

## Letter from the Executive Director: Giving Thanks for Our Staff

For the fourth year in a row, KenCrest has been recognized as a Best Place to Work by the Philadelphia Business Journal. This award acknowledges KenCrest's achievements in creating a positive work environment that attracts and retains employees through a combination of benefits, working conditions, and agency culture.

Just as we recognize that KenCrest is a great place to work, we know that our staff makes it so. Each year we nominate our peers to receive service awards at the annual Staff Recognition Dinner. This year more than 50 KenCrest staff were chosen for their quality, leadership, innovation, and team spirit on the job. And over 100 of us received longev- ity recognition for having worked at KenCrest for 10 to 30 years.

KenCrest staff Debbie Lord, Kathy Burns, and Dottie Loratio were selected for special recognition. You can read

**Bill Nolan,**  
Executive Director



As we are in the midst of the holiday season, I would like to say how thankful and proud we are to have you all part of the KenCrest staff family.

Thank you for your part in making KenCrest one of the Best Places to Work and for your everyday excellence in service to people with developmental disabilities.

about their contributions and those of other service award winners in this issue.

## 2008 Sister Grace Jones Award Winner: Debbie Lord, YAS

"I do what I do, it's just a part of my job," Debbie Lord said in her acceptance speech after being announced the winner of the Sister Grace Jones Award. Lord received the award on Thursday, October 30, during KenCrest's annual Staff Recognition Dinner at the Drexelbrook Events Center in Drexel Hill, PA.

"It's just nice that people recognize extra effort. It's not just me, so many people around me go above and beyond here at KenCrest," said Lord.

Lord began working for KenCrest in 1979 as a speech therapist at River Crest, before being promoted to coordinator of Communication Services two years later. She currently works as the director of Clinical and Health Services. "I do not really look at what I do as a job. I look at certain projects and try to see what can be done in the bigger picture," said Lord. Through the last several years, Lord has developed the KenCrest Consultants school-



Debbie Lord (second from left) with past Sister Grace Jones Award recipients

## OPPS! CORRECTIONS-

In our attempt to share more detail about our Longevity Award winners in this year's Staff Recognition Dinner Program, some items were inaccurate:

**Geraldine Trower** (20 Years), Resident Advisor at Hoff Street, not the Community Home Supervisor.

**Janice Tyree** (20 Years), Works at Linden Avenue, not at Semler Street. She has worked with the same guys for 14 years, not 20 years.

**Lisa Harner** (25 Years), Director of community programs with EmployNet, not Employment.

**Brian Jordan** (20 Years), Program manager at Riland Heights, not assistant program manager in Supported Living.



## KenCrest Anniversary Bonuses

Every year as we celebrate staff accomplishments at our annual recognition dinner, we are amazed at the number of employees receiving longevity awards. Although there are several ways in which KenCrest recognizes and rewards longevity, one of those ways is through the Anniversary Bonuses Program.

After one year of service, employees receive a KenCrest pin, along with a letter of recognition from Bill Nolan. After 5 years of service, employees receive a monetary bonus along with a different pin and elementary bonus along with a different pin and letter (at 5-year intervals). KenCrest is proud to have many long-time employees and pleased to present these bonuses. The bonus amounts are as follows:

Year 5 - \$150	Year 25 - \$750
Year 10 - \$500	Year 30 - \$1,000
Year 15 - \$500	Year 35 - \$1,000
Year 20 - \$750	Year 40 - \$1,500

**Congratulations to the 2008 Safety Achievement Winner: Linda McKenna (PSN) won the Safety Incentive Program Grand Prize. She won Eagles tickets to the Thanksgiving Day game and \$100 to spend at the game.**



**TO VIEW PHOTO GALLERY OF STAFF DINNER, GO TO [www.kencrest.org/photo\\_gallery.htm](http://www.kencrest.org/photo_gallery.htm)**

## Be in Touch

with your  
Key  
Connectors

Questions, comments, concerns about your work life at KenCrest? Call on us!

Kathy Burns (CRS)

Denise D'Amico (CSS)

Eileen Palucheta (CSS)

Dawn Graham (VAS)

Tina Heckler (VAS)

Peggy Humphreys (VAS)

Paula Kadel (CSS)

Kathy Kohout (VAS)

Diane Massary (VAS)

Wanda Masos (VAS)

Maria Owoc (VAS)

Wendy Pollock (VAS)

Lora Ross (VAS)

Donna Raley (CRS)

Sandie Simmons (CSS)

Cathy Timberlake (VAS)

Cathy Veno (CSS)

Samantha Wiley (VAS)

VAS -- Youth & Adult Services

CRS -- Children & Family Services

CSS -- Collaborative Support Services



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**In the Family**  
is  
written by:

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Paula Kadel

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**TO VIEW PHOTO GALLERY OF STAFF DINNER, GO TO: [www.kencrest.org/photo\\_gallery.htm](http://www.kencrest.org/photo_gallery.htm)**

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## Opportunity Brings Ability to Life Award Winner: Dottie Lorario

"I just never expected it!" is what Dottie Lorario said after she received KenCrest's Opportunity Brings Ability to Life Award. The award was just established this year and is given to Youth & Adult Services staff person who demonstrates extraordinary effort through positive approaches, person centeredness, and community inclusion.

Dottie Lorario has been with the Personal Support Network of KenCrest for over ten years, first as a support staff and currently as a support specialist. She is viewed by her supervisors, colleagues, staff, families of supported individuals and most importantly the people she supports as positive, supportive, dependable, and a shining example of our KenCrest mission and values.

"Dottie develops respectful, supportive relationships with the people she supports, ALWAYS focusing on what the person wants their life to look like," said Nancy Iannacone, director of Personal Support Network, "Person centered planning; positive approaches and community inclusion are the foundation of her contributions."

In December, 2007, Dottie became a communication mentor



**Assistant YAS Director Dale Beck (left) with**

**Opportunity winner Dottie Lorario (center) & YAS Director Jim McFalls (right)**

## Marylyn Siebolt Award Winner: Kathy Burns

"I love my new job. It's a fun challenge and a learning opportunity," Kathy Burns says.

Her enthusiasm and flexibility for taking on a new post-league bowling team that has won championships. Proud mom, KenCrest enthusiast, lifetime learner. That's what makes Kathy Burns a 2008 Marylyn Siebolt Award winner.



**CFS Assistant Director Pam Schuessler (left) with Marylyn Siebolt winner Kathy Burns (center) & CFS Director Mary Ellen Caffrey (right)**

Kathy first got to know KenCrest when her son Matthew was being served at our Northeast Center. She helped part-time in the classrooms. Soon she was working full-time in the Midvale office.

After 20 years, Kathy was asked to change locations and become office manager for Children's Residential Services. It was indeed a challenge. "This is a totally different service with differing processes and licensing to learn, but we're supposed to keep learning."

In her spare time Kathy continues a longtime commit-

## 2008 KenCrest's Staff Service Award Winners

### Youth & Adult Services

**Positive Approaches**  
Pam Cannon

**Leadership**  
Jane Weidner

**Team Spirit**  
Sheila Fehrenbach

### Children & Family Services:

**Communication**  
Mary Reid, Martianne Bevilacqua Harding, Melinda Holmes, Elizabeth McKeone

**Innovation**  
Eunice Weeks, Shameka Fletcher

**Integrity**  
Elizabeth Grzyb, Amanda Winklemann, Donna Bullard, Anne Anderson

**Leadership**  
Joann Martin, Dorothy Judd

**Positive Approaches**  
Mary Radich, Phillip Watson, Marie Rizzo

**Team Spirit**  
Stefanie Odett, Stephanie DeBuono, Virginia Stupak

### Longevity Recognition:

**Integrity**  
Marcia Berner

**Communication**  
Denise D'Gintio

### Collaborative Support Services

**Team Spirit**  
Isaiah "Joe" Germany, Antoinette Jones, Cathy Rich, Robin Pincura

**Positive Approaches**  
Isabel DeJesus, Yvonna Yoder, Hans Dorval, Kevin Curtis, Bonnie Jordan, Suzanne Fenton, Edith Hill-Sams, Ted Josey

**Leadership**  
Theresa Foreman, Eric Wunder, Dionne Jones, Janice Tyre, Stephen L.K. Togba, Margaret Rothenberger, Brenda Voss, Kim Conway

**Integrity**  
Maria Sanfillo, Tracy McDonald, Melissa Bailey, Robin Ward, Bahru Woldemichael

**Innovation**  
Vonzeila Cooper, Audrey Ingram, Sisa Ncube

**20 Years**  
Deborah Beaver, Stephanie Brown, Sharon Farley, Sheila Fehrenbach, Helene Freidman, Dawn Grunder, Donald Hmble, Brian Jordan, Dorothy Judd, Virginia Kocher, Sandra Lee, Barb Maccks, Georgia Murray, Cynthia Noble, Regina (Gimmy) Reber, Marie Rizzo, Lana Toth, Geraldine Trover, Flossie Tumasz, Janice Tyre, Della Waters

**25 Years**  
Maria Weglicki, Douglas Bowne, Lisa Harner, Bernadette Lewis, Carol Rothrock, Cynthia Ryder, Virginia Spokas

**30 Years**  
Jeanne Baker, Pat Benner, Katharine Crozier

**35 Years**  
David Brown, Faye Tyler