



L TO R: Amanze Okere, Vijay Prakash,
Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., Crystal Lambert and Oswaldo Saquicela

ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES DURING COUNTY'S JANUARY TEAMWORK AWARD PROGRAM

Newark, NJ – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. presented the monthly Essex County Teamwork Awards for January to three Essex County employees and a student from the Essex County Vocational Technical School District. Teamwork Awards recognize employees for their hard work, dedication and willingness to provide quality service and highlights the achievements of students attending the County's Vocational Schools.

Crystal Lambert, a senior at Essex County North 13th Street. She is an Honor Roll student and has been a member of several extracurricular activities at ECVTS –N. 13th Street Tech, such as the Senior Mentoring Program, Skills USA and she served as the Cheerleading Team manager. She is an active participant in all school fundraisers and she supports all Student Council activities and any organization that needs assistance. In addition to her school activities, Crystal is very active as a volunteer at New Jersey Cares, which is a non-profit organization that supplies basic necessities to those in need. She has volunteered at their coat drives and also painted over graffiti throughout the community.

Oswaldo Saquicela joined the Essex County Office of Purchasing in 2009 as the mailroom clerk. In addition to serving as the mailroom clerk, he also works part-time at the Essex County Hendrick's Golf Course as a Starter and Ranger. Oswaldo and his family came to the United States from Ecuador in 1969 and prior to joining Essex County, he was a custom jewelry designer and a Jewelers Association certified bench jeweler. He has over 40 years of jewelry design experience. Oswaldo earned a diploma in French Studies from the LaSalle Institute and a Linguistics Certificate at the Ecuadorian North American Center.

Vijay Prakash is the head of Information Technology at the Essex County Hospital Center. She is an important member of the team that provides support to he watches over the entire county back-up server system as well as the Hospital's digital functions. Thanks to his alertness, we kept the computer room from damage when the AC stopped, by bringing in fans to maintain the temperature. Vijay can be found anywhere there is a computer problem in the hospital, especially the Director's Office.

Amanze Okere is the Coordinator of the Essex County On-the-Job Training Program in the Essex County Division of Training and Employment. As coordinator, he facilitates contracts, obtains employers, screens and assesses potential employees, and monitors the progress of all participants. He also presents a workshop at the Annual Garden State Employment and Training Association Conference – and takes every opportunity to promote the program. Amanze expanded the Community Work Experience Program when he was Supervisor increasing the number of volunteer sites for the welfare-to-work participants, and is willing to work overtime to get a new program up and running. He volunteers to help others, cuts hair of our clients at the Homeless Connect Day, and is an all-around team player.