

State of New Jersey

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MORE THAN 800 TO CONVERGE ON NEW BRUNSWICK FOR 21ST ANNUAL SUMMIT

Former Governor Jim McGreevey to Keynote

TRENTON (September 11, 2012) ... The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug abuse will hold its 21st Annual Summit this Wednesday, September 12th at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. The Council expects more than 800 attendees to celebrate September 2012 as Recovery Month; participate in cutting-edge workshops; and, to recognize sixteen Volunteers of the Year. Attendees will converge on the Summit from throughout the State and are local antidrug coalition volunteers as well as other prevention and treatment professionals who have taken the lead in addressing New Jersey's number one public health concern, alcoholism and drug abuse.

Former Governor Jim McGreevey is scheduled to provide the keynote presentation. McGreevey serves as a member of the Council's Task Force on Heroin and Other Opiate Use by New Jersey's Youth and Young Adults. He currently works with the Integrity House Women's Program at the Hudson County Correctional Center where he guides and directs the initiative's spiritual counseling as well as works with the women upon discharge to secure mentoring; a continued commitment to principles of recovery; and, reintegration into the Hudson County community.

This year the Council will again recognize the W. Cary Edwards State Volunteer of the Year. His wife, Lynn Edwards, will present the Award. Edwards, who passed away in 2010, played an important role in the Council's enactment in 1989 while Attorney General in the Governor Thomas Kean Administration. It was also Edwards' vision to create a network of community based efforts to address alcoholism and drug abuse, the Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program, and a dedicated fund for it, the Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction Fund. His vision has been replicated throughout the United States and resulted in 385

Municipal Alliances encompassing 530 municipalities being currently active in the State, the largest network of anti-drug coalitions in the country.

The Council will also recognize New Jersey 101.5 with a Community Service Award for its continued commitment to providing news and on-air coverage as well as web-based reporting to issues related to alcoholism and drug abuse which has contributed greatly to raising the public's awareness and understanding of this critical public health concern. The Council presents Community Service Awards to an individual, group or entity that has made a significant contribution to alcoholism and drug abuse prevention, public awareness, treatment or recovery in a way that characterizes the mission and goals of the Council. The contribution must also have made an impact on the larger community in the State of New Jersey.

Conference Details:

Hyatt Regency, Two Albany Street, New Brunswick 9:15 - 9:45 am - Keynote Speaker, Gov. Jim McGreevey 11:15 am - 12:00 pm - Volunteers of the Year/Community Service Awards

To learn more about the Summit and the Volunteers of the Year visit the Council's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/gcada.newjersey, or the Summit's website, www.state.nj.us/treasury/gcada/summit21.shtml.