

2022 W. Cary Edwards Statewide Volunteer of the Year

Detective Lieutenant Michael Padilla

Nutley Township Municipal Alliance

Essex County

Nutley Police Detective Lieutenant Padilla has been a member of the Nutley Municipal Alliance for fourteen years while also volunteering with the Essex County Regional Alcohol and Drug Prevention Team (ADAPT), the Partnership for Children of Essex and the Nutley Family Services Bureau as Board President. He developed the Nutley Junior Police Academy and the Police at Lunch with Students Program (PALS). Det. Lt. Padilla introduced and directs the LEAD school-based prevention program in the Nutley school system and was named the LEAD Administrator of the Year in 2017 by the NJ Law Enforcement Against Drugs (LEAD) program. He is one of 30 LEAD trainers who assist other municipal police administrators to implement LEAD programs across NJ. Det. Lt. Padilla works to prevent opioid abuse by student athletes through his role as the Assistant Football Coach at Nutley High School. Coordinating with the Nutley Municipal Alliance and the Nutley High School Athletic Department, he has organized student participation in the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey (PDFNJ) Knock Out Opioid Day program. Det. Lt. Padilla's unwavering commitment to the health and wellbeing of the Nutley community makes him a deserving recipient of the 2022 W. Cary Edwards Statewide Volunteer of the Year Award.

Officer Edward Bertino

Egg Harbor Township Municipal Alliance

Atlantic County

Officer Edward Bertino is the Egg Harbor Township Community Policing Officer, and he has been a member of the Egg Harbor Township Municipal Alliance for over five years. He implements the Not Even Once program in the high school, and he coordinates the DARE and Adopt a Cop programs. Officer Bertino started a local non-profit, EHT LEAP, which stands for the Egg Harbor Township Law Enforcement Activities Program which fosters mentorship for students in fourth to twelfth grades by providing activities and services for youth. He volunteers in the community mentoring youth in various sports, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and he currently sits on the Egg Harbor Township Planning Board. For his commitment to the health of the Egg Harbor Township community, Officer Bertino is a deserving recipient of the Atlantic County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Karin Erdtmann
Palisades Triborough CAP Consortium
Bergen County

Karin Erdtmann has been a member of the Palisades Triborough CAP Consortium for four years. She coordinates all Municipal Alliance communication between the Alliance and the schools in Tenafly building strong relationships with the school administrators and the Home School Associations. Karin provides each school with weekly articles, notification of important websites and prevention information. She distributes Weekly CAP Quotes – inspirational quotes for the students – to each school. Todd Uresse, the CAP Consortium Chairperson, states that he cannot imagine what CAP would be like if not for Karin’s unending work and her ability to bring vastly different members of the community together to work towards a common goal. Karin Erdtmann’s commitment to youth prevention makes her a deserving recipient of the Bergen County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Sydney Hay
Rancocas Citizens Against Substance Abuse (RCASA) Municipal Alliance
Burlington County

Sydney Hay is a High School Junior who is a member of the RCASA Municipal Alliance as well as participating in many other activities in her school. Sydney’s efforts were instrumental in the success of the ASPIRE Student Leadership Institute this year. She volunteered her time to educate youth about the harms of destructive decisions and substance misuse. Sydney developed plans and messaging to educate her peers on the five themes of the program – consequences, decision-making, norms, commitment and goal setting. Sydney is an asset to the ASPIRE Student Leadership Institute and this makes her a deserving recipient of the Burlington County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

John C. Deen, Jr.
Oaklyn Borough Municipal Alliance
Camden County

John Deen Jr. has been a member of the Oaklyn Borough Municipal Alliance for over 32 years. He volunteers as the Municipal Alliance Coordinator and as the Alliance Treasurer. Although his children were grown when he first joined the Municipal Alliance, he understood the importance of prevention for the next generation of parents and children. John has worked to

establish and expand the community's understanding of the Municipal Alliance's goals by developing successful messaging and branding of the Alliance throughout the community. John's commitment to a healthy Oaklyn makes him a deserving recipient of the Camden County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Kyle Lindholm
Upper Township/Ocean City Municipal Alliance
Cape May County

Kyle Lindholm works as an EMT in Upper Township and he volunteers as the Chief of the Rio Grande Rescue Squad and as a Lieutenant in the Cape May Court House Fire Company. Kyle created and coordinated the first annual Upper Township EMS Kids Camp this summer. The EMS Kids Camp provided a full week of fun and educational activities for Upper Township youth. Kyle worked with school staff to identify at-risk youth and they were given first priority at registration. Kyle recruited community volunteers to assist with the project and solicited community donations so the camp was free of charge to all participants. Kyle's innovation and dedication to his community makes him a deserving recipient of the Cape May County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Vikki Holmstrom
Woodbury Heights Borough Municipal Alliance
Gloucester County

Vikki Holmstrom has been a member of Woodbury Heights Municipal Alliance for over 11 years. She was recently appointed as the volunteer Municipal Alliance Coordinator after years of working to ensure that all Alliance programs were presented and that all grant requirements were met each year. Vikki has worked in municipal government for over 34 years with certifications in government as a Municipal Clerk, Chief Financial Officer, Tax Collector and Qualified Purchasing Agent. She has volunteered her time through the years by serving on the Woodbury Board of Education and the Planning Board. Vikki's dedication and commitment to the Woodbury Heights community makes her a deserving recipient of the Gloucester County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Jane Mackesy
Kearny Municipal Alliance
Hudson County

Jane Mackesy has been a member of the Municipal Alliance for over 25 years. She began her membership as the school representative when she was a gym and health instructor in several Kearny elementary schools. After 17 years in the classroom and gym, Jane became an Elementary School Counselor. Jane and a co-worker started and facilitated a Peer Mediation program and trained Kearny teachers and students to use the program. Working with the Municipal Alliance, Jane was involved in the application process for a SAMHSA Drug Free Communities grant. Since her retirement from the Kearny Public Schools, she continues to work with the teachers and administrators on Alliance programs. Jane's dedication to the health and wellbeing of the Kearny community makes her a deserving recipient of the Hudson County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Erin Kelleher
Old Bridge Township Municipal Alliance
Middlesex County

Erin Kelleher is a member of the Old Bridge Alliance. She leads the Alliance program, Falling Through the Cracks, that works with parents, teachers, students, counselors, and faith leaders to support and assist young people who are experiencing an adult's substance use disorder in their lives. Erin celebrated over 20 years of recovery in 2017 by founding Club Serenity, a recovery center, with several friends. Rosemarie Rivoli, the Alliance Coordinator, stated that Erin's life experiences and her ability to relate to others makes her Alliance work invaluable and makes her a deserving recipient of the Middlesex County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Irene Campbell
Highlands/Atlantic Highlands Alliance
Monmouth County

Irene Campbell has been a member of the Highlands/Atlantic Highlands Alliance for 14 years. She is a bridge between the Municipal Alliance and the community bringing everyone together. Over the years, she has helped to organize and run Project Graduation, Project Prom, Hidden in Plain Sight, parent programs, DARE, LEAD, Peer Leadership programs, Teen Nights, Summer

programs, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner and many more programs. Irene is a long standing and highly motivated volunteer with strong civic pride making her a deserving recipient of the Monmouth County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Kelly Hart

West Milford Township Municipal Alliance

Passaic County

Kelly Hart has been a member of the West Milford Municipal Alliance for over four years. She has been the Co-Chairperson for the last three years. Kelly has facilitated National Night Out, the Wellness Family Festival and other Alliance youth events. As the Director of the Highlands Family Success Center, she has built collaborative relationships between the West Milford Municipal Alliance and community agencies. Kelly is also the Co-Chair of the Passaic County Children's Interagency Coordinating Council (CIACC), a Girl Scout leader and a member of the PTA. Kelly's commitment to the wellbeing of the West Milford community makes her a deserving recipient of the Passaic County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Gail Slaughter

Salem City Municipal Alliance

Salem County

Gail Slaughter has been a member of the Salem City Municipal Alliance for over five years. She is a proud mother, grandmother, and she is a City of Salem Council Member representing the West Ward. Gail coordinates the Salem City National Night Out program and sees this program's success as her greatest Municipal Alliance accomplishment. She also assists with the Municipal Alliance Holiday Luncheon in December, and she volunteers with the Salem City Midget Football organization and Stand Up for Salem. Gail's commitment to the Salem City community makes her a deserving recipient of the Salem County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Lori Huff**Montgomery-Rocky Hill Municipal Alliance****Somerset County**

Lori Huff has been a member of the Montgomery-Rocky Hill Municipal Alliance consortium for seven years and she is currently the Municipal Alliance Chairperson. Lori promotes wellness and prevention messaging through the Municipal Alliance social media accounts and works to maintain open conversations in the Montgomery and Rocky Hill communities on the importance of mental health and substance use disorder prevention. She facilitates the annual Don't Give Up campaign which features lawn signs throughout the communities which spread positive encouraging messages to remind everyone that they are not alone and that help is available. Lori's commitment to her community's health and wellbeing makes her a deserving recipient of the Somerset County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Cynthia Rock**Wallkill Valley Municipal Alliance****Sussex County**

Cynthia Rock has been a member of the Wallkill Valley Municipal Alliance for over two years. She coordinates Project Graduation for the Alliance at Wallkill Regional High School. Cynthia has organized the event and also all of the fund-raising needed for Project Graduation. She volunteers in her community as a member of the School Board, the Booster Club, youth sports and as a Girl Scout Leader. Cynthia's dedication to the Wallkill Valley community makes her a deserving recipient of the Sussex County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.

Jill Hall**Union Township Municipal Alliance****Union County**

Jill Hall has been a member of the Union Township Municipal Alliance for over fifteen years. She has been an educator for over twenty years and she is currently the Student Assistance Counselor at Union Township High School. Jill has been instrumental in teaching media literacy throughout the school system and initiating the We're Not Buying It 2.0 program for middle school students. She created Union's Bully-Free Zone Cyberbullying Program in collaboration with former Mayor Suzette Cavadas. Jill's dedication to the wellbeing of the youth and families of Union Township make her a deserving recipient of the Union County Municipal Alliance Volunteer of the Year Award.