

## PEOPLE WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AWARDS 2017

As approved by the Contra Costa County Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Board at the April 26, 2017  
Monthly Meeting.

### VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL

*District V - Supervisor Federal Glover*

#### **Brian Grimshaw**

Brian Grimshaw is the chairman of the Diablo Valley Ranch (DVR) Alumni association. He is sponsoring new opportunities to support the recovery process for clients in treatment at DVR. Mr. Grimshaw is an integral person in leading the way towards a clean and sober lifestyle for many individuals in Contra Costa County.

### VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL

*District II - Supervisor Candace Andersen*

#### **Debbie Berndt**

For the past few years Debbie Berndt has been an active member of the Alcohol and Drug Prevention Team (ADAPT) Lamorinda Coalition. Recently, she has become the chair of this coalition and a vocal advocate against the legalization of marijuana. A self-proclaimed expert on Proposition 64, Ms. Berndt has voiced her opinions and concerns at community meetings. After the passing of Proposition 64, she has been working on a project to educate parents on how their role may change now that recreational marijuana is legal.

### VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL

*District I - Supervisor John Gioia*

#### **Mike Raccoon Eyes Kinney**

Mike Raccoon Eyes Kinney is a life-long resident of Richmond, California (CA) and is the State Chair for the United Urban Warrior Society (UUWS) - California Chapter. One of the top priorities for the UUWS-California Chapter is addressing the issues around Native American alcoholism and substance use. Each year, this Chapter sponsors an annual "Native American Walk for Sobriety" in Richmond, CA. Mike Raccoon Eyes Kinney plays an integral role in the annual Sobriety Walk and is a strong advocate for Human & Civil Rights for Indian Country.

### VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL

*District IV - Supervisor Karen Mitchoff*

#### **Judith and Mark Hall**

From 2004-2014 Judith and Mark Hall were particularly active in the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) "Every 15 Minutes Drinking While Driving" program. The premise of this program is every 15 minutes someone dies due to a drunk driving accident. This program includes a simulated crash scene, involving specially selected "living dead" students followed by a memorial service on the second day. Judith and Mark Hall were the Clayton Valley High School coordinators of this program which they expanded into a four-year educational curriculum. This program is unique to Clayton Valley High School and continued to receive wonderful reviews from community members. The program is still continuing to this day.

### VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL

*District II - Supervisor Candace Andersen*

#### **Patty Hoyt**

For the past seven years Patty Hoyt has worked as a volunteer board member for the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse (NCAPDA). Patty is personally and professionally very well connected with the three local San Ramon Valley communities which has led her to actively participate in multiple community events spearheaded by NCAPDA. She has been actively involved in volunteering at National

Take Back events, collecting prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month Proclamations on NCAPDA's behalf and planning the Dose of Awareness 5K & Health Expo. She has been a great partner for the coalition and works effectively across all systems.

### **VOLUNTEER GROUP**

*District IV- Supervisor Karen Mitchoff*

#### **UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County**

The volunteers from UC Master Gardener Program of Contra Costa County have a Community Garden group that present on topics such as: gardening, nutrition and planting experience to four (4) of the substance use residential treatment facilities in Contra Costa. Gardening can lead to an increase in meditation and focus and also teaches people problem-solving skills. They work with clients during their first 90 days in treatment as a way to educate them on our inter-dependence with the environment, and the use of the community garden as a resource.

### **NON-VOLUNTEER INDIVIDUAL**

*District IV-Supervisor Karen Mitchoff*

#### **Derrick Kirk**

Derrick Kirk has trained 473 middle and high school tobacco use prevention education (TUPE) peer educators throughout Contra Costa County. Derrick also co-coordinated the CourAGE Youth Health Coalition along with the Center for Human Development's Friday Night Live Program. CourAGE is a Youth Led group that plays a leadership role in addressing issues such as: Alcohol, Marijuana, Tobacco and Prescription Drug Misuse & Abuse. He continuously encourages young people to "shoot for the stars." With the training from Derrick, hundreds of students have been given the tools and the confidence to present to their classmates about the issues associated with underage substance use.

### **YOUTH LEADERSHIP INDIVIDUAL**

*District II – Supervisor Candace Andersen*

#### **Leah Bahramipour**

For the past two years, Leah Bahramipour has organized the leadership class at Campolindo High School to distribute notes to students attending Junior and Senior Prom/Ball with reminders about not drinking. The notes included coupons for ride-sharing companies. Leah has played a key role in organizing a guest speaker presentation who visited Campolindo High School and who was paralyzed in a drunk driving accident. She is currently working with the leadership class to create an Alcohol Awareness Week before Senior Ball. She has planned a week of lunch time activities, dress-up days, and guest speakers to engage students at school.

### **Non-Volunteer Group**

*District I & II - Supervisors John Gioia & Candace Andersen*

#### **Walgreens Walnut Creek & El Cerrito**

The two (2) Walgreens locations in Walnut Creek & El Cerrito are the only chain pharmacy locations in Contra Costa County that have prescription drug drop off-boxes. Prescription Drug abuse is a national and local epidemic. Disposing of unwanted medication is key to reducing access to medications and providing drop off boxes throughout the community makes this convenient for the community at large. Walgreens is pioneering a role among retail pharmacies by having two its locations provide take back boxes for community members. This effort should be encouraged and highlighted as an example for other pharmacies to follow.