

*16th Annual*  
***Fred Atkins Community Service Award***

**REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS - 2026**

The Fred Atkins Community Service Award is given each year in honor and memory of Frederick J. Atkins, a beloved Cayuga County volunteer and 30-year Unity House board member. Fred passed away in 2009 at the age of 95, but not before he touched the lives and hearts of many in our community. Fred was an exemplary community servant who gave selflessly of his time and considerable accounting expertise. He worked for 35 years at Columbian Rope Company in Auburn, and then volunteered for numerous organizations after his retirement. **This award recognizes an outstanding individual who volunteers in Cayuga County and who exemplifies Fred's high moral standards and philanthropic spirit.**

*To be considered, the nominee must:*

- ◆ volunteer in Cayuga County;
- ◆ act as a community service role model for others;
- ◆ demonstrate integrity, compassion, and involvement

*Unity House employees are not eligible. Please print neatly or type so the committee can read them.*

*Nominators are urged to speak with the nominee before submitting to get full background information and resume.*

**NOMINATION FORM**

**Nominee:**

Address:

Day Phone:

Email:

Volunteers for which organizations:

Does what type of hands-on work:

# of years as a volunteer:

Place of employment:

**Nominator:**

Business:

Address:

Day Phone:

Email:

Signature:

Date:

**Nomination receipt deadline: 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 11, 2026**

*Please complete both sides of this form and return to:*

Unity House  
c/o Kelly Buck  
217 Genesee Street, Auburn, NY 13021  
or fax to: 315-612-3116  
or email to: [kelly.buck@unityhouse.org](mailto:kelly.buck@unityhouse.org)

*over...*

## ***2026 Fred Atkins Community Service Award***

Please tell us why you are nominating this individual. You are encouraged to speak with the person you are nominating to get details. Provide specific examples of his/her community service and hands-on volunteer work in Cayuga County. Candidates will be judged on: level of community involvement, longevity of service, depth and breadth of service, being a community role model and inspiration to others, and demonstrations of integrity and compassion. Please keep your nomination to this one page. Attach a resume if possible. Learn more at: [unityhouse.org/atkins-award](http://unityhouse.org/atkins-award)

*Please return to Unity House by February 11, 2026. The award will be made at Unity House's annual dinner on Monday, April 27; the recipient will receive a \$1,000 cash reward - \$500 for the winner, \$500 for the charity/non-profit of his/her choice. The public is invited to attend the fundraising dinner and help us celebrate Fred Atkins and volunteerism in Cayuga County.*