

December 2009

Dear Friend:

The Volunteer Center of Southwestern Fairfield County invites your participation in identifying outstanding nominees for the **Fourteenth Annual Stamford Volunteer Day Awards** to recognize the efforts of volunteers in the year 2009, to be presented at a special breakfast reception on Friday, January 22, 2010, at the Harry Bennett Branch of the Ferguson Library, 115 Vine Road, Stamford, Connecticut. In the fast-paced world where we live and work, those who serve their Stamford neighbors are rarely rewarded for their selfless efforts. We invite you to help us recognize these outstanding individuals who devote time, their most valuable resource, for the benefit of the Stamford community.

**Stamford Volunteer Day Awards** will be presented in five divisions: youth, adult, seniors, families and volunteering couples. In the first three divisions, there will be two categories: new and established volunteers. A total of eight awards will be presented. A selection committee will review the nominations on the basis of achievement, commitment to the Stamford community, caring, and creativity.


We have enclosed an official nomination form. Feel free to make copies of the form and to nominate as many volunteers as you like. **Please return the nominations to The Volunteer Center by Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon, in order to allow time for review.** We will notify award winners by telephone or email on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Please take a few moments to nominate a volunteer, a group, a couple or a family whose hard work and dedication deserves official and public recognition. Appreciation is long overdue for these unsung heroes whose volunteerism has earned them the title of "Outstanding Stamford Volunteer!"

A special **Thank You** to Randi-Jean G. Hedin for sponsoring this event!

Sincerely,



Victoria Zerjav  
Chair, Stamford Volunteer Day



Leo L. Kessel  
Chairman of the Board

**STAMFORD VOLUNTEER DAY AWARDS**

**Sponsored by Randi-Jean G. Hedin for The Volunteer Center  
in Appreciation, Recognition and Encouragement of our Volunteers!**

Copies of this form may be used. Nomination must be filled out completely and legibly **(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE - ONLY)**. Use one form for each nomination. **Any incomplete nomination form is disqualified.** Individuals or groups may nominate more than one candidate or nominate themselves. The Selection Committee may request additional information from nominees, nominators or the volunteers' organizations. The Selection Committee's decision is final. Nomination forms and supplementary information become property of The Volunteer Center and will not be returned. Pertinent supplementary information attached with nomination form must be restricted to **4 pages or less**. This may include letters, newspaper clippings, photos, etc. Videotapes will not be accepted.

**For additional information contact The Volunteer Center, 348-7714, extension 234**

**NOMINEE:**

**Individual Name** \_\_\_\_\_ Age (if under 19 yrs): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated for work with which Agency or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

**Group, Couple or Family Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated for work with which Agency or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

**Award Division – Please check the appropriate division:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Outstanding Individual or Youth Group Volunteers: 18 years or younger

\_\_\_\_\_ Outstanding Individual or Adult Group Volunteers: 19 years or older

\_\_\_\_\_ Outstanding Individual or Senior Group Volunteers: 62 years or older

\_\_\_\_\_ Outstanding Volunteering Couple

\_\_\_\_\_ Outstanding Volunteering Family

**Award Category – Please check the appropriate category:**

\_\_\_\_\_ New Volunteers: under one year of volunteer service

\_\_\_\_\_ Established Volunteers: one to five years of volunteer service

**NOMINATED BY:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Agency or Organization \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please turn the page and complete form**      ⇒      ⇒      ⇒      ⇒



# **STAMFORD VOLUNTEER DAY AWARDS**

**Sponsored by Randi-Jean G. Hedin for The Volunteer Center**

## **Award Descriptions**

**The following awards will be presented at the Fourteenth Annual  
“Stamford Volunteer Day Awards” recognition event at the Harry Bennett Library**

### **AWARD CATEGORIES:**

#### **Outstanding Individual Youth or Youth Group Volunteers**

Recognizes the achievement and dedication of an individual youth, or youth group volunteers, 18 years or younger, who have contributed to the improvement of the Stamford community through volunteerism.

#### **Outstanding Individual Adult or Adult Group Volunteers**

Recognizes the achievement and dedication of individuals or groups, 19 years or older, who have contributed to the improvement of the Stamford community through volunteerism.

#### **Outstanding Individual Senior or Senior Group Volunteers**

Recognizes the achievement and dedication of individual seniors or senior groups, 62 years or older, who have contributed to the improvement of the Stamford community through volunteerism.

#### **Outstanding Volunteering Couple**

Recognizes the achievement and dedication of a couple who has contributed to the improvement of the Stamford community through volunteerism.

#### **Outstanding Volunteering Family**

Recognizes the achievement and dedication of a family who has contributed to the improvement of the Stamford community through volunteerism.

### **DIVISIONS WITHIN THE FIRST THREE CATEGORIES:**

**New Volunteers:**

Under one year of voluntary service

**Established Volunteers:**

One year or more of voluntary service

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

1. Any individuals, groups, or families actively involved in volunteer service benefiting the Stamford community, a Stamford organization or an organization that benefits the Stamford Community. Individuals, groups, or families may be nominated for work done during the past twelve months (1/01/09 – 12/31/09).
2. Individuals, groups, or families paid cash compensation for their volunteer activities (other than reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses) will not be eligible.

### **NOMINATIONS:**

Complete the official nomination form and attach a statement of no more than 500 words describing the merits of the individual, group, couple or family nominated. Include information about the location of the volunteer activity, length of volunteer commitment, hours invested and who was served by the activity. Address how the nominee improved the Stamford community through service. Please attach unique, poignant stories about the nominee’s volunteer work, preferably from the person or persons who benefit from those efforts.

**The deadline for nominations is Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, at 12 noon. We will notify award winners by telephone or email by Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.**

## STAMFORD VOLUNTEER DAY AWARDS SELECTION CRITERIA

Winners will be selected based on the following qualities:

\* **Achievement**

The nominee's actual accomplishment of desired results.

\* **Action**

The involvement of the nominee was active and hands-on, not just a figurehead.

\* **Caring**

As demonstrated by the nominee's interaction with others.

\* **Commitment**

The nominee's sincere belief in the cause.

\* **Impact**

The nominee's activity or program produced positive changes, provided examples for other groups.

\* **Initiative**

The nominee recognized a need in the Stamford community and initiated new programs or activities to meet that need; or the nominee revitalized existing programs through creativity.

\* **Leadership**

The nominee demonstrated singular leadership to mobilize volunteers to contribute service to the Stamford community.

\* **Joy**

The nominee demonstrated an unselfish willingness to do whatever was needed.

\* **Need**

Nominee contributed a needed service to the Stamford community.

\* **Time**

The time was contributed consistently by the nominee.