

2011 MLK Spirit Award Recipient

Victor Pichon

Victor Pichon's passion for serving others began in his college years, where he witnessed a growing need for community involvement as part of the civil rights movement. A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Pichon attended Dillard University and moved to St. Louis in 1973 after completing his accounting degree. During college, he participated in civil rights marches, and at age 19, his concern for justice and his desire to right injustices led to his involvement with the prison system and specifically an investigation of Angola State Prison.

A resident of University City since 1979, Mr. Pichon has served the School District of University City and the City of University City in a number of ways. He has been a student mentor at Barbara C. Jordan Elementary School and served on the YES to Schools Committee for passage of the 2009 Proposition U bond issue. He currently serves on the school district Finance and Bond Issue Oversight Committee, the University City Education Foundation Board, University City Mayor's Task Force on Seniors & Youth Civil Service Committee, and the newly formed U. City Youth Society.

During the past 25 years, Mr. Pichon's dedication to the justice system has continued through his volunteer work with the St. Louis County Juvenile Detention Center. Over the years, he has received many honors, including being inducted into the IRS Equal Employment Opportunity's Hall of Fame in 1989, as well as receiving the Keeper of the Flame award from the United Negro College Fund in 1992.

He dedicated 34 years of his professional career to the Internal Revenue Service, then retired from the tax law specialist department to invest more time in serving others. Most recently, he has served the students of University City through Real Talk Inc., a non-profit organization serving at-risk students at Brittany Woods Middle School and University City High School.

Mr. Pichon recently celebrated 37 years of marriage. He has three children in whom he has instilled the same passion for serving others.