

**The Staff and Board of Directors of
Connecting Generations Congratulate the Following
Individuals for their Dedicated and Exemplary Service to Support Children in Delaware:**

Exemplary Mentors

Ray Dotts has been a devoted mentor for the past thirteen years to six different students at North Dover Elementary School. He has stayed with several students for three years, and as a result, their attendance and behavior have improved. He has made a significant impact on his mentees through reading, schoolwork and playing "Connect Four," where he applies winning strategies of the game to help students succeed in life. Ray has also recruited several friends to become active mentors at North Dover.



Dirk Goverts has been mentoring at Marshall Elementary School for four years. He has worked with eleven different students, focusing on academics and working with the "Quick Read" program. He is faithful in his attendance and continues to take on new students. He is currently working with four students, helping them with proficiency and comprehension. Dirk's School Coordinator, Karen Peterson, says Dirk is the "type of mentor we would like to clone!"



Victor H. Murray has been a mentor for the past seven years in the Selbyville area. He currently has ten mentees in three schools: Phillip C. Showell Elementary School, Southern Delaware School of the Arts, and Selbyville Middle School. Victor continues to stay in contact with his former mentees; one in particular frequently calls him to report on his school performance.



Exemplary School Mentoring Program Coordinators

Jennifer DeHoff has been the school coordinator at Mt. Pleasant Elementary School for five years and currently has twenty-three active mentors. Despite her other duties at the school, she has put in considerable time and effort to run an exemplary mentoring program. She goes "above and beyond" in her communications with the mentors, special event planning, and taking the time and focus to match children with the appropriate mentors. Her commitment and energy to the program have paid off and made the program a success.



Barbara Jo German helped launch Delaware's first mentoring program for deaf students at Delaware School for the Deaf seven years ago. She enthusiastically volunteered to coordinate the mentoring program with about twenty mentor/mentees and continues to maintain its success. Not only does Barbara Jo juggle her full-time duties as a speech therapist and complete all the normal duties of a coordinator, but she also screens mentors for their ASL signing abilities, helps educate mentors on issues relating to deaf culture, recruits new mentors each year, and arranges events and invites mentors to chaperone field trips.



Jo Anne Rosenfeld has been the school counselor and mentoring coordinator at North Dover Elementary School for thirteen years. Over the years, she has maintained a core of twenty to thirty mentors, actively coordinating all aspects of the program. She has written and received several grants to purchase an "activity box," sponsor a "Meet the Mentor Night," provide a new book for each mentee to read over the summer and provide disposable cameras to document and create a scrapbook for the program. Jo Anne has gone beyond the call of duty to recognize the mentors with gifts, posters and events and has overall run an exceptional program.



Exemplary Business Mentoring Program Coordinator

Barbara Derby has been a mentor for six years at Wilmington Manor Elementary School. This year she led the effort to get her employer, BlackRock Investment Management Corporation, to partner with the Creative Mentoring program to start their own workplace mentoring program. Together, with her co-coordinator, Camille Palmese, they have recruited thirteen of their co-workers, who began mentoring this fall at P.S. DuPont Elementary, Springer Middle, Wilmington Manor and Mt. Pleasant Elementary. Barbara's enthusiasm for mentoring and her hard work recruiting has made this new Creative Mentoring business partnership one of our strongest!

