



VOLUNTEER CENTER
of Gloucester County

Board President

Greg Davis

DATE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Contact: June M. Bretz, Exec. Dir.
Office: 856-415-9084

Vice President

Amelia Kressler

**Volunteers honored at
1st Annual “Spirit of Community” Celebration**

Secretary

Susan Weiss

Sewell, NJ – The Volunteer Center of Gloucester County is proud to announce it will host their *1st Annual Gloucester County “Spirit of Community” Celebration* on Thursday, October 27, 2011.

This event will bring the entire community together to honor dedicated volunteers, as well as non-profit and corporate leaders, whose dedicated service makes a difference in Gloucester County. The Celebration will take place at Masso’s Caterers located in Glassboro.

Treasurer

Marguerite Stubbs

Members

Jillian Cawley

Amber Hoolahan

Robert Miles

Cody Miller

The evening will be a fun chance to spend time with other service-oriented leaders in the community. The highlight of the Celebration will be the honoring of volunteers with service awards.

Five different award categories will be presented at the event:

The **Volunteer of the Year Award** recognizes volunteers who have made outstanding contributions and whose service goes above and beyond the call of duty.

The **Volunteer Manager of the Year Award** celebrates achievement in volunteer management and recognize an individual’s effort to create an effective volunteer program to meet social need. Dan Getman of the Food Bank of South Jersey will receive this award.

The **Corporate Excellence Award** honors a socially responsible company with an exemplary commitment to service in the community. Awards in this category recognize a company’s commitment to engaging employees and devoting other resources to supporting local non-profits and to helping those in need. South Jersey Industries will receive this award.

The **President's Volunteer Service Award**, nominated by an organization or an individual in Gloucester County, recognizes the valuable contributions of volunteers nationwide who are answering the President's call to serve others through their current volunteer activities or lifetime of service. Awardees will receive either a Bronze, Silver, or Gold award, based on the number of hours served. The President's Call to Service Award will be given to those who have volunteered over four thousand hours during their lifetime. This year, over one hundred people throughout Gloucester County will receive these awards.

Lastly, the **2011 Bob Shryock Community Service Award** will be given to The Arc Gloucester for its continued commitment to volunteerism and the community.

The creation of the "*Spirit of Community*" Celebration is a part of a three-year initiative, led by the Volunteer Center, to increase volunteerism in support of the non-profit community in Gloucester County. The Celebration is sponsored by First Bank, BASF, Eurecat, South Jersey Industries, and Atlantic City Electric, among other generous supporters.

The dinner will begin at 6:30pm, followed by an awards recognition program. The cost for the evening is \$14 for general admission and a special discounted price of \$10 for award recipients. Tickets are available for purchase online (www.gloucestercountyvolunteers.org) or by calling the Volunteer Center at 856-415-9084.

The Volunteer Center of Gloucester County is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 that promotes volunteerism by connecting people with opportunities to serve, providing community agencies with resources and training, and building community partnerships to meet local needs. The Volunteer Center is located on the campus of Gloucester County College and is in part supported by the United Way of Gloucester County.

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Volunteer Center of Gloucester County, Gloucester County College, 1400 Tanyard Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

Phone: 856. 415. 9084 Fax: 856.415.9085 Email: volunteercenter@gccnj.edu

Website: www.gloucestercountyvolunteers.org