

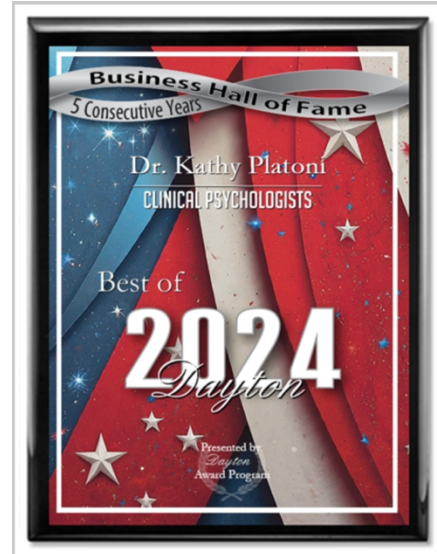
# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Dr. Kathy Platoni: The Heart of Dayton's Community Support Network

Dayton, OH, March 20, 2024 - Dr. Kathy Platoni, a beacon of resilience and support, has once again been honored with the prestigious 2024 Best of Dayton Award in the Clinical Psychologists category by the Dayton Award Program. This marks her fifth consecutive year receiving this esteemed recognition.

The Dayton Award Program annually identifies exceptional individuals who exemplify outstanding dedication and service within their local community. Dr. Platoni embodies the essence of community spirit, serving as a pillar of strength where police, first responders, and veterans turn for guidance and assistance.



Following her experience as a survivor of the tragic Fort Hood Massacre in 2009, Dr. Platoni emerged as a fervent advocate for the victims and their families, tirelessly campaigning for the recognition of the incident as an act of terrorism. Her efforts led to the long-overdue acknowledgment of wounded Soldiers and fallen heroes through the awarding of the Purple Heart Medal.

Throughout her illustrious career, Dr. Platoni has garnered numerous accolades, including a lifetime achievement award from her alma mater, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and the prestigious Dayton's Ten Top Women Award in 2012.



Her unwavering commitment to community service and volunteerism earned her the Legacy Award in 2013 and the Legion of Merit from the United States Army in 2014. In recognition of her exceptional contributions, Dr. Platoni was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 2019 and received the Ford Oval of Honor Award in 2020. Her dedication to psychological support for returning Veterans earned her the IVAT Returning Veterans Resiliency in Response to Trauma Award in 2016.

Retired from the 4th Civil Support and Sustainment Brigade, Ohio Military Reserve, in 2021 after six years of dedicated service, Dr. Platoni will be continuing her mission as the retiree psychologist for the Ohio Naval Militia/State Defense Forces, now in her 41st year of military service.

Dr. Platoni's remarkable contributions have earned her consecutive Best of Dayton Psychologists award in 2020, culminating in her induction into the Dayton Business Hall of Fame each year, 2021-2024. Additionally, she was honored with induction into the Greene County Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame in 2022.

The Dayton Award Program takes great pride in recognizing Dr. Platoni's unwavering dedication to enhancing the lives of others. Her exemplary service embodies the spirit of community and enriches the fabric of Dayton, making it a better place for all who call it home.

### **About Dayton Award Program**

The Dayton Award Program annually honors local businesses and individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment and excellence within the Dayton community. Recognizing the vital role of small businesses in the economy, the program celebrates those who have made significant contributions to their industry and community.

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