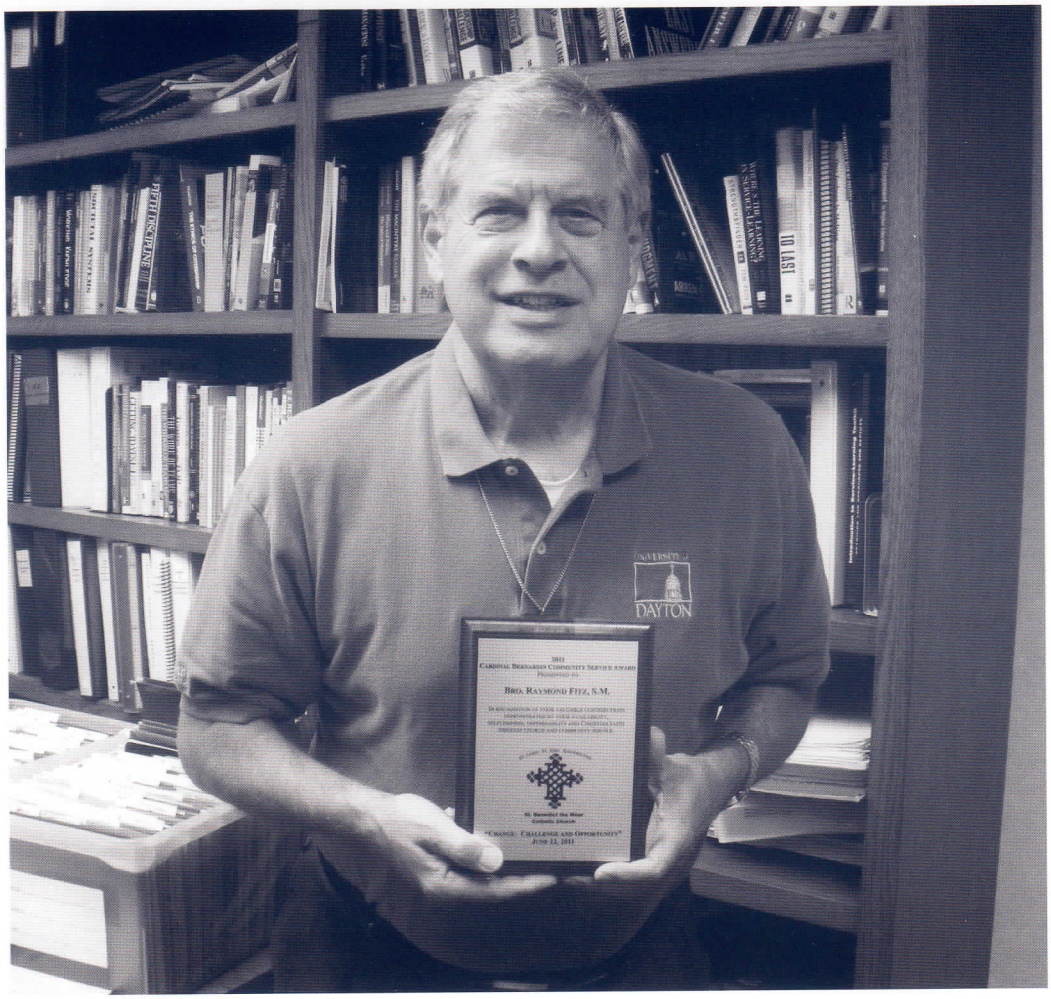
SELFLESS COMMUNITY SERVICE BY CAMERON FULLAM

St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church of Dayton honored **Brother Ray Fitz, S.M.**, with the Cardinal Bernardin Community Service Award at banquet this past June. The award honors individuals who are models of giving to others and to the community without any expectation of recognition. Honorees step in when and where needed because it is part of their make-up and giving nature, according to the church's press release.

Brother Ray currently serves as the Ferree Professor of Social Justice at the University of Dayton, a role he assumed after serving as the University's president from 1979-2002. He works closely with the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community, which partners with local organizations to leverage the University's resources and students to meet community needs. He has taught courses in leadership in building community; regional development, politics, and social justice; and Christianity, citizenship and society; and he mentors the University's Graduate Community Fellows.

Brother Ray remains very involved in the greater Dayton community. Some of the organizations he works with include the Dayton Public School Community Advisory Council, the Family and Children First Council, the Homeless Solutions Leadership Team and the city's Neighborhood School Centers. He also remains active with the Marianist community and works closely with Catholic organizations, serving with the Catholic Education Collaborative, Chaminade-Julienne and the Marianist Leadership Development Program.



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Graduate Community Fellows program now cost sharing

BY DON VERMILLION, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROJECTS

Over the past three years, the Graduate Community Fellows Program at the University of Dayton has provided 12 graduate students with a comprehensive experience in key nonprofit organizations in the Dayton community while they have completed the course work required for their graduate degrees. The academic programs of the graduate students have included clinical psychology, public administration, school counseling, community counseling and educational leadership. Samaritan Behavioral Health, Life Essentials, Dakota Center, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, Catholic Education Collaborative, Daybreak, Dayton Christian Center, Cityfolk's Culture Builds Community, Adventure Central and the Dayton Foundation are the nonprofit partners that have participated.

The program has been revised to include a financial contribution from the nonprofit partners in addition to the supervision that is provided to the graduate students during their 20 hour onsite weekly work experience over a two-year period. During the 2011-12 school year, Daybreak and the Neighborhood School Centers will begin this new partnership arrangement with the Fitz Center.