

LEXINGTON HAPPENINGS



Welcome to "Lexington Happenings," a collection of things to do and see and experience at Lexington!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

SPECIAL BULLETIN EDITION



Penny Ropeter-Webber, pictured on the left with Lexington Executive Director Shaloni Winston and Lexington Board President Judy Schelle, received an Award of Distinction as Lexington's Top Employee of the Year in the leadership category. Penny is an assistant director in the Day Habilitation Department, overseeing Johnstown, Senior, Pathfinders and Good Neighbor Day Habs. The people under her supervision say she has a wonderfully positive style of leadership and shining passion for what she does. According to her coworkers, "Penny is an excellent mentor and represents all the qualities a true leader at Lexington should show."

Lisa Palumbo, pictured on the right, received an Award of Distinction as Lexington's Top Employee of the Year in the direct support staff category. Lisa is known for her patience, huge heart, work ethic, dedication, and the love and caring she shows not only to the people she supports, but to their families and her coworkers as well. To her coworkers and the people she supports, Lisa is a friend, companion, teacher, leader and member of their family. Anyone can see how much she cares for the people she supports based on how well she knows them and can always tell what they want, need or what will make them happy.

2016 OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

In honor of National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week, Lexington held a ceremony during the Nurturing Environment Meeting on Wednesday, September 14, to recognize the exemplary work of its employees. More than 200 employees were nominated by their peers, supervisors and families of people they support in appreciation of exceptional execution of Lexington's mission to provide the best possible supports to children and adults with disabilities and their families, to be the best possible employer for its employees and to contribute to the Fulton County community. 275 people attended the ceremony in support of their peers.

Of the 200 nominees, 13 were chosen to receive special awards acknowledging work that goes above and beyond what is expected of them. Of the direct support staff, who work directly with the people Lexington supports, seven were chosen as Employees of the Year: Laura Beam, Kim Dreusike, Lindsey Lumpkin, Brian Elwood, Stacie Klymkow, Stacy Peck and Marlyn Pinkerton.

Of the employees who work in departments that support the direct support staff, Brandi DiGiacomo, receptionist at Johnstown Day Hab, and Terry Sweet of the maintenance department were chosen as Employees of the Year. Of the employees in supervisory and leadership roles, Nicole Milo of the Quality Assurance Department and Jackie Sculco of the Residential Department were chosen as Employees of the Year.

Finally, two employees received special Awards of Distinction as Lexington's Top Employees of the Year. These employees regularly demonstrate extraordinary and sincere commitment and dedication to truly making a difference in the lives of the people they support. Representing the direct support staff, Lisa Palumbo of the Residential Department received an Award of Distinction. Representing Lexington's leadership team, Penny Ropeter-Webber of the Day Habilitation Department also received an Award of Distinction.

Lexington offers congratulations to its nominees and expresses deep appreciation for every one of its employees, not only this week, but every single day of the year. Shaloni Winston, executive director of Lexington, said in a letter to all staff, "Every one of you plays a vital role with making the lives of the people we support very special. You work so hard, so unselfishly, and with such determination, to help the people we support experience something positive, to not only give them moments of joy, but truly lifetimes of meaningful achievement and relationships."

Winston continued, "From all our parents and families, a heartfelt thank you to everyone, from our most senior staff to our staff in training. Thank you for being part of Lexington's family."



In addition to the employee appreciation ceremony, Lexington also took a moment at this Nurturing Environment Meeting to recognize an outstanding accomplishment by an individual we support. Evelyn Morales was nominated for the NYSID William B. Joslin Outstanding Performance award in recognition of her work at Encore Kids and the Mobile Work Crew. Evelyn is part of this year's Class of 2016 Outstanding performers, who all exemplify the spirit and purpose of NYSID's Joslin Awards Program, which celebrates exceptional job performance and personal growth by individuals with disabilities employed on Preferred Source contracts.

At the ceremony, Evelyn was presented a certificate and a check for \$500 by NYSID's Sara Erickson, pictured at the left. She will join the other 2016 Outstanding Performers to be recognized at NYSID's Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 21.

If you see Evelyn, please congratulate her on her award! We look forward to watching her build her job skills and independence even further!

WINNER OF THE LEADERSHIP "EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR" AWARD

Jackie Sculco, Residential



WINNERS OF THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND” AWARD



Stacy Ashe, Employment Resources



Lillian Barr, Residential



Jennifer Betts, Service Coordination



Evelina Bien-Amie, Transitions



Melissa Blood, Residential



Beth Brown, Training



Darren Brown, Clinical



Amanda Bruyn, Residential



Michelle Chmielewski, Residential

WINNERS OF THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND” AWARD



Debra Clouthier, Johnstown Day Hab



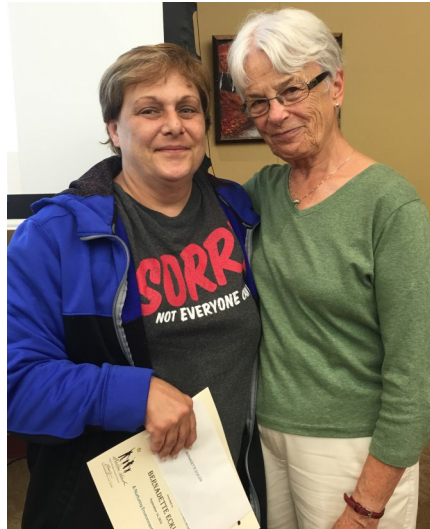
Rebecca Conley, Service Coordination



Kayla Duesler, Clinical



Tina Dreusike, Community Day Hab



Bernadette Eckler, Residential



Van Fonda, Residential



Sarah Foster, Residential



George Grosse, Employment Resources



Felicia Guile, Employment Resources

WINNERS OF THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND” AWARD



Brian Hockenberry, Family Services



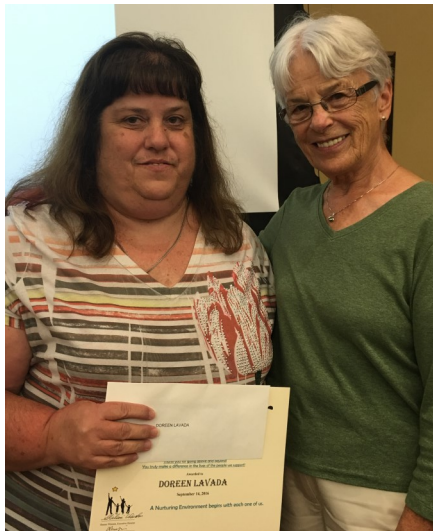
Pete Hyrniak, Maintenance



Ann Jacquard, Medical Department



Mia Jones, Residential



Doreen LaVada, Gloversville Day Hab



Wayne Looman, IT Department



Faith MacLean, Quest 2/Journey Day Hab



Arturo McLeod, Adirondack Day Hab



Carol McQuade, Residential

WINNERS OF THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND” AWARD



Nicole Mesick, Residential



Joslyn Mitchell, Residential



Jennifer Morse, Residential



Maria Nestle, Flame/Nigra Arts Center



Tres Nolett, Clinical



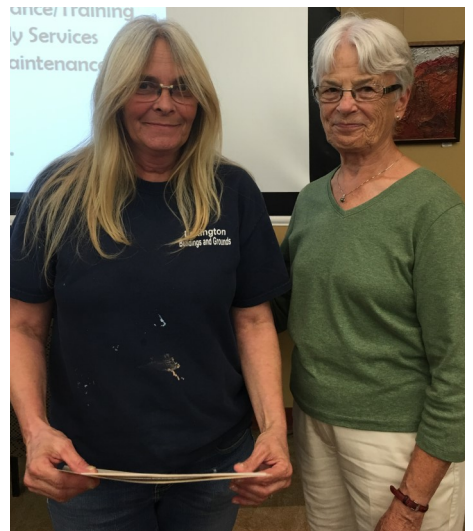
Heather Roberts, Residential



Terri Savlov, Community Day Hab



Kathy Simone, Employment Resources



Janet Steenburgh, Custodial

WINNERS OF THE “ABOVE AND BEYOND” AWARD



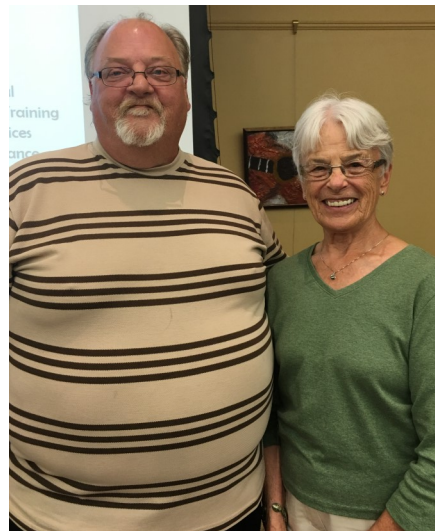
Deb Szabo, Quality Assurance/Training



Terri Tracy, Family Services



Reuben Trumble, Maintenance



Don Wagoner, Residential



Brandi DiGiacamo, Administration

WINNERS OF THE SUPPORT STAFF “EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR” AWARD



Terry Sweet, Maintenance

WINNERS OF THE DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL “EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR” AWARD



Laura Beam, Keyser Lake



Brian Elwood, Flame



Stacie Klymkow, Gloversville Day Hab



Stacy Peck, Residential



Marlyn Pinkerton, Family Services

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS AND THANK
YOU TO EVERY ONE OF OUR EMPLOYEES! PLEASE
KNOW THAT WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOU NOT JUST
THIS WEEK, BUT EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR.**