



L TO R: Carmen Fernicola, Angelo Venezia, Emanuelli Rubi, Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr., and Adam Heiser

ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE DIVINCENZO RECOGNIZES EMPLOYEES & STUDENT DURING COUNTY'S JUNE TEAMWORK AWARD PROGRAM

Newark, NJ – Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. presented the monthly Essex County Teamwork Awards to three Essex County employees and one student from the Essex County Vocational 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. In addition, an employee was recognized with the Essex County Leadership Award.

Emanuelli Rubi, a senior at the Essex County Vocational School District's Newark Tech, is a straight 'A' student who will be attending Essex County College in the fall, where she will major in Nursing. Rubi is a well-rounded student who participated in various sports and is active in her church community. She was also a volunteer Teacher's Aide at the First Avenue Elementary School where she assisted young English as a Second Language (ESL) students.

Adam Heiser joined the County of Essex in January 2007 as a Family Service Worker in the Division of Welfare and is currently the Guest Relations Manager at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo. He is responsible for all front-end operations and ensuring that all guests holding private functions have the best possible experience at the Zoo. He implemented the first-ever bus logistics system to ensure quick arrivals and departures from the zoo. Adam also assisted in managing the first-ever Holiday Light Spectacular and implemented staffing and operations for the new Endangered Species Carousel. In addition to his duties, Heiser is the Chairman of the Essex County Environmental Commission. Adam is a 2006 graduate of Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Policy, Institutions and Behaviors

Angelo Venezia is the Coordinator of Monitoring and Evaluations in the Essex County Department of Citizen Services, Division of Community Action. Venezia supervises on-site monitoring and evaluates each of the Division's funding agencies twice a year to ensure their compliance with their contracts and with State and Federal regulations. He also prepares and submits monthly and quarterly financial reports and assists with preparing refunding applications. His knowledge of the Division is an asset and he assumes the role of office manager in the absence of the Division director.

Carmen Fernicola is the Administration's Liaison to the Board of Chosen Freeholders. He is responsible for ensuring that the Administration is prepared and well represented at meetings of the Board of Chosen Freeholders. He organizes ordinances and resolutions and makes sure all background documents are included in meeting packages. To smooth the system, he reminds department directors of the meeting dates and the staff needed at the meetings, and obtains the County Executive's signature on all necessary documents. Fernicola is dedicated to doing a terrific job and can always be counted on to get the job done, even if the request is near impossible or requires extra time and work.

Sanjeev Varghese, County Engineer with the Essex County Department of Public Works, received the Essex County Leadership Award. He is responsible for overseeing County construction projects, is often the final word on many decisions, and is the designated liaison between the County Executive and the Project Managers. Varghese's experience, education and instinctive problem-solving skills allow him to effectively manage the construction projects and troubleshoot problems, to ensure that projects are completed on-time and on-budget. Under his leadership, the newest attraction at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo, the Endangered Species Carousel and Pavilion, was completed.