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Madison College Instructor Receives Prestigious National Award

Madison Area Technical College information technology instructor Andy Czerkas and his wife Jenny, a Madison College graduate, received the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis award at the recent national Jefferson Awards in Washington, D.C.

Andy and Jenny founded The River Food Pantry in Madison about ten years ago. The pantry provides hot meals, groceries, clothing and household items to about 21,000 Dane County families that are struggling to make ends meet.

The Jefferson Awards are considered the "Nobel Prize for public service." They are presented to unsung heroes for their extraordinary and selfless volunteer work.

The Czerkas' were among a "who's who" of award winners. Others receiving national honors at the Jefferson Awards ceremony included Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, sports owner Jerry Reinsdorf and actress Marlo Thomas.

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Madison Area Technical College serves approximately 40,000 individuals annually, providing "real world smart" education through a comprehensive curriculum of technical, liberal arts and sciences, adult basic education and continuing education, as well as customized training for employers.