



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Darlene A. Brown Named Outstanding Citizen of the Year by Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce

GETTYSBURG, Pa. – Darlene A. Brown, known throughout the community for her work to ensure every citizen has a safe, clean and affordable place to live, is the Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year, recognized for her boundless service to others.

The award was presented during the chamber's Annual Meeting, Thursday, Nov. 3, at the Gettysburg Hotel.

“Darlene strives to make this world, particularly the Adams County community, a better place for all,” said Carrie Stuart, chamber president. “She is dedicated to our community and lives her life to help others. She is the embodiment of an outstanding citizen, and the chamber is pleased to recognize her tireless work to strengthen Adams County.”

Brown is committed to the mission of the three agencies where she has served as executive director for 22 years: Pennsylvania Interfaith Community Programs Inc., Adams County Housing Authority and Turning Point Interfaith Mission. She participates in service groups and organizations and attends many meetings each week to advocate for safe, clean and affordable housing for all. She attends all Gettysburg Borough Council meetings and workshops and was recently named to the Gettysburg Borough Zoning Hearing Board.

“Darlene possesses a degree of boundless energy and enthusiasm that inspires all who work with her to do their utmost,” said Theodore Streeter, Gettysburg mayor. “All of her efforts, professional and otherwise, are undertaken with the goal of making the Gettysburg community a better place to live and work.”

As vice president of the chamber board of directors, Brown volunteers for the Gettysburg Wine & Music Festival and co-chairs the Legislative Committee. She attends many events, including mixers and breakfasts, as well as ribbon cuttings, welcoming new businesses to the area.

Brown has coordinated several fundraisers in memory of her friend Jennifer LeVan as president of the Adams County Arts Council. To date, she has planned “The Jingle Ball for Jen,” “Tee It Up Fore Jen,” “Rockin’ and Ridin’ for Jen” and “The BBQ for Jen,” all aimed at paying the mortgage on the arts education building that will be named in LeVan’s memory.

“Each and every group she serves would characterize her as the perfect volunteer, ready to dig in and get the job done,” said longtime friend William Monahan. “When she agrees to serve, she puts her heart and soul into the mission of the group. She is the perfect example of an outstanding citizen.”

Other groups Brown volunteers for include: member of the Adams County Transportation Planning Organization, vice president of the board for the Susquehanna Regional Transportation Partnership, vice president of the board for the Central Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, longtime member of the

Rotary Club of Gettysburg, past president and active member of the Optimist Club of Gettysburg, member of the Gettysburg Foundation committee in search of answers to affordable housing in Adams County, and volunteer for Elm Street programs like the annual Halloween and Christmas parades.

“In every part of her life, personal and professional, Darlene consistently commits herself to the service of other people in a quiet, unpretentious manner, never seeking personal recognition or praise,” said Caroline Smith, longtime friend. “Adams County is a far better place because of her selfless participation in its community and professional activities, and I can think of no one who deserves this award more than Darlene, who has given of herself for Gettysburg in so many ways.”

In its 45th year, recent award recipients include: Vickie Corbett, Amelia Contreras, Melissa Ferguson, Joann Smith and Jim Getty.

The Gettysburg Adams Chamber of Commerce is Adams County’s largest and oldest business organization and supports the local business community by promoting diverse economic opportunities through advocacy, networking and information. Nearly 540 local businesses and organizations are members. For more information, visit www.gettysburg-chamber.org.

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