

# Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno Presents the Governor's Jefferson Awards to New Jersey's Outstanding Volunteers

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**Trenton, NJ** – Recognizing New Jersey's outstanding volunteers, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno presented the prestigious Governor's Jefferson Awards to 20 citizens, organizations and companies at a ceremony at the Newark Museum. More than 1,400 nominations were submitted for this year's awards.

"Volunteerism is truly compassion in action, and these citizens have not only identified priority needs, but have found unique ways to address those needs," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "Some of the honorees have given decades of service to their communities. Corporate volunteers have directly served thousands of victims of the Haitian earthquake. One dedicated and selfless individual gave his life responding to the needs of others during Hurricane Irene."

These honorees represent a small fraction of the approximately 1.5 million New Jersey volunteers who provide more than 170 million hours of service each year.

The Governor's Jefferson Awards is a partnership of the New Jersey Office of Volunteerism, PNC Bank, the Community Foundation of New Jersey, BD, PSEG, Verizon, and State Farm Insurance. The Governor's Volunteer Awards began under Governor Kean in the 1980's and the National Jefferson Awards were initiated in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U. S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard to establish a Nobel Prize for public and community service. New Jersey consolidated the two awards programs in 2010.

This year's award feature several categories, including a one-time-only category for those who volunteered during the response to Hurricane Irene.

Edward J. O'Malley, Chair of the Governor's Advisory Council on Volunteerism, praised the members of the Council for their dedicated work as judges for the awards.

"Our Council members set the pace for volunteerism in New Jersey, serving as judges for the awards and reading as many as 70 nominations in individual categories," said O'Malley. "The Governor's Jefferson Awards are truly a highlight and inspiration for all of us each year."

Information on the awards and the online application can be found at [www.njgovernorsawards.com](http://www.njgovernorsawards.com).

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Click the [here](#) for an audio clip of Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno's announcement. Transcript of the audio clip is below.

**Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno:** The volunteers we're honoring tonight are nothing short of inspirational. From raising money so amputees can get prosthetics to a minister who lives with the homeless to help them become self-sustaining to a gentleman who overcame a handicap so he can drive homebound seniors to their appointments to an EMT who gave his life during Hurricane Irene, these volunteers, and many others, have set examples for us to follow.

Recipient	Town	Category
Beatrice Emma Bernzott	Linden	PSEG Environmental Stewardship
Becton Dickinson - Volunteer Service Trip	Franklin Lakes	Corporate Leadership
Minister Steven A. Brigham	Lakewood	Faith Based Services
Alrick A. Brown	Plainfield	Verizon Education
Evelyn Dudziec	Newton	Lifetime Service
Minister Thomas Ellis	Newark	Community Pillar
Janet Farrand	Long Valley	Service to Youth

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Richard Goldberg	Parsippany	Executive Leadership
Stacey Halvorsen PT	Bordentown	BD Health Care Professional
April Kauffman	Linwood	Volunteer Leadership
Michael Kenwood (posthumous)	East Windsor	Hurricane Irene Response
Mallory King	Jersey City	Founders/Innovators
Dale Mertz	Dover	Against All Odds
Sam Morris	Mine Hill	Good Neighbor
New Eyes for the Needy	Short Hills	Volunteer Group
Pass It Along	Sparta	Youth Volunteer Group
Harry Pozyski	Metuchen	Founders/Innovators
Adele Taylor	Williamstown	Youth in Service
Evan Thomas	Brookside	Emergency Services
Susan Tonry	Robbinsville	BD Health Care Individual

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