

# NEWS

## VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY, INC.

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[www.bergenvolunteers.org](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org)

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### Special Evening for Special Volunteers

“Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”  
Unknown

**Bergen County-** Tickets are still available for “Celebrate Volunteers”, a festive, fun and non-competitive volunteer recognition event, hosted by the Volunteer Center of Bergen County. On Wednesday, April 1, 2009, the men, women and youth who give of themselves to better the community will be honored at a dessert reception at the John Greico Auditorium at Bergen Academies, located on River Street in Hackensack, beginning at 6:30 pm., with an inspirational program to follow at 7:15 pm.

Non-profit and government agencies, including libraries, hospitals, senior centers, schools, religious organizations and municipalities, are invited to bring volunteers to whom they want to give a public pat on the back.

““This event is a great way for organizations to honor their volunteers,” explains Janet Sharma, the Volunteer Center’s executive director. “This year, because of President Obama’s national call to service, the event will be particularly festive. We encourage agencies to bring their volunteers to this very special event. Furthermore, because of the challenges of the current economy, organizations can publicly honor their volunteers at this event and save themselves the cost of doing a separate event.”

Brenda Blackmon, popular news anchor for My 9 News will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies. Ms. Blackmon has been a part of the Celebrate Volunteers Recognition evening since 1996 , helping to call attention to the many ways that volunteers enhance the community. The evening will include an inspiring photomontage of volunteers from local agencies performing vital community work

Entertainment will be provided by Route 4 West, a band of local musicians playing light rock and folk music, under the direction of David Kohane.

Every volunteer will receive a special gift and certificate of commendation, and will be individually recognized during the program. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis, and can be obtained by calling (201) 489-9454 or reserving online at [www.bergenvolunteers.org](http://www.bergenvolunteers.org). The cost is \$10.00 per person.

“Celebrate Volunteers” is sponsored by Inserra Supermarkets; (201) Magazine, Bergen County’s United Way; Dessault Falcon Jet; Lakeland Bank and Sony Electronics.

The mission of the Volunteer Center of Bergen County is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve, operating model volunteer programs, building capacity for effective volunteering, and participating in strategic partnerships that meet community needs.

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