

## 2016 Cornerstone Award Inductee Shelly Igdaloff

*“We created something incredible together with the establishment of the Gahanna Jefferson Education Foundation.”*

Shelly Igdaloff, a long-time resident of Jefferson Township, has been involved with Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools for many years. She could be seen in the classroom, the school store, at athletic booster meetings, and at the very first Gahanna Jefferson Education Foundation (GJEF) gala!

“Gahanna was our community, and we had five kids go through the schools,” Igdaloff said. “I jumped in with both feet! I wanted my kids, who were my passion and my job, to see me in their school buildings.”

“Shelly has been dedicated to Gahanna-Jefferson since 1989,” said Maureen Emhoff, GJEF volunteer. “Shelly never missed a PTO meeting, always offering meaningful insight and suggestions. She would fight for projects that would most benefit the students, and ask ‘Why can’t we make this happen?’”

Once her children matriculated to Gahanna Lincoln High School, she became involved with GJEF. Igdaloff chaired the first ‘Gahanna Gala,’ and went on to lead the event for four years.

“We had an incredible committee, and it felt good doing the work for such a good cause,” Igdaloff said. “With this event, we positively impacted and contributed to our schools. Gahanna is an exceptional community!”

Igdaloff noted that her volunteer work and experiences throughout the district have helped her evolve both personally and professionally. The benefits of 30 years of volunteerism have led her to her current position with local nonprofit Love Without Hurt, where she partners with businesses and organizations to share resources and information on safe teen relationships.

“There is no volunteer in Gahanna who has given more of their heart and soul to Gahanna-Jefferson schools,” said Bob Keidan, 2015 Cornerstone Award honoree. “As impressive as the number of activities Shelly led, it is the extraordinary talent she demonstrates combined with her passion and hard work that is so impactful.”

Igdaloff is a graduate of The Ohio State University.