



Visiting Nurse Association
of Central Jersey

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Long Branch Resident Honored as Social Worker of the Year

RED BANK, NJ, April 20, 2009 – Nancy Keagle, MSW of Long Branch has been named 2009 Social Worker of the Year by Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey (VNACJ). The award was presented at VNACJ's Social Worker Day ceremonies held April 20 at VNACJ headquarters in Red Bank. The ceremony recognized the services of more than 30 VNACJ social workers that touch the lives of tens of thousands of the most vulnerable individuals in every stage of life from children to the elderly.

Throughout her 15 years as a VNACJ social worker, Ms. Keagle has provided case management services for many of VNACJ's most vulnerable clients on Medicaid Waiver Programs and HIV Home Care. She provides VNACJ clients who may be facing a personal or family crisis with supportive counseling, helpful resources, and direction in times of need. In addition to managing a full and complex caseload, Ms. Keagle mentors BSW/MSW Rutgers and Monmouth University students interested in pursuing social work careers.

An important aspect of Nancy's job is making sure that patients and families have access to the resources they need when they need them, regardless of their ability to pay. Known throughout the agency for her compassion and willingness to always go beyond her general work scope, Ms. Keagle has a reputation for bringing dinners and gifts to her neediest and most isolated clients.

"I am honored and touched to receive this award and to work with VNACJ, helping people in their homes to receive the care they desperately need," said Ms. Keagle. "As a member of VNACJ I have the opportunity to work with such a many diverse population. It is very rewarding."

"Nancy's professionalism is matched by her passion and commitment to those she serves," stated Mary Ann Christopher, President and CEO of VNACJ. "We are proud to have her represent VNACJ."

Nancy graduated from the University of Dayton with Bachelors in Sociology (BA) in 1971 and received her Masters in Social Work (MSW) in 1975 from Rutgers Graduate School of Social Work.

Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey, now in its 97th year of service, is a nonprofit provider of in-home health care and hospice services. The organization also offers extensive community-based health and wellness services throughout its service area of Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Burlington, and Gloucester counties.