



# PRO•A

PENNSYLVANIA RECOVERY ORGANIZATIONS ALLIANCE

# QUARTERLY report



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## PRO.A ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# WOW!!

On September 16th and 17th, over 100 recovery advocates, treatment providers and members of the Recovery Community gathered at the Four-Points Sheraton Hotel in Harrisburg for the 9th Annual PRO.A Conference in recognition of National Recovery Month. The theme of this year's conference, A VISION FOR THE FUTURE, featured speakers from across the state who addressed the important roles recovery advocates can play in supporting people in recovery and shaping public policy. This conference offered a wide range of information on recovery from addiction, including workshops on An Inside Look at Intervention Services, Medicated Assisted Treatment, Recovery Voices Count, Youth in Recovery, and Recovery Support Services in Western Pennsylvania.

John Duffy, Esquire, provided a dynamic opening speech for the conference. Mr. Duffy's message was motivational as well as inspirational. He displayed a clear understanding of the need for treatment services, and shared his commitment to backing public policy with regard to funding for those services. Following Mr. Duffy's opening remarks, attendees were encouraged to attend workshops of their choosing. This year PRO.A offered a full day of training entitled, "A Common Vision of Recovery", facilitated by Alice Catalano. This training provided an overview of addiction, mental illness, and co-occurring disorders. In addition, staff of the RASE Project offered a perspective on medication-assisted recovery by introducing the new "Buprenorphine Coordinator" pilot project.

The "Annual Awards Banquet" highlighted the conference by recognizing individuals who consistently strive to serve those persons seeking recovery or who are already engaged in the recovery process. The recipients of this year's awards are:

### *Congratulations to Our 2008 Service Award Winners!*

- ALLEN MCQUARRIE, 2008 AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR AWARD
- WILLIAM STAUFFER, 2008 ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD
- GEORGEANNA WASHINGTON, 2008 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Larrick Stapleton, Attorney at Law and PRO.A Board Member, concluded the evening by providing a lucid understanding of advocacy, in addition to portraying a strong message of recovery.

The "Capital Report", an extremely informative presentation, was offered during Day 2 by one of Pennsylvania's greatest advocates. Deb Beck, President of the Drug and Alcohol Service Providers Organization of PA (DASPOP), is the pioneer of public policy issues affecting recovery and addiction treatment. She provided an overview of pending legislation, and other pressing issues that can impact people in recovery.

The Staff and Board Members at PRO.A would like to extend our appreciation to the Conference Planning Committee, volunteers, exhibitors, advertisers and co-sponsors, for their contribution to this event. Their continued support ensures a successful Annual Conference.



Left to Right: William Stauffer, Georgeanna Washington and Allen McQuarrie

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# PRO·A *congratulates*

## OUR ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS WINNERS

EACH YEAR AT OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PRO.A ACKNOWLEDGES INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES RECOVERING FROM THE DISEASE OF ADDICTION. AWARD DESCRIPTIONS AND RECIPIENTS ARE...



### AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR AWARD ALLEN MCQUARRIE

This award recognizes a community leader who works tirelessly to represent the best interest of the Recovery Community. They must demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities while promoting recovery,

whether it be in a public or private forum. As an Ambassador, their efforts should reach beyond the local level. Involvement in educating the public on the disease of addiction and the successes found within the recovery process is a plus in determining the recipient of this prestigious award.

Allen McQuarrie began his career as a public school science teacher. He is a thirty-year veteran of the New Jersey Education Association staff (retired). For fifteen years, Allen worked as a human resource and labor-management consultant for public employee unions and employers. He has pioneered human resource training and personnel services to assist staff and their families seeking recovery from substance addiction, stress and mental health barriers to healthy living. Allen presently serves as a volunteer for PRO-ACT in southeastern PA. During the last ten years, Allen has co-chaired PRO-ACT, mentored men incarcerated at the Bucks County Correctional Facility and served as acting chair of the Southeast Regional Public Policy Committee. Allen served a three-year term as a board member for the Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission.

### VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

#### GEORGEANNA W.

This award recognizes an exceptional volunteer affiliated with the PRO.A Alliance. This dedicated individual consistently gives of their time, effort and resources to support the Recovery Community in Pennsylvania. Selfless service on local committees that promote recovery should be considered in the selection of this recipient.



Georgeanna W. is known in the Harrisburg community as an honest and reliable women dedicated to helping others find and sustain their recovery process. Georgeanna has been a PRO.A volunteer for the past three years, where she consistently offers her support wherever needed. As a person in long-term recovery, Georgeanna is a caring, loving and generous person that believes in giving back to others in the recovery process.

### ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR WILLIAM STAUFFER, LSW, MSW, CCS, CAC

William is currently employed as the Program Director of the Halfway Home of the Lehigh Valley, a position he has held since 1999. He has been working within the field of Chemical Dependency treatment since the late 1980's and has worked in a variety of settings with diverse treatment needs.

William is the former President of the Pennsylvania Halfway House Association in which capacity he served from 2003 through 2007. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of DASPOP and was recently appointed to the Advisory Committee on the Distribution and Use of Methadone under the Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission. He has been involved in advocacy efforts on such diverse issues as workforce development, strong confidentiality protections for clients, and to maintain and expand funding for drug and alcohol treatment for individuals and families in need of services across the state.

A life long non-traditional student, he received a diploma with Honors in 1997 from Northampton County Community College in Liberal Arts. He is a Graduate of Cedar Crest College, Summa Cum Laude with a Degree in Social Work and the 2002 Recipient of the Lecie G. Machell prize in Social Work. He graduated with high honors with a Masters in Social Work at Kutztown University in 2006.

