Dallas Baptist University recently presented the 23rd Annual DBU-Oak Cliff Partnership Dinner Good Samaritan Award to Dr. Martin Hawkins and Tyler Street Christian Academy. Leigh Gettman-Allen served as the chair of the event, which was held on Tuesday, May 10, on the DBU campus.

The DBU-Oak Cliff Partnership Dinner recognizes leaders and organizations in the Oak Cliff area that have given of their time, talent, and resources for the betterment of the community by presenting them with the Good Samaritan Award. Proceeds from the dinner provide scholarships for DBU students from Oak Cliff.

Dr. Martin Hawkins serves as the president of Southern Bible Institute located on Hampton Road in Oak Cliff. He has also served for 29 years as the assistant pastor at Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship under Dr. Tony Evans, senior pastor. Likewise, he is the founder of Metro Discipling Ministries and board secretary of the Urban Alternative.

In accepting the award, Dr. Hawkins thanked DBU President Dr. Gary Cook for the support and example he has been over the years for himself and for Southern Bible Institute. He also shared with the crowd the vision of the school and the needs for continuing biblical education in the Oak Cliff community and beyond.

The dinner also presented the Good Samaritan Award to Tyler Street Christian Academy, a fixture in the Oak Cliff community since 1972, which serves students in preschool all the way through the 12th grade by providing educational alternatives for the families in the Oak Cliff area and beyond. Its mission is to provide a college preparatory education, while also developing Christ-like character and likewise preparing each graduate for a life of service to God and the community.

Dinner Chair Leigh Gettman-Allen, herself a Tyler Street graduate, recalled her memories from her time at Tyler Street, as well as the programs that TSCA has implemented to provide education to students in difficult situations.

Dr. Karen Egger and Vivian Skinner accepted the award on behalf of TSCA. Dr. Egger has served at Tyler Street for 33 years, 21 of which have been in her current role as superintendent, and Vivian Skinner, DBU’s director of Pilgrim Chapel, has been president of the TSCA board for 14 years.