

NEWS

VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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Gala Celebration of Volunteers Set for April 10

Bergen County-- The Volunteer Center of Bergen County will salute volunteers from all parts of the county at its annual **Celebrate Volunteers** recognition event on Wednesday, April 10 at Bergen Community College's Moses Meeting and Training Center, TEC 128, 400 Paramus Road in Paramus. Beginning with a 6:00 pm dessert reception, the evening will feature an inspiring program highlighting the many extraordinary ways in which volunteers enhance the community. Brenda Blackmon, popular news anchor for My 9 News, will once again serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Public and private non-profit organizations, hospitals, libraries, religious organizations and schools in Bergen County are invited to bring volunteers they would like to honor, along with staff, to this non-competitive, community-wide event.

Each organization can choose to honor its top volunteers based on its own criteria for determining exemplary volunteer achievement, such as impact, dedication, hours served and loyalty. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis, and are due by April 1st. The cost is \$12.00 per person. Call (201) 489-9454 ext. 127 to reserve a place.

Every volunteer will receive special gifts and certificates of commendation. The new venue at Bergen Community College will allow groups to sit together at tables, and enjoy refreshments and festivities in a comfortable and intimate setting.

"This event is a great way for organizations to honor their volunteers," explains Janet Sharma, the Volunteer Center's executive director. "Hundreds of volunteers will

receive a dignified and public ‘pat on the back’ and, at the same time, agencies save themselves the expense of hosting a separate event.”

Celebrate Volunteers is sponsored by Inserra Shop Rite Supermarkets. Additional sponsorships are available at \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000. For information, contact Jane He at (201) 489-9454, Ext. 125.

Founded by the Junior League in 1966, the mission of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model direct service volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.

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