

Raising Awareness of The Hidden Homeless

The Vision St. Charles County Leadership Class of 2010 has developed an awareness campaign to help address the problem of homelessness in the county. Recognizing a general lack of understanding about this growing problem, Vision Leadership class members hope that "awareness leads to action." Homelessness in the county grows each year. The 2010 Community Council Homeless Count identified 1089 homeless people in St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren counties. These numbers represent a 31 percent increase over 2009, and an 84 percent increase over 2008. The economic downturn has factored significantly

in the number of homeless people in our community. In an increasing number of cases, the underlying cause of homelessness is foreclosure, unemployment and under-employment. In an effort to inspire action, members of Vision Leadership have produced a compelling video chronicling the problem of the hidden homeless in St. Charles county. They are eager to share the video and other informational materials in their effort to promote awareness and action. For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact Raymond Castile at raycastile@aol.com or Nancy Cope at nancycpe@gmail.com.



Raymond Castile and Nancy Cope, members of the Vision St. Charles County Leadership Class of 2010

Congratulations Denise!

The Staff and Board of Directors of Community Council congratulate Executive Director Denise Liebel as the recipient of the prestigious Athena Leadership Award for 2010. The Athena Leadership Award identifies a leader for their accomplishments, for community service, and for mentoring others. Athena nominees are role models for others, especially women, to achieve their leadership potential. Denise received the award at the Athena Awards Luncheon held on May 7th. Keynote speaker, Martha Mertz, founded the Athena Award Program in 1982. In founding this program, Ms. Mertz sought to highlight the strengths of women and their contributions as leaders during an era when accomplishments that were acclaimed in men were overlooked in women. Since 1982, over 5,300 award winners have been recognized for their exceptional leadership skills. Anyone who has worked with Denise has an appreciation of her leadership ability and dedication to the community. Please join us in congratulating her.



A warm congratulations to all the deserving Athena nominees including from left to right: Christine Medley, American Optometric Association, Denise Liebel, Community Council, Martha Kampen, Kampen Consulting, Carol Alexander, Coldwell Banker Gundaker, Kelly Behlmann, Disabled Athletes Sports Association, and Peg Capo, Developmental Disabilities Resource Board. You inspire us!

Photo by Michael Schlueter, Courtesy StreetScape Magazine

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