



Carol Steider
Brick Municipal Alliance
Ocean County

Carol Steider joined the Brick Municipal Alliance following her retirement from 37 years of teaching special education students. She has been an indispensable member of the Brick Alliance, contributing significant time and energy to the Thrive mentoring program which is designed to empower youth living in high-risk neighborhoods. When the individual originally designated to oversee this program suffered serious health challenges, Ms. Steider assumed the duty without hesitation. In this capacity, she attended weekly meetings and nurtured positive relationships with the youth participants. These meetings included creative and positive activities such as encouraging the youth to make mindfulness jars with which to practice calming meditation, as well as developing community service projects involving the youth in planting flowers around the community pool. The program could not have succeeded without her commitment and dedication. Her passion for helping youth continues to burn strong as she constantly seeks new opportunities to serve. Ms. Steider's efforts and commitment to the work of the Brick Alliance make her a deserving recipient of the Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year award for Ocean County.



Elaine Tizzano
Hardyston/Franklin Municipal Alliance
Sussex County

Elaine Tizzano has been a member of the Hardyston/Franklin Municipal Alliance for 12 years and currently serves as co-chair of the Municipal Alliance Committee. Ms. Tizzano organized the Changing the Face of Addiction Walk held in Franklin Borough in honor of her son George and another Hardyston/Franklin resident, Eric Burns, who lost their lives as a result of heroin addiction. The walk, which is in its second year, seeks to change how addiction and individuals who struggle with substance use disorders are perceived. There were over 300 attendees at the walk in 2015, and the August 2016 walk was even more successful with over 400 registrants. One hundred percent of the money raised through the walk is donated to help those in need of services to aid them in their struggle with addiction. Additionally, Ms. Tizzano oversees the Franklin Red Ribbon Program and the Franklin Healthy Choices After-School Program which are funded by the Alliance. She is an active community member and throughout the years has been involved in numerous youth-based activities that support the mission of the Municipal Alliance.



John Zimmerman
Kenilworth Municipal Alliance
Union County

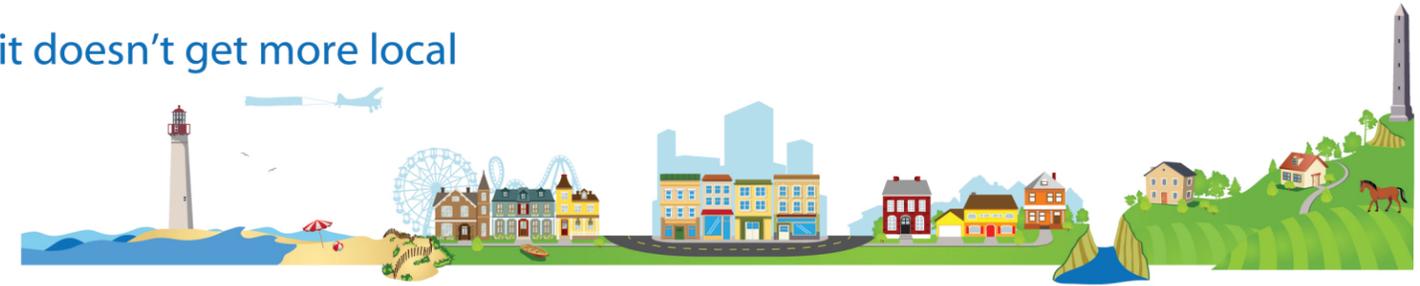
John Zimmerman is a lifelong Kenilworth resident who has earned the admiration and respect of his family, friends and peers. A 28-year veteran of the Borough's police department, he was appointed chief of police in 2013. In addition to carrying out the many demanding responsibilities of his position, Chief Zimmerman has demonstrated his dedication to the community through his leadership of many educational and recreational activities and programs over the years, including many which relate specifically to the mission of the Kenilworth Municipal Alliance, which he has chaired admirably and faithfully for the past six years. They include administration of the community's DARE program, annual PBA Fishing Derby, Red Ribbon Week activities and the annual "Every 15 Minutes" event, a dramatic day-long, reality-based portrayal of a tragic automobile accident. This program effectively demonstrates for high school students the negative consequences of teenage drinking and driving. Chief Zimmerman's strong leadership and dedication to programs which serve to reduce and prevent the abuse of drugs and alcohol by Kenilworth youth make him a well deserving recipient of this recognition.



Kelsea Baylor
South Warren Municipal Alliance
Warren County

Kelsea Baylor's involvement with the South Warren Municipal Alliance began when she joined as a member of the Alliance Committee when she was in high school. Her involvement has continued for the past three years as she has grown into her role as chairperson of the committee. Ms. Baylor is a breath of fresh air wherever she goes and is an inspiration to all who meet her. Her leadership and enthusiasm for service to the community has inspired her peers as well, as she has brought in several youth members to volunteer their time for various events sponsored by the Alliance. She personally attends nearly every event that the Alliance sponsors. In addition to her involvement with the South Warren Municipal Alliance, she is also active with several other organizations in Warren County such as Head Start, Northwest New Jersey Community Action Partnership, Inc., the Salvation Army and others. She will be attending Centenary College starting this fall, where she will be studying human services, and looks forward to remaining an active participant in the South Warren Municipal Alliance.

it doesn't get more local



Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
creating healthy & safe communities

Governor's Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse

2016 Municipal Alliance Volunteers of the Year

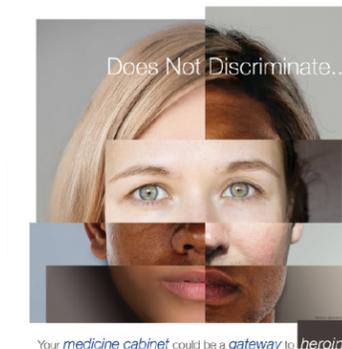


W. Cary Edwards Statewide Volunteer of the Year

Diane Myers
Buena/Buena Vista/Weymouth Municipal Alliance
Atlantic County

Diane Myers has been an active member of the Buena/Buena Vista Twps./Weymouth Municipal Alliance for over 23 years and has relentlessly sought ways to secure more community support for the program. Among her contributions to substance abuse prevention, Ms. Myers has dedicated her time and talents to the Buena Regional High School (BRHS) Project Graduation event on behalf of the Municipal Alliance. This event provides a safe alcohol and drug free place of enjoyment for students to celebrate their accomplishment. It has been a perennial success and has helped to keep many of the community's students safe on perhaps the most dangerous night for high school students when risky decisions are often made. Her outreach to community and business entities alike has provided attendees with food, entertainment of all types, prizes and most importantly, a priceless sense of a caring community. Diane Myers' dedication to the Municipal Alliance and the BRHS Project Graduation demonstrates how one person can positively impact the lives of so many and makes her a deserving recipient of this recognition.

Addiction



www.gcada.nj.gov
www.knowaddiction.nj.gov
www.facebook.com/gcada.newjersey



Nicole Duncan
Burlington City Municipal Alliance
Burlington County

Nicole Duncan has been selected as the 2016 Burlington County Volunteer of the Year based on her active participation on the Burlington City Municipal Alliance committee and the extensive time and energy she puts into ensuring the Alliance remains viable and active in the community. Ms. Duncan is a Substance Abuse Coordinator in the Burlington City School District since January of 2015 which brings a vital perspective to the Alliance in the development of effective programming to address youth substance abuse prevention. She volunteers her time attending workshops to gain information that would be beneficial to the Burlington City Alliance, in addition to staffing Alliance information tables at county, community, and school events. Ms. Duncan is very committed and takes on each task with complete enthusiasm and leadership. She continues to look for new ideas to improve the Alliance and the community as a whole, is a positive role model for both students and adults and her contributions are valued throughout the community.



Jennifer Elias
Upper Township and Ocean City Municipal Alliance
Cape May County

Jennifer Elias has been a member of the Upper Township and Ocean City Municipal Alliance for five years. During this time she helped establish the town's Friday with Friends (FWF) program. The FWF program hosts a series of alternative activities for teens on Friday evenings, a time when local youth are more likely to drink alcohol. Ms. Elias has served as a police officer for 17 years. She is also an instructor at Cape May County Police Academy, teaching community policing. She has worked on many Alliance programs and activities and serves on multiple community prevention committees. Ms. Elias willingly gives her time and talent to foster a healthy and safe community, and brings positive energy, creative ideas, and a confident manner to the discussion table. Jennifer's nomination comes with many supporters cheering her on as she continues to contribute her energy and efforts to the Municipal Alliance Committee and her community.



Michael Pantalione
Vineland Municipal Alliance
Cumberland County

Michael Pantalione is one of the founding members of the Vineland Municipal Alliance against Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, which was created in 1989. As a sitting municipal council member at the time, Mr. Pantalione sought to offer Vineland residents information regarding drug and alcohol abuse long before prevention education became the societal priority that it is today. For the past 26 years, Mr. Pantalione has been a dedicated member of the Vineland Alliance consistently attending meetings and tirelessly contributing ideas as well as selflessly volunteering when needed. He is highly respected by members of his community. He continuously offers much and expects nothing in return. Countless residents of Cumberland County and members of the Vineland Municipal Alliance believe wholeheartedly that Mr. Pantalione deserves to receive this recognition for his significant and long term contributions to the prevention of substance abuse in his community.



Robert D. Roe
Maplewood Municipal Alliance
Essex County

Robert D. Roe has been the Maplewood Municipal Alliance Coordinator for over 20 years. Mr. Roe has served as the Health Officer for Maplewood Township for 26 years and has worked in the public health field since 1972. He is vice president of the Essex Regional Health Commission and is an active member of the Essex County Regional Alcohol and Drug Prevention Team (ADAPT). One of Mr. Roe's most significant accomplishments was the implementation of the Peer Leadership Program. Students who become active participants go through an official interview process with local police, Alliance members, and school officials. Selected students take an oath to be substance free and are expected to act as role models for their fellow students. Any infraction of school's code of conduct are considered grounds for dismissal. These strict guidelines serve as deterrents for students to avoid risky behaviors, enhance their self-confidence, and strengthen relationships between parents, teachers, and their peers. Mr. Roe's long term dedication to the Maplewood Municipal Alliance and his commitment to the prevention of substance abuse make him a deserving recipient of this recognition.



Christina Honthy-Little
Voorhees Municipal Alliance
Hunterdon County

Christina Honthy-Little has been an active member of the Voorhees Municipal Alliance Committee for two years. Ms. Honthy-Little is also an active board member of the Local Advisory Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Mrs. Honthy-Little has exhibited a strong determination to make a difference in her community. She and her husband started the first Alateen program in a small town in New Jersey. The program was held in conjunction with Al-Anon and Alcoholics Anonymous programs to create a true family recovery experience. The Alateen program was intended to create a safe, judgement free zone for teens to openly share their feelings. Ms. Honthy-Little also dedicates her time to community efforts by acting as a proud Ambassador for Shatterproof.org, a national organization committed to ending the stigma and suffering of those affected by addiction to alcohol or illicit drugs. Her leadership skills and strong commitment to the prevention of substance abuse in her community make her a deserving recipient of the recognition of Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year for Hunterdon County.



Patti Heenan
Ewing Municipal Alliance
Mercer County

Patti Heenan has served as the Ewing Municipal Alliance Committee chairperson for eight years and as a member for 15 years. Ms. Heenan has played an integral part in building the Ewing Alliance which represents many sectors including members of local faith-based groups, prevention agencies, local universities and police departments. During her tenure, she has brought prevention skills to Ewing youth, parents and the entire community. Ms. Heenan helped develop a comprehensive substance abuse prevention program at Katzenbach School for the Deaf in Ewing. The deaf and hard of hearing are one of the most underserved populations in Mercer County and throughout New Jersey. Ms. Heenan has always believed substance abuse prevention other life skills and wellness programs need to be available to every child in the community, and she has advanced this goal through her dedication, commitment and actions as a leading member of the Ewing Municipal Alliance.



Patrolman Craig Hoover
East Brunswick Municipal Alliance
Middlesex County

Patrolman Craig Hoover has been actively involved in the East Brunswick Municipal Alliance for almost five years. His resourcefulness and strong work ethic have been utilized to develop numerous community initiatives in an effort to enhance cooperation and outreach to the residents of East Brunswick. Officer Hoover's selfless devotion to duty continues as he often works beyond his scheduled hours to participate as department liaison to the township's Police Chaplain Program, Human Relations Council, Municipal Drug Alliance and Neighborhood Watch Programs. His ambitious nature helped him to grow the Community Policing Unit's outreach efforts which now offer over 30 different crime prevention/community awareness programs within the township. Patrolman Hoover has consistently worked to partner with other organizations to enhance the community's drug prevention education efforts. His commitment to serving the community has become an integral part of his life and the residents of East Brunswick have benefited immensely from his dedication and commitment to service.



Sherry Wright
Upper Freehold/Allentown Municipal Alliance
Monmouth County

Sherry Wright has been an active member of the Upper Freehold/Allentown Municipal Alliance for the past 26 years, consistently attending Municipal Alliance Committee meetings throughout the years. Ms. Wright previously served as the Alliance vice chairperson and currently serves as the Alliance fundraising chairperson. She has been instrumental in organizing all of the Alliance community events including the fundraising events. Ms. Wright has volunteered to oversee the fundraising program making it her mission to see that the Alliance meets its goals. Her contributions to this endeavor include setting up for the community fundraising and prevention awareness events, maintaining a presence for the duration of the events selling tickets, taking donations and educating the community. She is dedicated to help raise awareness to the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs to the residents of the community. Her dedication to the Alliance and her "take charge" approach make her an absolute asset to the Upper Freehold/Allentown Alliance, and a deserved recipient of this honor.