

SPOTLIGHT: Jamestown, NY Affiliate Staff Honored by Chemical Dependency Consortium



Julie Franco, Director of Program Services, at the Chautauqua Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Council (CASAC) in Jamestown New York was recently awarded a **Gold Key Community Prevention/Treatment Award** at the Western New York Chemical Dependency Consortium's Annual luncheon in November.

The award was given in recognition of Julie's dedication and passion for prevention services.

The Western New York Chemical Dependency Consortium consists of 34 alcohol and substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery service providers in the eight counties of western New York State. The Consortium provides a format for providers to discuss current issues in the field of addiction and work together to help improve services in our communities and on a state level.

The Consortium's **Gold Key Awards** recognize exceptional substance abuse prevention and treatment efforts and are awarded to staff, providers, businesses, community groups or individuals. These awards serve to focus regional and statewide attention on the field of substance use prevention and treatment in Western New York.

They showcase a range of programs from "grassroots" to evidence-based substance use programs, innovative strategies and efforts that have enhanced outcomes in the Western Region as well as individuals that have contributed to the field.

The categories are:

- **Gold Key Community Prevention/Treatment Award** for a business or community group that has demonstrated support for evidence-based and/or innovative strategies and efforts or a provider who has used evidence-based and/or innovative strategies and efforts to support the Strategic Prevention Framework.
- **Gold Key Individual Prevention/Treatment Award** for individuals including agency staff or community supporters who have made outstanding contributions to prevention in the Western Region.

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- **Gold Key Lifetime Achievement Prevention/Treatment Award** recognizes an individual with at least 10 years of exceptional contributions to public and professional awareness and education about chemical dependency as treatable and preventable and as a major public health concern.

For 2013, Julie was recognized for her outstanding work and her passion for her work in prevention services in the region.

Julie has been active in prevention services for 16 years. She holds a B.S. in Education and is a Credentialed Prevention Professional (CPP). She has been a New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) faculty member for 10 years. Julie also presents a variety of trainings for CASAC, including OASAS certified trainings, as well as supervising CASAC prevention staff and providing prevention services in the schools and communities.

The Gold Key award was presented to Julie at the Consortium's 24th Annual Luncheon on November 15, 2013 in Buffalo.

CASAC Executive Director, Patricia Z. Munson, praised Julie for her dedication to the field of prevention and her positive attitude in dealing with all the problems prevention councils face. Ms. Munson said, "Julie is as asset to the field of prevention and to the Chautauqua Council."

CASAC's mission is to build a safer, healthier community by effectively addressing alcohol, other drugs and related high-risk behaviors through Advocacy, Hope, and Awareness.

Since 1974, Chautauqua Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Council (CASAC) has provided alcohol, other drugs, and compulsive gambling prevention services to the Chautauqua County community. CASAC's prevention strategies take aim at how people think, feel, and act by focusing messages and activities on areas of influence such as the individual, family, or community.

For more information, please go to www.casacweb.org.

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