When Rahsaan Sloan joined the Dave’s Killer Bread team, he didn’t know what to expect. He’d been out of prison for only a short period of time, and had never had a “real” job with career opportunities.

Two years later, Rahsaan is an integral part of the DKB team. He’s received several promotions – from a production helper to wrap operator to an assistant supervisor – and he has spoken on a panel for the DKB Second Chances Foundation. In March, he received the 2017 L.S. Flowers Spirit Award, the highest employee honor given by Flowers Foods.

The Flowers Spirit Award program honors the integrity, leadership, and caring of Flowers employees, both at work and in their communities. Each year, Flowers locations select their Spirit Award recipients, and the L.S. Flowers Spirit Award recipient is chosen from among those recipients.

When Rahsaan joined the DKB team, he saw an opportunity to build his leadership skills as well as to help others build their leadership capabilities.

“It come in to work every day like it’s my first, with the same hunger and drive, and it makes every day just that much better,” Rahsaan said. “That’s the encouragement I try to pass along to my fellow partners at Dave’s: Don’t forget that drive; don’t forget that hunger.”

At DKB, where “Second Chances” are a way of life, Rahsaan sees the value of remaining open to what others bring to the table. “You can’t assume you know. You have to be considerate of their circumstances, whether it is someone coming from incarceration or who has experienced other hardships.”

These characteristics, and others, make Rahsaan a trusted employee at the Milwaukie, Oregon, bakery, said Rob Clamp, director of plant operations.

“He’s a calming presence, a calming force, with a positive attitude and so much drive and determination,” Rob added. “I feel better when he’s out there on the bakery floor handling things.”

Outside of work, Rahsaan volunteers for the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Oregon Public Defender’s Office, sharing his own story to provide encouragement and motivation for others to turn Second Chances into positive, lasting change.

“Giving back — talking to people in...”

Robert Benton, Flowers Foods’ chief supply chain officer, left, and Rob Clamp, Dave’s Killer Bread director of plant operations, right, present the 2017 L.S. Flowers Spirit Award to Rahsaan Sloan, a DKB assistant supervisor of production.
The Flowers Spirit Awards recognize employees who are a positive force at work and in their communities. The program was inspired by the kindness and generosity of Langdon S. Flowers, past president and chairman of the board of Flowers Foods. Team members around the country nominate and select a coworker to be their subsidiary’s Spirit Award recipient. Nominees must be full-time employees in good-standing. They also must:

★ Encourage or motivate others.
★ Show leadership, strong team qualities, integrity and moral character.
★ Exhibit a positive attitude and respect for others.
★ Volunteer in the community.

Thirty-nine Spirit Award recipients were honored at their locations in 2017. Flowers Foods donates $250 to each recipient’s charity of choice. Flowers also donates $1,000 to the L.S. Flowers Spirit Award recipient’s charity.

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**OUR 2017 SPIRIT AWARDS**

We Salute Our Spirit Award Recipients

Betty Begley
Wrap Operator
FB of Crossville
Charity: Cumberland Children’s Center/ House of Hope

Glenda Benford
Retail Sales Manager
Holsum Bakery
Charity: Sorjourner Center

Patrick Boyd
Environmental Manager
Bailey Street Bakery
Charity: Atlanta West Pentecostal Church Hope Ministry

Betty is very helpful at the bakery and performs her job well. An employee for 19 years, she assists with dinners and fundraisers. She also aids other employees on the line.

Glenda often opens and closes the thrift store so others don’t have to readjust their schedules when there is an unanticipated absence. Outside of work, she volunteers for a backpack drive, Breakfast with Santa, and the bakery’s Christmas Families drive. She also is an advocate for local food banks.

Patrick ensures his safety certifications are current and holds routine safety drills to help make sure his teammates are safe. He also volunteers to help coordinate all employee events. Outside of work, he is a youth leader and a member of the mission ministry and music ministry teams for his church.

Joe Buitron
Engineering Technician
FBC of Bardstown
Charity: Sovereign Grace Baptist Church

Telaisha Burton
Shipping Supervisor
FBC of Lenexa
Charity: Ability KC Therapeutic Preschool

Gwen Byrd
Production Helper
FB of London
Charity: Anglin Branch Baptist Church

A 15-year Flowers employee, Joe recently relocated from San Antonio to Bardstown. He is team-oriented and mentors other members of the engineering group. Before moving to Bardstown, Joe helped set up an irrigation system for a village in Mexico and was instrumental in building a church in San Antonio.

Telaisha’s enthusiasm is infectious to other members of the shipping team. She helps them perform to the best of their abilities and she maintains safety standards. Outside of work, she helps families in her community who have autistic children.

Gwen is known for looking out for her coworkers and making sure they are prepared for the next shift. Her strong work ethic doesn’t end at work; she is active in her church and volunteers in her community.

Linda Chalacoff
Senior Administrator
Tucker Sales Office
Charity: Muscular Dystrophy Association

Linda is a professional with a great attitude and motivational spirit. She’s a self-starter who provides outstanding customer service and shows respect to all she comes in contact with.
Rahsaan Sloan

prison and people impacted by gang violence — gives me balance and reminds me of where I once was and where I’m trying to go,” Rahsaan said of his volunteer efforts. “I want to give encouragement and enlightenment, and say, ‘Look where I’m at. It could be you, too.’”

Rahsaan’s wife, Janice, son, Makahi, 19, and daughters, Rahsaan, 16, and Jayilee, 14, also help keep Rahsaan grounded. He reminds them and all those he meets: “This is just the beginning, the start of something great, and a stepping stone to what is to come.”

Rahsaan’s L.S. Flowers Spirit Award donation was presented to GIFT (Gang Impacted Family Team) Services, City of Portland Office of Youth Violence Prevention.

Chuck Cox
Area Sales Director
FBC of Ohio
Charity: Jefferson Baptist Temple Children’s Ministries

Chuck is a strong leader, a team player, and has a positive attitude. Chuck and his wife have recently become foster parents, helping a child in need in their community.

Klaire Dash
Accounting Generalist
FBC of Norfolk
Charity: Lee’s Lil Shorebreaker’s

Klaire’s positive attitude makes the bakery a better place to be. She is friendly, outgoing, and willing to help. Outside of work, Klaire volunteers with Lee’s Lil Shore Breakers, helping disadvantaged children learn to surf.

Robert Falks
Engineering Manager
FBC of Baton Rouge
Charity: Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Baton Rouge

Robert is a mentor and leader in the engineering department. During the 2016 Baton Rouge flooding, he manned boats to rescue stranded people, and sheltered those in need in his home. He continues to help with demolition and rebuilding projects.
Luis Gonzalez, Sr.
_Territory Operations Specialist_
FBC of Miami  
Charity: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Luis is a role model, team player, and has a positive attitude at the bakery. He collects, buys, and distributes toys for the Children’s Home Society every year. He also gets involved with other fundraising activities for the bakery.

Quinton Gross
_Warehouse Shipper_
FBC of Lynchburg  
Charity: Greater Lynchburg Habitat for Humanity

Quinton's positive outlook inspires his teammates to have a more upbeat attitude. Outside of work, he volunteers with his church, school functions, and the community.

Robert Hawley
_Account Manager_
FBC of Denton  
Charity: Bentonville Police Department

Robert retired from Flowers at the end of 2017 after 27 years. At work, he was approachable and helpful, to employees, customers, and consumers. Outside of work, Robert is charitable to his neighbors, helping them repair household items or buy groceries.

Amy Helmendach
_Production Technician_
FBC of Knoxville  
Charity: Helen Ross McNabb Center

Amy is respected among her peers, supervisors, and community for her dependability, patience, perseverance, and spirit. Outside of work, she provides women in addiction recovery support, encouragement, and transportation when needed.

Jo Ann Hopkins
_General Production Operator_
FBC of Jacksonville  
Charity: Pentecostal Church of God in Christ

Jo Ann’s generosity at work and in her community are boundless. She is consistently kind and willing to help coworkers, and she cares for the elderly in her neighborhood.

Chad Huston
_Sales Manager_
FBC of Jamestown  
Charity: Shriners Hospitals for Children

Chad’s positive attitude has led others to call him “the sunshine in the warehouse.” Outside of work, he is a youth leader for his church and helped start a young adult ministry. He also supports elder care initiatives and creates care boxes for the homeless in the community.

Sadé Lewis
_Vacation Relief_
FBC of Tucker  
Charity: Mothers, Daughters, and Sisters Against Breast Cancer

In just over a year, Sadé has learned many operator positions at the bakery and has become a true asset who can fill-in in many roles. Outside of work, Sadé raises awareness about breast cancer with Mothers, Daughters, and Sisters Against Breast Cancer.

Regina Logsdon
_Production Supervisor_
Alpine Valley Bakery  
Charity: Transitional Living Community (TLC)

Regina’s willingness to train others in proper procedures make her a go-to for guidance among her coworkers. Outside of work, she is a mentor for women who are recovering from substance abuse.

Linda Jones
_VP of Plant Finance_
Flowers Foods  
Charity: Project Excel Youth Mentoring Program

Linda’s work ethic is evident both on the job and in the community. She is active in Project Excel Youth Mentoring, Hands on Thomas County, Project Backyard, Second Harvest Food Bank, and she prepares income tax returns for low income individuals.
OUR 2017 SPIRIT AWARDS

Khalilah McIntyre  
Inventory Control Supervisor  
Derst Baking Co.  
Charity: Greenbriar Children’s Center, Inc.

Khalilah has served in a variety of capacities at Derst and has excelled at them all. She’s a team player and motivates those around her to do their best. In the community, she has been involved with the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

Jay Montgomery  
Engineering Supervisor  
FBC of Oxford  
Charity: Muscular Dystrophy Association

Jay’s knowledge about buildings and infrastructure is invaluable to the engineering team at Oxford. Outside of work, Jay raises money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the National Wild Turkey Federation, where he helps disabled hunters continue the sport.

William Nelson  
Building Maintenance Mechanic  
FBC of Opelika  
Charity: Gateway Family Church of Auburn

William is known for his positive attitude and pleasant demeanor at the bakery. His quiet leadership make him a go-to for many projects. Outside of work, William is a musician for several churches and he visits sick people in the hospital.

Raul Olivas  
Area Sales Director  
FBC of Henderson  
Charity: Rancho Bernardo Wrestling

Raul leads by example and approaches problems with optimism and fairness. Away from work, Raul volunteers as a softball coach, where he teaches life skills and prepares players for life after high school.

Jesus Otero  
Production Technician  
FBC of Bradenton  
Charity: El Rey Jesus Cape Coral

Jesus is a pleasure to work with. He’s always willing to help coworkers, even giving them rides to and from work, if needed. Outside of work, he provides for the less fortunate.

Esmeralda Padilla  
Production Operator  
FBC of Modesto  
Charity: Templo Jordan

Esmeralda collects and distributes clothes and toys to local children in need. She makes and sells tamales to raise money for community service projects. At work, she is team oriented, concerned about coworkers, and strives to do her best.

Necole Pettis  
Production Lead  
FBC of Thomasville  
Charity: Beulah Hill Missionary Baptist Church

Necole is patient, kind, and considerate. She communicates well with her team at work, and helps ensure new team members have proper training. Off the job, Necole is involved in her church’s outreach ministry efforts.

Robertta Ramos  
HR Generalist  
FBC of San Antonio  
Charity: Altar Society of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

As an HR administrator, Roberta comes into contact with most team members. Her patience and willingness to teach them new skills is evident, no matter what the circumstances. Outside of work, she’s active in her church’s community outreach projects.

Tina Redwine  
General Production Operator  
FB of Suwanee  
Charity: Diabetes Research Institute Foundation

On the job, Tina’s humor, positive energy, and helpful attitude are inspiring. In her off time, she feeds the homeless and less fortunate through her church, most recently, helping hurricane victims in Puerto Rico.

Johnnie Richardson  
Production Supervisor  
Leeland Baking Co.  
Charity: St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital

Johnnie is committed to his responsibilities as a supervisor. He always looks for ways to improve, and he shares what he’s learning with his team members. He’s willing to help anyone in the bakery with any kind of task.
Larry Ruth  
*Production Manager* 
FBC of Houston  
Charity: Samaritan’s Purse

Both on the job and off, Larry puts others’ needs above his own. He and his wife cooked for more than 600 displaced families at a local emergency shelter during Hurricane Harvey.

Felicia Scarver  
*QC Technician* 
FB of Montgomery  
Charity: Harrison Street Christian Church

Felicia provides leadership to her third-shift bakery team as well as her church group. Multiple people on third shift nominated her for the award because of her encouraging demeanor and willingness to help. At church, she holds many leadership roles.

Johnnie Sharpe  
*Shipping Clerk* 
Franklin Baking Co.  
Charity: Full Gospel Deliverance Church

Johnny goes out of his way to help others, even without being asked. He is dependable, has a positive attitude and a servant’s heart. He is dedicated to a job well done. He helps families in need through his church and has volunteered at the local dialysis clinic.

Chuck Spencer  
*Production Superintendent* 
FB of Texarkana  
Charity: First Choice Pregnancy Center

Chuck encourages team and community members alike to be the best they can be and to give back. He mentors young adults looking for guidance about their futures in a college and careers class. He’s a hard worker with a positive attitude.

Pam Tarrantce  
*Retail Sales Manager* 
FBC of Birmingham  
Charity: Alabama City Lions Club

Pam often travels long distances to help independent distributors, sales directors, and others with little notice and no complaints. In her community, Pam is on the New Business Development Board, and she volunteers for the Lions Club, the Freddie Kitchens football camp, and Habitat for Humanity.

Mike Thomas  
*Production Superintendent* 
FBC of Newton  
Charity: American Legion Post Hickory # 48

Mike is a 21-year veteran of the Army and spends much of his free time volunteering for the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, or Catawba Hospice Veterans Program. At work, his calming demeanor and ability to work well under pressure make him a leader in his department.

Barry Thompson  
*Director of Marketing* 
FBC of Villa Rica  
Charity: Keep Carroll Beautiful

Barry recently retired, and his work ethic and concern for his fellow employees will be missed. During his nearly 42 years at the bakery, he went out of his way to help others, encouraging them to do their best. Outside of work, he volunteers with his church.

Sylvia Trammell  
*Mixer Operator* 
Holsum Bakery of Tolleson  
Charity: Susan G. Komen

Sylvia takes great pride in ensuring her teammates are properly trained and safe. Her big heart and passion for helping others is evident not only at work but in her community. Outside of work, she participates in charity walks for Autism Speaks, Susan G. Komen and others. She also coordinate motorcycle rides for charity and volunteers at schools.

David Valles  
*Controller* 
FBC of El Paso  
Charity: American Parkinson Disease Association

David had been controller at El Paso for 16 years when he tragically lost his life in 2017. This posthumous Spirit Award honors David’s dedication to his work, his coworkers, and his family. He was known and loved by many around the company.