

Volunteer Supervisor Award

Eileen Whitney

The Volunteer Supervisor Award is presented to a Strong Memorial Hospital (SMH) staff member who has supervised volunteers for at least 2 years. This person is selected for his/her exceptional skills in training, recognizing and including volunteers as a member of the "team." This individual will have an excellent volunteer program, which benefits patients and their families at SMH.

We are proud to present the 2012 Volunteer Supervisor Award to **Eileen Whitney** from the Department of Psychiatry and Monroe County Family Court Children's Center. Eileen currently trains, schedules and supervises as many as 25 volunteers for her child care programs. Eileen's volunteers, both high school and college, have logged nearly 1700 hours since January of 2012. The Children's Center is a full-service drop off childcare facility in the Hall of Justice. The center serves at-risk children whose families are involved in court. The goal of the program is to make children's time at court positive and constructive, both for the child and their family. They do this by providing children with a book at each visit, hats and gloves in the winter, and gifts for the holidays. They use the families' time at the Center to provide an opportunity to link parents to needed services such as WIC, Child Health Plus, and Early intervention.

The mission of the Children's Center is three-fold:

- Provide a safe-haven for the children while their family is at court.
- Provide a resource for the court.
- Provide outreach to vulnerable families and connect them with available resources in the community.

Eileen has been with the U of R Department of Psychiatry since 2005. She was born and raised in Rochester (Gates Chili High School) and is a graduate of MCC. She is also a member of the Board of Directors for Brockport Child Development Center at SUNY Brockport and the TIES program.

Eileen has 10 children, 8 of which are adopted! She is also a previous Monroe County Foster and Adoptive parent providing 24 years of service in that area. She lives with her husband Wayne and six of her children. When she's not working, Eileen enjoys camping with her family and gardening.

Thank you Eileen for all that you and your volunteers do for these at risk children in the Rochester community. We appreciate your service to the community and to our volunteer program at Strong Memorial Hospital!