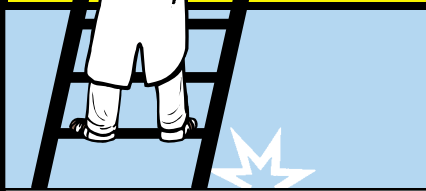


# The Volunteer

SPRING 2005 • VOLUME 7 / ISSUE 1



**HOLD THE DATE!**

*Coming Soon!*

*Immunization*

**CRUNCH TIME!**

will be coming soon at all of our center locations. People are in need as **Immunization Volunteers** for **SUMMER RUSH.**

## ★ ★ Patricia Konefe ★ ★

**Recipient of the C.L. Brumback Award!**



(L-R) C.L. Brumback, M.D., Pat Konefe, Dr. Jean Malecki

Patricia Konefe, was recognized as the 2004 volunteer of the year at the Palm Beach County Health Department. She received the highest honor, the C.L. Brumback Award, at the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Volunteer Recognition luncheon, held at The Marriott Hotel at City Place on March 18, 2005. She was recognized for her six years of service as president of the Jupiter Auxiliary at the Jupiter Health Center.

Pat coordinates all the special projects, clothes closet, and food pantry. In addition, she is in the clinic several times a week giving out food to the clients, sorting clothes and thinking of ways to help beautify the clinic.

“Pat is very conscientious, kind, caring, and open to the people that she sees and works with, greeting everyone with a kind word and big smile. Always willing to help out when needed”, says Norma Williams, West Palm Beach and Jupiter Health Centers Volunteer Coordinator, “our patients and staff love Pat and the Health Department is glad that she serves Palm Beach County as a trusted and admired volunteer” .

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- VOLUNTEER AWARDS & RECOGNITION
- CENTER NEWS
- GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL/NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS



**Delray Beach  
Health Center's  
20 YEARS  
OF SERVICE  
AWARD**

*- Shirley Melcher -*

Mrs. Melcher was referred to the DBHC 20 years ago by RSVP. She began working in Triage, moved to Nutrition, then to Pediatrics, to Direct Client Services, once more to Administration and currently volunteers in Medical Records. Shirley states, "Every experience has been good. The people in the DBHC are very nice to work with and I really enjoy Pediatrics and working with the children." Shirley also serves on the DBHC Volunteer Auxiliary as Secretary. Shirley, you are great and we "thank you"!

☆ *Special Staff Award* ☆



**DONNA ADDISON  
WEST PALM BEACH**

Volunteer Services thanks and compliments Donna for her outstanding example as a team player and for her generous work with volunteer services. She never wavers in her commitment to our clients, whether internal or external, and at the same time upholding our values as a Public Health agency. She is always involved in the "Clothes Closet" whether it is getting donations or donating clothing items, sorting or organizing, so that the sales events are very successful. During the holiday season this past December she organized, sorted the toys according to age groups and coordinated the distribution to our children who came to the Center. Going the extra mile has become her daily standard and this is reflected in the ability of her staff. By doing so, her staff follows suit and also gets involved in the volunteer projects. The volunteers love, respect and admire Donna. "She is someone we can all rely on each and every day", says Norma Williams, WPBHC Volunteer Coordinator.

Other "Special Staff Awards" went to Frank Fernandez, Lantana and Brenda Johnson, Delray Beach.

*Volunteer Awards*

**5 YEARS**

Lantana: Rosa Gonzales

Delray: Marilyn Friedman, Shirley Ricker,  
Frances Bloomfield & Patricia Seaman

**10 Years**

Delray: Vilolet Goldman & Raymond Broisman

Lantana: Karen Gramenz & Gerry Sedita

WPB: Phyllis Gephart

Jupiter: Diane Simowitz

**15 YEARS**

WPB: Millie Siegel

**20 YEARS**

Delray: Shirley Melcher

WPB: Syd Baron

☆ *We Bid Farewell To* ☆

**KAREN WOODLEY**

Karen Woodley's (assistant to the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program) last day with our division was April 7<sup>th</sup>. Karen left us to take a position as an Adult Protective Investigator with the Division of Children and Families. Karen was trained in adult protection when she worked with Lutheran Family Services in Minnesota, and was anxious to get back working in an area where her true heart lies. In the ten months Karen was with the VHCP Program, she had a significant impact by making changes in the work flow and distribution, resulting in a much more efficient facilitation of the volunteer program. We all miss her.

☆ *~ Inspirit ~* ☆

Inspirit is a non-profit that brings the joy of live music and the performing arts to people who are in restricted environments like nursing homes, rehab centers, hospitals, shelters, prisons, etc. In a recent performance, a local artist that conducts drumming workshops, performed at St. Mary's Pediatric Oncology Unit. Lets get the word out! Please watch their 4-minute video on their website:

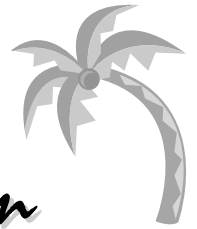
[www.inspiritlive.org](http://www.inspiritlive.org)

**Volunteer Newsletter**

Editor.....Barbara Purr

Contributing Writers.....Norma Williams,  
Diane Carlson & Jeanette Hartzell

Printing & Design.....Shirley Rose



# 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Volunteer Recognition

## Notables from our "Afternoon in Paradise"

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### **SYBIL SCHLEIN**

#### **DELRAY BEACH HEALTH CENTER AWARD WINNER**

Sybil is one of our shining individuals in Medical Records and is in charge of the auxiliaries' membership. She has recruited her neighbors to join our efforts and transports auxiliary members to meetings. She is a gracious individual with a big heart!.



### **JOLANTA CHAIRMAN**

#### **LANTANA/LAKE WORTH CENTER AWARD WINNER**

Jolanta is the L/LW Health Center lady Friday. No task is too small or too large! She is always willing to help and to participate in events. Her willingness to assist is not just devoted to the L/LW health center, she also volunteers in our Health Education library and for their special projects.



### **JIM KONEFE**

#### **JUPITER CENTER AWARD WINNER**

Jim Konefe is a dedicated member of the Jupiter Auxiliary. Without hesitation he is always ready to run for and haul whatever the occasion calls for. "He is a real softie and has so much compassion for people who do their best to make a better life for themselves and their families and their efforts fall short.", says his wife, Pat. He has been there to help Pat and support others.



### **BOBBIE VALENTINE**

#### **C.L. BRUMBACK AWARD WINNER**

Bobbie Valentine is the Treasurer and active member of the C. L. Brumback Health Center Governing Board. Since the opening of the West Palm Beach Health Center, Bobbie has occupied a vital role of clinic transportation advocate and was appointed Transportation Advocate for Palm Beach County. We greatly appreciate her many contributions and the offering of her valuable time.



Guest speaker, Clyde B. McCoy, PhD, receives his award from Dr. Jean M. Malecki, Director, PBCHD. Outgoing GCCHP President, Jacquie Nicholson (center) passes the award plaque.



New GCCHP members (L to R) Marcia Wagshol, Joseph Peters and Elivio Serrano join the Board. New member, Ann V. Miller, was not present.



Jacqueline Nicholson (L) accepts the award for Boca Raton Community Hospital from Diane Carlson (R), Volunteer Health Care Provider Program Manager.



Lou Boyes, Lactation Consultant & Breastfeeding Coordinator, presents an award to Kathleen Jean-Charles (w/daughter), Breastfeeding Peer Counselor.



Board Member, Bob Palin presents their award to Phyllis Wissner and Benjamin School Seniors Andrew Krumholz, James Birney and Rachel Ferris..



2005/6 GCCHP officers: (L to R) Pierre Rodriguez-President, Selma Verse-1st VP, Tara Finnigan-Secretary and Ron Armstrong-2nd VP. Treasurer, Bud Tamarkin was not present for photo.



Thirteen of the twenty-one member Board of Directors gather for a business meeting following the Annual Meeting.

# Governor's Council Holds Annual Meeting

## The Governor's Council Celebrates Eleven Years of Caring

The annual meeting of the Governor's Council for Community Health Partnerships was held on May 17, 2005 at the Renaissance Boca Raton Hotel in Boca Raton. This meeting commemorates eleven years working for the improvement of community health. Dr. Clyde B. McCoy, Professor and Chair of the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami, was the guest speaker. He delivered his remarks on "The Dynamic Potential of Public Health and the Florida Institute for Public Health in Palm Beach County", a topic of significant relevance in our healthcare community.

The following 2005-06 officers were installed:

President - Pierre Rodriguez, Vice President of Private Advisory Banking at Wachovia Bank; First Vice-President - Selma Verse, RN, Executive Director of the Interfaith Health and Wellness Association; Secretary - Tara Finnigan, Esq., P.A.; Treasurer - Bertram Tamarkin from the Palm Beach County Health Department.

The Council welcomed four new board members: Mr. Elivio Serrano, Executive Vice President at the United Way of Palm Beach County; Mr. Joseph Peters, Center Director of the Everglades Area Health Education Center, Ms. Ann Miller, MSW, from Florida Atlantic University and Ms. Marcia Wagshol of CORMAT Tax & Accounting, Inc.

Individuals and organizations receiving awards from the Council for outstanding community service during the last year are listed in the scroll on page 5.

## Governor's Council for Community Health Partnerships

### Awards 2005

Clyde B. McCoy, PhD - for your visionary leadership in the field of public health.

Bonita J. Sorenson, MD, MBA - for your involvement in leading our local community in creating the Florida Institute for Public Health.

Dr. Kathleen Jett - for dedicated services to the success and promotion of the Governor's Council for Community Health Partnerships.

Rebecca Gregory - for your unwavering efforts to help the underserved populations during your 30 years of outstanding service to Palm Beach County.

Boca Raton Community Hospital - for their unswerving efforts to provide a continuum of medical care for residents in Palm Beach County.

June Lucas - for her continuing efforts and hard work to send children to summer camp through the Summer Camp Scholarship Program.

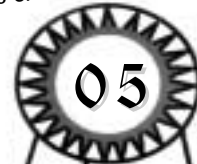
Kathleen Jean - Charles for her outstanding work and strong commitment towards the promotion, protection and support of breastfeeding.

Robert Moreland - for your continuing support & dedication in serving our impoverished elderly population and making the Senior Immunization Program a wonderful success.

Bill & Chris Oberlink - for all your tireless dedication both together and separately to create and sustain essential services for low income populations of Palm Beach County.

RJM Builders (Ron & Sue Maggio) & The Benjamin School (Phyllis Wissner & the Senior Class) - for their generous contributions to the PBC Human Services Holiday Toy Shop.

Jacqueline Nicholson - for your outstanding commitment and Leadership as President of the Governor's Council for Community Health Partnerships 2002-05.



## Farewell to Beverly

### Champion of The Jupiter Godparent Program

Beverly Firth has been the coordinator of the Jupiter Volunteer Godparent Program since its inception in 1991. The program volunteers act as Godparents in a one-on-one mentoring relationship with Head Start children. Godparents are recruited by correspondence with interested

parties and through newspaper articles. Beverly acts as liaison among teachers, Godparents and the children. She has annually planned multiple events for children in the program to include Halloween, Christmas, a Sports Day, Valentines Day, an Easter egg hunt, Spring picnic and graduation ceremonies. She also coordinates any fundraising activities to cover event costs. Beverly has been featured in numerous news articles in the Jupiter Courier Journal for her dedicated community service. All of her events attract news photographers to witness the

children and their Godparents sharing special time together.

Beverly developed correspondence needed to operate the program and did the mail-outs to each participating Godparent. The program has more than doubled in scope, expanding from serving 30 children to 65 last year. This has meant continuous planning by all members of the Godparent Committee. They meet each month to maintain the program's vitality. The Godparent Chairperson, Michael Monnette, says, "The quality effort and time that Beverly has given to the Godparent program has made the program a long-term reality. She has demonstrated love and devotion for the children that they will take with them throughout their lives."

After fourteen years as the leader of this program, Beverly and her husband, Henry, are relocating to Lindale, Texas to enjoy her retirement and be closer to her family. We wish her good health and contentment as she looks ahead to her new home.

## Community Partner ★ Award Winner ★



### DAVID FERLITA

David Ferlita, DDS, was selected to receive a Community Partner Award from the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program. Dr. Ferlita is our local Program coordinator of Project: Dentists Care, a Florida Network

of volunteer dentists sponsored by the Florida Dental Association. For the past two years Dr. Ferlita has spearheaded the "Give Kids A Smile" program here in Palm Beach County. Through this program many needy children receive dental cleanings, screenings, evaluations and restorative work given by a large group of volunteer dentists, recruited by Dr. Ferlita.

## Rookie Of The Year ★ Award Winners ★



### KENNETH COHEN DELRAY BEACH

Ken began volunteering in April of 2004. He quickly jumped into his volunteer commitment. He volunteered in Medical Records, made endless contributions to the center's annual health fair and he has collected and delivered donations to the center. The DBHC is truly fortunate to be the site where Ken has so generously given his time and talents.



### GEORGIA DUTSCHMANN JUPITER

Georgia has been officially with the Jupiter Health Dept. for one year, but she is always there when you need her. The time, talent and services she has rendered are invaluable. Georgia is a born leader and has many community contacts that benefit the Jupiter Center. We are proud of you, Georgia!



### THERESA THIRBENNY WEST PALM BEACH

Theresa has been a volunteer for only one year. She is a very hard worker and a genuine "team player". She embraces many different tasks; auxiliary secretary, working in medical records, organizing and sorting clothes, stocking the food pantry and is our representative on the GET committee. Theresa has a great attitude and is a pleasure to work with. Thank you for your dedication!



### PHYLLIS GAYLE LANTANA/LAKE WORTH

Phyllis works two mornings a week with maternity patients. Her duties include prenatal education, making referral appointments and return clinic appointments as well as serving the general clinical needs of the maternity patients. She is now learning Spanish to communicate with our Spanish speaking patients. We are very fortunate to have Phyllis. She is a wonderful volunteer!

"I am of the opinion  
that my life  
belongs to the community . . .  
and as long as I live,  
it is my privilege  
to do for it whatever I can.  
I want to be thoroughly used up  
when I die,  
for the harder I work,  
the more I live.  
I rejoice in life for its own sake.  
Life is no brief candle to me.  
It is a sort of splendid torch  
which I have got hold of  
for a moment  
and I want to make it burn  
as brightly as possible  
before handing it on  
to future generations."

Written by George Bernard Shaw



## Spring Fling In Delray

On March 23, 2005, the Delray Beach WIC Department and Volunteer Services joined together and held a Spring Fling. Maria Galang (Mrs. Fruit/Vegetable) gathered the children in the WIC Department and read them the story of 5- a -day. The children were then ushered out to the grassy area behind the building for an Easter bunny encounter and egg hunt. Mr. and Mrs Rosenfeld, the Easter bunny's wonderful assistants, tossed plastic Easter eggs through out the grassy area which each held a slip of paper that identified what delight that child would receive. The children were excited and very polite while receiving their gift, banana and an 8 oz bottle of water.

## Jupiter Volunteers Share Happiness at Easter



Forty-Six children from needy families received Easter Baskets through in-kind donations from various community businesses. In addition, nineteen most needy families received a large bag of groceries and a \$50 Winn Dixie gift certificate to make their Easter dinner feast a joyous one. The Jupiter volunteers worked very hard to make this happen. Pat Konefe, Mary Jacobs, Belmira Sardinha, Joan Porter, and Georgia Dutchmann spearheaded the project.



## A Beary Special Time at Easter

Life can be hard, too hard for us not to be kind to one another. West Palm Beach volunteers were few in number this Easter due to many illnesses, nevertheless, those who were available worked very hard to bring happiness to needy families. Brian Fearon and Volunteer Coordinator, Norma Williams purchased food from the food bank. Thirty families received food boxes; complete with hams and other food items. Millie Siegel and Phyllis Gephart coordinated this project.



## In Memory of "My Syd"

Sydell Baron, affectionately known as "Syd" was a volunteer at the WPBHC for twenty years. She was President of the WPBHC Auxiliary since 1990. Syd was a great leader. She led by action, not by position. She was respected and admired by staff and all the volunteers. Syd had a wonderful sense of humor. She was kind and caring, loved and trusted by all that knew her. Her volunteer services to the WPBHC were one of the most important things in her life.

She will truly be missed—Gone but not Forgotten.

Poem dedicated by her friend, Norma S. Williams

### A LOVE CALLED FRIENDSHIP To Syd

**There is a love called friendship  
That's given us to treasure.  
Not too often many will we find  
If we should stop to measure.  
Beauty fades, ambition flags,  
Our families flee the nest.  
Friendship stands forever firm,  
Never-ever fails the test.**



### A Thank You Note To The W.P.B. Auxiliary

Dear Auxiliary Members,

It is with deepest gratitude, the WIC office would like to thank you for the TV VCR/DVD combination. It will be mounted in the WIC waiting area to help provide additional education and information to our WIC participants. Again, thank you. Your on going support to our program is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly, Usleur G. Cook, RD/LD  
Public Health Nutrition Supervisor

## ~ Living Wills ~

Recently, John O. Agwunobi, M.D., M.B.A., M.P.H., Secretary, Department of Health, shared that in light of the recent media attention on end of life issues, including the right to choose - or refuse - medical treatment, it is apparent that many of us have differing opinions. Because of the highly sensitive and important nature of the subject, the Department of Health's Bureau of Human Resource Management (BHRM) has incorporated into its Intranet web page a link to the Department of Management Services' "Living Wills" web page. Direct access to this website can be obtained by entering the link as follows:

[http://dms.myflorida.com/dms/workforce/human\\_resource\\_management/living\\_wills](http://dms.myflorida.com/dms/workforce/human_resource_management/living_wills)



## **VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

**Palm Beach County Health Department**  
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**(561) 355-3013**

About People Who Reach For The Stars.

