



Outstanding

To The World
You May Be
One Person But
To One Person
You May Be
The World.

Catherine E. Gavin

Making a difference in the lives of others is an integral part of Catherine Gavin's life. She has demonstrated this commitment with a career in the public sector for more than 35 years.

As the current Deputy County Administrator for Camden County Government, Cathy holds the highest-ranking non-elected position held by a woman in the county's government. She oversees various departments including Health and Human Services, Economic and Workforce Development, Children's Services and Community Development to name a few.

Prior to this position, Cathy was the Director of Camden County's Department of Health and Human Services for nine years. She established the Annual Camden County Women's Health Conference in March 2000, which has grown from 200 attendees at the first event to more than 2,000 last year. Cathy also played a key role in expanding the Parent-to-Parent Coalition in Camden County, a support group for those who have children suffering from drug and/or alcohol addiction, and advancing the annual countywide flu immunization program that now reaches more than 25,000 residents.

One of Cathy's greatest passions over the past five years has been her work on the mental health task force and Crisis

Intervention Team (CIT). Charged with finding alternatives for incarceration, the task force works closely with law enforcement and behavioral health services to place non-violent offenders with mental illness into treatment instead of prison. The CIT pilot program is now expanded statewide. Cathy also takes tremendous pride in Camden County's supplement food program for women, infants and children, known as WIC, which she initiated and implemented in 1974.

Throughout her career, Cathy has viewed each new role as the next step in a progressive path. Her education in Foods and Nutrition at Immaculata College led to a dietetic internship at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center then a position as public health nutritionist in the Camden City and Camden County Health Divisions. Cathy sees her choice to take a management position as one of her most substantial professional decisions and did so with her well-known "can do" attitude.

Cathy has been recognized with many accolades over the years, including being named the Community Planning and Advocacy Council Human Service Leader of the Year in 2007. She also received the Girl Scout Women of Outstanding Achievement Award, YWCA Women of Achievement TWIN Award and Camden County Manager of the Year, to name a few.

But for Cathy, it is not just a career. Her commitment carries over to her personal efforts throughout the community. During her four years of work with the Rotary Club of Camden, NJ, Cathy has worked in the areas of literacy, Polio eradication and disaster relief. She will be named chapter president on July 1, 2010. Cathy is also active with the United Way, March of Dimes and American Red Cross.

Outside of work, Cathy enjoys spending time with her husband, family and friends. She is an avid sports fan from her days of playing basketball in school and is someone who also likes the outdoors, fashion, theatre and travel.

Whether she is a personal acquaintance or an unknown advocate for her constituents, Cathy's community commitment is visible everyday.

Alisa Miller

At the age of 20, Alisa Miller lost a best friend and confidante when her mom, Elaine Miller, passed away at age 49 from breast cancer. Always nurturing in nature and a good listener even when very young, it was this life-changing event that made Alisa who she is today.

Alisa's career path did not follow her passion from the start. When she initially expressed an interest in the area of social work, many tried to sway her on a different path. But, it was truly her calling and through the support of family and friends, she pursued her goal to help others coping with grief and loss. Since 2004, Alisa has been with Lighthouse Hospice in Cherry Hill, providing assistance to both patients and families.

That same year, Alisa, her dear friend, Alison Miller, and a few other close friends, founded Tapestries of Hope. What started as an organization to support women who lost another significant woman in their lives soon evolved into a group specifically for women who are grieving the death of their moms or mother figures. The vision is to provide a supportive environment for women to express their grief and honor their mother through support groups, workshops and programs to maintain the mother/daughter bond and continue healing.

Women OF CAMDEN COUNTY



Live.
Love.
Laugh.

The Tapestries of Hope signature event is its “Our Moms, Our Memories” Pre-Mother’s Day gathering. Held every year on the Sunday before Mother’s Day, this year’s event is set for May 2nd at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cherry Hill and the afternoon will feature a keynote speech by a Tapestries’ facilitator who lost her mom 2 years ago. More information is available at www.tapestriesofhope.org.

Not surprisingly, Alisa sees outstanding as one who shares a tremendous amount of love and support. In that same manner, she recognizes her family, friends and team in all that she does and views each experience as a new way to make a difference. Alisa certainly has for many others.

Deborah L. Samuels

Deborah Samuels became involved in community service even before she began her career.

In 1976, Deborah joined the Homestead Youth Association (HYA) as a senior in high school. This civic organization, founded in 1972, brings activities to residents who live in the niche community of Pennsauken, Merchantville and Cherry Hill West, at one time referred to as the Homestead and Delly sections of town. Today, Deborah continues her support and has been the Chairperson on the Board of Directors for more than 15 years.

In the years since becoming a part of HYA, Deborah grew professionally and her positions with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) has enabled her to expand the programs and services offered through the organization. Her role as Manager of Physician Compliance provides access to the latest health-related information, resources and

speakers. At HYA, Deborah began the Women’s Health Luncheon, which addresses topics such as breast cancer, osteoporosis and Alzheimer’s disease.

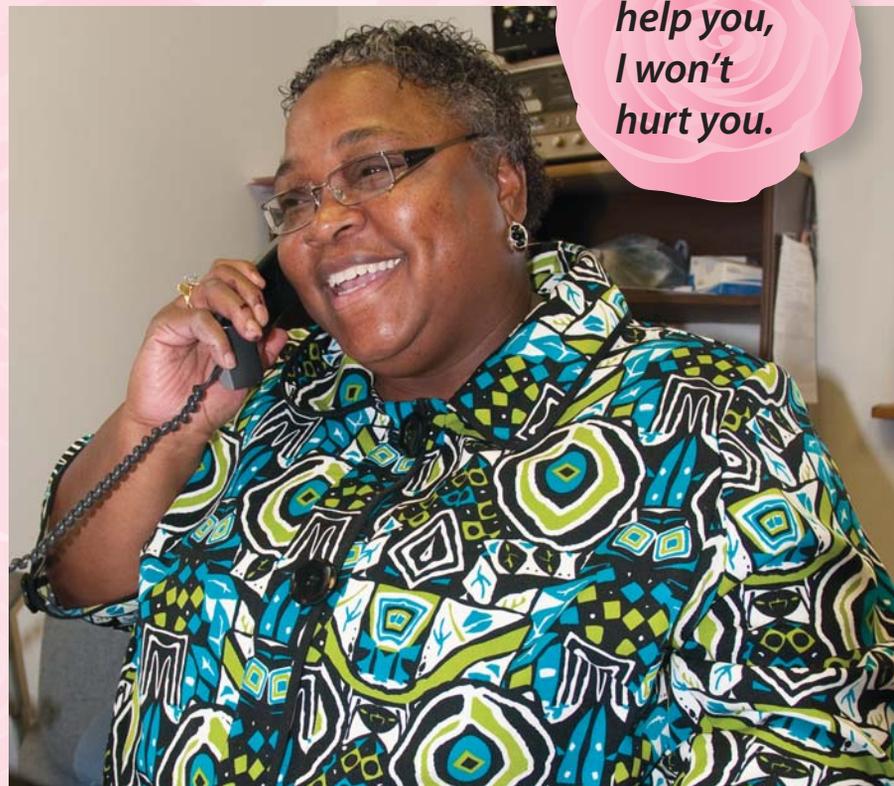
As for her most notable accomplishment, Deborah looks to her role in the “Miracle on Clayton Avenue” and its efforts in giving personal care, food and toys to more than 400 families throughout Camden County. The partnership between HYA, the National Basketball Players Association and Feed The Children made sure that these families in need were not forgotten.

Deborah’s dedication extends beyond HYA as well. She is a member of the Cherry Hill Board of Education Minority Achievement and Diversity committees and also supports the Real Men Cook Charities as well as her affiliation with Asbury United Methodist Church of Woodlynne, NJ. Deborah is also Region II Governor for the American College of Medical Coding Specialists overseeing seven states and the District of Columbia.

Born and raised in Cherry Hill, Deborah resides in the same 3rd generation home she grew up in with her son, sister and brother. Like her role model, Harriet Tubman, Deborah strongly believes in giving all you can and a little more without the desire for personal gain. Those who know her would have to agree. ■

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Photographs by Ron Farina Photography



If I can't
help you,
I won't
hurt you.