20% | What was their service?
Barbara has been volunteering for RWJVN Hospice for over five years. In her capacity as volunteer, she has expanded her scope of tasks, providing hands-on assistance to all aspects of our agency. Barbara’s dedication to the volunteers and program begins with the preparation of training class materials - introducing new ideas/resources, continues with co-facilitating the training of new volunteers - mentoring them throughout the process, training others in administrative tasks, providing ongoing support and the knowledge of her life experience. Primarily an administrative volunteer, Barbara has also provided home visits, and played an integral role in the planning/execution of our annual memorial. (100 words.)

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?
Barbara is an extremely grateful person, who despite the challenges and losses she has encountered and overcome, believes in the goodness of the human spirit. In the past several years, Barbara has been challenged and beat some life-changing adversities, and had a number of surgical procedures. As soon as she has been able to return to our team, it has been her priority. Barbara sets her sights on contributing her time, talents, and knowledge to hospice, with a deep understanding of the hospice principle and mission. The RWJVN Hospice Team is the grateful recipient of Barbara’s ongoing generosity.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?
Barbara is an extremely dedicated team player, who has taken initiative to expand her role as a volunteer, welcoming new tasks and using her experience to execute these endeavors with efficiency and great care. Over the last several years, Barbara has undertaken the task of assisting with the revision of our Volunteer Training Program. While being mindful of the organization’s policies, she has developed a more “user-friendly” plan, emphasizing the topics past attendees have deemed as more relevant to their success as volunteers. Barbara’s intuitive listening skills and the ease with which she interacts with others helped to support these thoughtful changes. She has also streamlined the process of assembling the patient admission/information folders, increasing the efficiency of the task.

Every moment Barbara spends at the RWJVN office is focused entirely on the mission of our hospice and providing support for our patients as well as for the entire hospice team. She motivates others with her selflessness and dedication, in addition to the hands-on support Barbara provides. She has tremendous warmth and a desire to share her talents, affecting more people than she realizes. Her dedication gives new meaning to the word, “purposefulness”. Barbara is self-motivated by kindness, integrity and a deep understanding of and belief in the meaning and importance of hospice. To say, “Thank you,” for her weekly contributions seems too small a gesture, although she seeks nothing in return. Having the opportunity to honor her dedication and selflessness on a grander scale would be our privilege.
NO. A1702

NOMINEE: Les Murray
Nominator: Sandy Perchetti

20% | What was their service?
Les is willing to do whatever is asked of him and he does volunteer for everything! He repairs and drives the refuge’s tram, is the refuge’s environmental education chairperson going into the schools to teach the kids about birds and nature, or leading school field trips or Scout activities at the refuge. He is also the chairperson of the annual Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs fee derby for kids, and even dresses as TR Bear, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service mascot. He is a Leave No Trace trainer and 2009 Volunteer Master Naturalist graduate.

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?
Les Murray was a diesel bus mechanic for the Egg Harbor Township School District until Cancer caused him to retire in 2007. Not one to sit still and feel badly for himself, he looked for something to keep him busy. He loved the outdoors, so decided to volunteer at Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?
Since signing up as a volunteer in 2008, Les has contributed over 3000 hours of his time. In 2013, he was named Volunteer of the Year, an award that acknowledges a person’s commitment to conservation of our natural resources and refuge management through innovation, personal dedication, and effective use of job talents. In 2013, he received the prestigious Connecting People with Nature Award. Outside of the refuge, he leads kids sporting events as a member of the Atlantic County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs, is a member of the Atlantic County Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs Coalition, and teaches Sunday school. In 2015, his wife suffered a major stroke, and Les is her sole caregiver. He also has to watch his health for reoccurring Cancer. AND in spite of all this, he still is dedicated to his work with youth and the refuge. He is currently coordinating wildlife programs with the Absecon and Pleasantville school districts, and seeking other avenues to reach inner city children. Les is an amazing individual whose positive attitude and faith is addictive. He has made a difference in the lives of all who have the privilege to know him.
20% | What was their service?
The NJ Coalition for Adoption Reform and Education (NJCARE) led a 34-year crusade to restore the right of NJ’s adult adopted persons to obtain a copy of their original birth certificate (OBC) upon request. NJCARE, a grassroots organization, maintains it is a basic human right to know the truth of one’s origins. The state began sealing records from adult adoptees in 1940. Beginning January 2017, NJ adults who were relinquished and adopted are able to obtain a copy of their original birth certificates and hopefully, updated family history information (including medical) upon request. See www.state.nj.us/health/vital/record.shtml and www.nj-care.org.

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?
The adoption reform movement evolved after the 1977 miniseries Roots, which stressed the importance of family origins. Adopted individuals separated for life from their original families by state sealed-records laws realized that they were the only U.S. citizens denied the civil right to know the facts of their own birth simply because they were adopted. Adoptees were joined by birth and adoptive parents who supported their right to know. The impact of secrecy affected everyone involved, including adoption professionals who were contacted by adoptees and their parents for information and who recognized that sealed records was a failed experiment.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?
NJCARE advocated passage of this legislation for 34 years, supporting birth-certificate access bills introduced every session since 1980. Through NJCARE’s thoughtful and diligent work, advocates brought together bill supporters including the Medical Society of NJ, American Academy of Pediatrics, adoption agencies and premier national organizations that define adoption best practices. Adult adoptees born or adopted in NJ now have access to their birth certificates and potentially life-saving medical information. Past and future birth parents have the option to submit a contact preference document and updated family history, including medical information, to the State Registrar. Until the end of 2016, birth parents had an option to request deletion of identifying information from the OBC copy sent to requesting adoptees. Members of NJCARE from NJ and surrounding states came together in a common bond for a cause that is at the very fiber of their being. Birth parents “came out” and testified in Trenton to the life-long yearning to know the son/daughter they surrendered to adoption. Adoptees testified to the need for life-saving medical information, a sense of where they fit on the human continuum and the right to personal information. Adoptive parents cited their possible need to access information for their children’s sake.
As a result of NJCARE’s commitment to truth in adoption, adoptees and their parents are better served by a system established with “the best interest of the child” as its primary purpose. NJ Vital Statistics law now reflects current best practices in adoption.
NOMINEE: Kathlyn Lawrence  
Nominator: Kathy Daws-Lawrence

20% | What was their service?  
Kathlyn has been providing animal community service acts for 8 years; since she was in the 6th grade. During this time, she has collected well over 50 truck loads of animal shelter / rescue donations for many of the animal shelters and rescues in Southern New Jersey. She has made animal toys from recycle items, for shelters & rescues and has raised funds to purchase special needy animal shelter donations. Kathlyn thrives to help animals in need and continuously searches for four legged furry friends whom she can help.

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?  
Kathlyn originally wanted to give back thank a local animal shelter, after her family adopted a dog. She decided she would make sure the unadopted pets in the shelter would each have a winter holiday gift. Kahlyn suffers from severe migrains and Posturral Orthostatic Tachycardia Syndrome (POTS). Many days her oxygen levels and heart rate drops into dangerous levels which triggers her heart rate to then increase to an extremely high heart rate. Although she is sometimes totally incompacitated due to her illnesses, she continues to search for animals in need and quickly comes up with ways to achieve her new found goal.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?  
Gloucester County Animal shelter, Cumberland County SPCA, Camden county, AWA, Animal Orphanage, Gloucester County Animal clinic, Purrfect Angels animal rescue and US Military Wars dogs, to name a few have benefited from Kathlyn's givings. Kathlyn and her dog (the one her family adopted) also became a certified therapy dog team; visiting the VA home, two local schools and also patients in a local hospital. Kathlyn also developed the only 4-H Animal Community Service club in the world for youth between the ages of 5 to 19, called Helping Paws. Through this club, shelter / rescues have benefit from their community service work such as fundraisers for animals in need, shelters / rescue and donations drives. Although Kathlyn has had many physical challenges in her own life, she continues to have an inner drive to make homeless animals & ill humans lives a little better. It gives me great pleasure to nominate Kathlyn for this award.
20% | What was their service?
Rylee is an 11 year old 5th grade special ed student who is diagnosed with Autism, epilepsy and 2 chromosome disorders. She has earned her bronze silver and gold presidential volunteer service award every year since she was 5. She has over 1000 community service hours logged so far. Rylee has an organization she created called crowns with a purpose, where she enlists the help of local pageant queens, and they raise money through bake sales, car washes and fundraising, and donate the proceeds to local charities and families in need. Rylee also has a program she created "choose wise words" where she educates others to make a change in their vocabulary and pledge not to use words that reflect negatively about disabilities, race, mental health or sexual orientation.

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?
Rylee started off in a specialized school for children with multiple disabilities, and has worked hard to move into district and among her peers, she has gone from being 2 grade levels behind, to doing on level work and maintaining a 4.0 GPA. She wants to show everyone that no matter the challenges you face you CAN do anything that you put your mind to. A disability isn’t an excuse.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?
Rylee has been a leader in her community as well as her state as a special needs pageant queen who strives to be look at as just another kid. She isn't afraid to speak up for what is right, and challenges others who have differences to strive for what they want, even if it means working harder to achieve their dreams. She has been a great role model for all of her hard work and community service to multiple organizations.
**CATEGORY:**
Against All Odds

**NO. A1706**

**NOMINEE:** Social Action Club
Nominator: Daniel Convery

20% | **What was their service?**
The Social Action Club was formed 10 years ago at New Point Specialty, which is an adolescent residential facility in Elizabeth, N.J. Our club has unloaded trucks, received order requests and filled orders at the Westfield Food Pantry. The club also did volunteer work at the St. Joseph Social Center in Elizabeth - which provides clothes, supplies and wraps gifts (during the Holiday season) to underprivileged families. When not out in the community, the club helps the Trinitas Foundation with mailings to potential donors. The club also organizes an annual luncheon for Vietnam veterans.

20% | **What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**
The Social Action Club members are residents of an in-patient ward at Trinitas Medical Center. These adolescents have to deal with trauma, family inconsistency, psychological disorders and social stigmas – all while maintaining their education. The residents have experienced charity and special attention given to them by other caring groups and individuals. The residents wanted to give back for the kindness and generosity shown to them by their community. The Social Action Club was the vehicle organized to give back. It brings them joy knowing they could pass on the good will.

60% | **What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**
The Social Action Club made a difference at the Union County Food Pantry when a family of six knew that they would have enough to eat. They have seen firsthand what it is like to be in desperate need. Under proper supervision, the club has made sure that the food pantry trucks were properly unloaded and food packed properly.

The Social Action Club also has helped out St. Joseph Social Center recently during the Holiday season. The residents picked, organized and gift wrapped presents for needy families of Union County. It was here they learned the being a volunteer without getting the acknowledgement is still a good feeling.

The Trinitas Foundation is meant for fundraising for many aspects of Trinitas. While the Foundation heavily supports the residential program, the members of the club take the time to do clerical work to help the Foundation secure donations.

The Social Action Club has a healthy relationship with a group of Vietnam veterans, many suffering still from PTSD. They have an annual luncheon together where the veterans are given a chance to talk to a generation that does not know of their courageous actions. The interactions work well with both groups and bonds are formed. The veterans occasionally visit the residential facility throughout the year; not just at the luncheon.

The club regularly donates their gently used unwanted clothing to churches, shelters and adult outpatient facilities in Trinitas Hospital.
NOMINEE: Nancy Priest, Westfield Historical Society
Nominator: Sherry Cronin

20% | **What was their service?**
Nancy has been a tremendous and tireless volunteer in the community since 1980. She is currently the President of the Westfield Historical Society and was instrumental in the funding and $1.2M restoration of the historic Reeve History & Cultural Resource Center. She is now leading the group not only to provide high quality programs and events, but also to fundraise for the next phase of a new Education Center. She has impressive volunteer credentials with Drew University, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and local charitable organizations such as Mindowaskin Park, Westfield Public Library and The Presbyterian Church.

20% | **What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**
Nancy simply wants to leave the world in a better place. She has been skillful at seeking out like-minded individuals in the community to support the causes that she is passionate about. She saw a park that was deteriorating, so she created a plan and led a group to fundraise and implement a vision for a beautiful park setting complete with gardens, walking paths, lighting, a gazebo and an overlook in the heart of Westfield. She saw a talented symphony orchestra needing support and elevated it to a world-renowned one. She saw a deteriorating historic site that lacked vision and restored the site and is working on phase II.

60% | **What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**
In her most recent role as President of the Westfield Historical Society, Nancy has engaged the community in creating the Reeve History & Cultural Resource Center. Besides fundraising and restoring an 1875 Nationally registered house museum on a 1.62 acre site, she has served as President of a prestigious organization which has redefined its mission in the community. With outreach programs of Lunch and Learn, Evening Educational programs, Museum Tours, Children's school tours and varied exhibits, the Westfield Historical Society is poised for future generations and service to the community. The historical archives of the 1720 settled Town of Westfield are being updated and indexed, and Nancy has challenged the group to build a $2M+ Education Center on the site. This will facilitate a state-of-the-art community space with full-time access to protected and preserved Archives and to build on our educational programs more effectively. The center will allow people of all ages to explore their heritage and learn about their neighborhoods and culture and allow other organizations to use the space for their programming needs.
Nancy’s role in the community cannot be underestimated. As a long-standing resident, she cares very deeply about making a difference and affecting the lives of those impacted through her work. She demonstrates this not only in her own contribution of time, talent and treasure but also in engaging others to do the same.
**What was their service?**

An Ordinary woman with an extraordinary dream.” This quote best sums up the service of a woman who is focused on ensuring a society in which all individuals have equal rights without discrimination based on their identity as a human being. A seasoned advocate for helping policymakers and others adapt to the diversity New Jersey is becoming, she is rooted in the Martin Luther King, Jr. tradition of bringing people of diverse identities together for a more perfect society. Loretta has crafted her own vision that focuses on building on the strength of our diversity through building bridges and tearing down walls.

**What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**

Often discriminated against for being the daughter of a Filipino mother and African American father motivates her desire to see all people treated as equals without discriminatory practices. Her overall vision is to contribute in improving the quality of life for all—regardless of race, class, gender, ethnicity, age, sexual preference, religion or physical or mental disabilities. Her advocacy spirit was strengthened after surviving an attempted rape experience and the treatment, she describes as “criminal” by the police department and the hospital. Additionally, her blended multicultural & multiracial family members add to the motivation.

**What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**

Her hand-on leadership approach as president of the Gloucester County NAACP incorporated the mission of the NAACP of promoting diversity and inclusion in a community that is searching for strategies to adapt to the changing demographics. During her tenure as president of the Gloucester County, the branch has seen a re-branding as the executive board reflects the racial and ethnic diversity of the population of Gloucester County. She revived a once-dormant NAACP and spearheaded efforts to raise money for college scholarships, gifted laptop computers to promising students lacking the financial resources to purchase one, organized the first high school NAACP chapter in the state, worked with Rowan University in setting up a perpetual scholarship opportunity for students, and stepped up efforts to protect voting rights, and end to gun violence, women’s equality and more diversity in state and local police departments and school districts. Using her diplomatic approach, she has established partnership with numerous state and local police departments and schools districts and hospitals, and personally recruited women and minority candidates to fill positions. Her efforts led to the graduation of the most diverse class of state troopers in the history of the New Jersey State Police in 2013. She brings audiences of diverse identities and honors people making contributions to diversity and inclusion at various yearly events. She is a board member of the South Jersey Credit union and a principal in her husband’s construction business. Loretta is one of the most recognizable persons in South Jersey making a difference.
NOMINEE: Anne Moore Siebecker
Nominator: July Siebecker

20% | What was their service?
Anne is a Trustee for The New Weis Center for Education, Arts & Recreation, a nonprofit serving her town and surrounding communities. The Center was closed for several years until Anne joined a small grassroots group to preserve the historic buildings and re-open the Center. Now she develops and runs the school field trips, nature day camps and Arts programs, and manages marketing and volunteers. She's also a Ringwood Environmental Commissioner, a Trustee for the town Library, a volunteer for the Friends of the Library and the nonprofit that runs the farmers market, and leads a weekly knit/crochet group.

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?
Because of her commitment to environmental causes, Anne returned to school four years ago for Green Technologies and Sustainability, intending to work for a greater cause. However, she was also our disabled mother's caretaker for 10+ years, which became her full-time job once she completed her certification. She was also very close to our father, and when both of them died in 2015, it was a huge blow to her sense of life's purpose. Admirably, she pulled herself back up on her feet by channeling the grief into community involvement and volunteering, finding new ways to help others.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?
Anne’s achievements and impact are significant and wide ranging; from environmental education and awareness to fostering a greater sense of community among all ages. The focal point of her efforts is her position with The New Weis Center. The Center was established in the 1920’s by a group of early naturalists and conservationists from Europe. The property later transitioned to a nature center that was beloved by many in the area. When its last owners closed it, a small but ambitious group of supporters formed to save Weis, which Anne joined. Once Mom passed, Weis became a fulltime volunteer job, with amazing results. Despite having only 5 Trustees and a few volunteers, it reopened in 2016, with Anne doing everything from coordinating a re-opening celebration to managing the volunteer staff, mentoring interns, creating partnerships with local nonprofits, and developing adult program. Their first season of summer day camps and field trips was a big success, and 2017’s programs will reach hundreds of children. My own son attended, and begs to return this summer. Despite the time she devotes to Weis, she still finds time to serve as a Library Trustee, and volunteer regularly in the library and the local farmer's market. People approach her regularly to offer thanks for re-opening the Center. All this couldn't have happened had she not given herself and her skills to her community with little public recognition no personal gain. I know our parents would be as proud of her as I am.
20% | **What was their service?**

After losing her father to homicide, A’Dorian started SHE Wins! a free program for girls who have lost a parent, sibling or loved one to homicide in Newark. They officially launched in 2015 with a six-week summer leadership program consisting of social justice and self-empowerment curriculum, mentorship programming, cultural immersion field trips, and community service projects. This is the 2nd year of their afterschool program also based in Newark. SHE Wins! programs center on college and career readiness, fitness in addition to improving adolescent literacy through culturally relevant pedagogy.

20% | **What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**

A homicide survivor, A’Dorian began mentoring youth since she was designated as a Peer Tutor in 5th grade. Growing up in Newark with a mom who was both an educator and social worker, she often saw the ills of poverty very close to home. She attended a boarding school for high school but spent every school break volunteering for at-risk youth and families in the Newark area. She has always believed if someone had provided better support services for the young man who killed her father, perhaps he would have opted to pick up a book instead of a gun.

60% | **What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**

SHE Wins! is creating a pipeline of college and career-ready young women leaders from Newark, with a particular focus on girls who have lost a loved one to homicide. A’Dorian’s great work has led to her being recognized as Glamour Magazine’s Top Ten College Women in addition to several local awards. Using a small-cohort approach, their summer and school leadership programs fuse social justice, mentorship, and leadership development programming to empower girls with the social, emotional, and leadership skills needed to not only excel academically, but to help solve the issues that most affect their lives and communities.

In just under two years, under her leadership, they have empowered nearly 50 girls with the civic, career, and college readiness skills necessary to be agents of positive social change. She believes youth most affected by issues in their community can be the best advocates for their solutions. Her scholars have done everything from reading to classrooms at various schools to promote early childhood literacy, speaking before Newark City Council, to advocating for legislation like the Let Girls Learn Act on Capitol Hill. Through both their own service projects and those done in partnership with other community organizations, SHE Wins scholars community service work has directly impacted the lives of over 1,000 people. SHE Wins! hopes to create the next generation of young women leaders from Newark who are empowered with the skills and tools necessary to thrive in their secondary and post-secondary education and become pillars of change in the world.
NOMINEE: Wilfredo "Wil" Rojas  
Nominator: Carmen Marrero

20% | **What was their service?**  
The breadth of Wilfredo’s volunteer endeavors can be felt far and wide throughout our new community in New Jersey. Wilfredo spends countless hours contributing to a multitude of community causes, focused on cultural diversity, public services, mentoring, and support for those seeking opportunities, and civil rights.

20% | **What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**  
For my husband, Wilfredo “Wil” Rojas, retirement has had a precise meaning. It meant leaving behind an accomplished 24-year career in the field of corrections in Philadelphia and moving to South Jersey where, as a young boy, he came every summer to work on various farms. In May 1979, Wilfredo suffered an almost death “brain aneurysm” that physically altered his life forever. However, his strong faith in God and resiliency resulted in successful rehabilitation and he returned to work within a week after his eight weeks of recovery and physical and occupational therapy. He believes that God spared his life so he can pay it forward.

60% | **What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**  
Working with Camden city and state officials he addressed the open prostitution problem around Mi Casita Daycare Center. Appointed the first American minority on the East Greenwich Township Combined Planning/Zoning Board, he makes decision on development ensuring compliance with affordable housing requirements. Organized the Parents Diversity Committee that worked with East Greenwich Township school officials in hosting the First Black History Month Celebration and invited Fox 29 anchor, Sheinelle Jones, as guest speaker, and coordinated with school personnel, an essay contest on famous African-Americans and donated money from our budget as prizes. As an official of the Gloucester County NAACP, he has been called upon to amicably resolve racial tensions at a number of high schools. He also provides instruction and mentoring to high school and college students involved with the Gloucester County Prosecutor Office’s mentoring program. Wilfredo also conducts speaking engagements at Rowan University School of Criminal Justice. He writes a monthly column in the South Jersey Journal Newspaper and serves as communications chair for the Gloucester County NAACP. He also helps needy families with turkeys and trimmings for the holidays. He co-founded the National Homicide Justice Alliance and he agreed to serve on Philadelphia City Council’s Special Committee on Criminal Justice Reform, adding to it, a South Jersey perspective. His philanthropic spirit moves him to support many organizations in the community dedicated to serving those less fortunate. He has developed a strong rapport with local and state law enforcement, local and county educational administrators and helps recruit women and minorities. Wilfredo believes in empowering people to help themselves and he uses his counseling and therapeutic training and management experience in helping people set goals and develop action plans to fulfill them.
Michael is an 18 year from Mount Ephraim, NJ. By the way, Michael has Down Syndrome. He held a food drive to collect food for a local food pantry for his Eagle Scout Project. His goal was to collect 500 items of food for the food pantry. He ended up collecting 6,152 items for this very worthy food pantry. Michael worked very hard and organized a group of volunteers to help him with his project. Nothing holds Michael back from achieving his goals. By his hard work and dedication to the project he has helped so many people. We are so proud of him!

Michael had to pick a project for his Eagle Scout Project. He choose to hold a food drive for the Logan Memorial Presbyterian Church’s Food Bank, this is the church that sponsors his Boy Scout troop in Audubon, NJ. Michael knew that there wasn't much food on their shelves and if he could collect more food it would help many hungry people.

Michael was able to collect 6,152 items for the food bank! People were so happy to donate food to him for his Eagle Scout project, and it made the people who received the food so happy. They were very blessed by his hard work and caring heart. People think that if you have a disability like Down Syndrome that you really can’t accomplish much, Michael proves many people wrong and shows them that anything is possible. We always told Michael that he can do anything that anybody else can do and he had taken this to heart. He is such an inspiration to many and makes many people happy with his upbeat and positive attitude. He brings so much joy into people's lives.
CATEGORY:  
Against All Odds

NO. A1713

NOMINEE: Sherrice Lyles  
Nominator: Darryl Hammary

20% | What was their service?  
Sherrice Lyles deserves to be Jeffersonian citizen because she is an excellent Event Coordinator she always dedicated to serve others, sherrice always try above and beyond her expectations. Sherrice collects 1,000's of prom dresses/ attire for students in need of prom attire she helped 3,000 families from all over NJ for over 3 years since Wish upon a prom began, Santa's Toy Shoppe, Back to School Giveaway help, Family Day Events, Women Empowerment Summit/ Mentorship

20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?  
Sherrice have been motivated to serve our community since she began volunteering with our organization Charity Kings Inc. We are a family non profit organization. Sherrice's dedication to serve came from her wanting to make a change within herself. Sherrice is a foster child that overcame different trials and tribulations. Sherrice parents passed away at an early age. Her dedication to serve came from her up bringing and having 6 sisters to help take care of after her parents deceased.

60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?  
Sherrice achieved a different outlook on life and value making and inspiring a difference. Sherrice have helped so many families who may can't afford to provide the basic essentials that they may need. Sherrice have been honored at the White House over the summer for Community Change maker and inspiring a difference award. Nation Action Network, Us Congress Frank Pallone and even received a Proclamation award in her community. She was featured on Della Crews NJ12 News Spotlight Story,  
We all truly believe Sherrice deserves this nomination. She do a lot for our communities, and school that she work at as a Parent Liaison. Her work and relationship with those in need say it all.
20% | **What was their service?**
Marcus Hartley began his term as an AmeriCorps member with PowerCorps Camden in June of 2016. PowerCorps Camden members tackle pressing environmental issues within the city of Camden through various projects. Marcus completed over 900 hours of direct service work within his six month term of service. Through park clean ups, invasive species removal, storm water maintenance and various other green initiatives, Marcus and his crew, “Destined for Green Greatness (D4GG)” were a great example of what young adults can do when given an opportunity to shine.

20% | **What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**
Marcus was referred to PowerCorps Camden by the Face Forward Program with Volunteers of America, a program for opportunity youth in the city. Due to the fact that he had been placed on House Arrest after a criminal conviction, Marcus was motivated to better his life, make wiser decisions and give back to the city of Camden. He felt compelled to serve to give back after falling victim to peer pressure in the past. He wanted to be a leader and show that he could make a negative situation into something positive through AmeriCorps Service.

60% | **What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**
Marcus was a vocal leader from the very start of the program, ensuring that the community was aware of the service being done by young adults from Camden, NJ and how they were effecting the environmental status of their city. He wanted to prove to people that second chances are necessary in order for people to live up to their fullest potential. He served during the typical service day (Monday-Friday), on weekends and often stayed late just to ensure he was giving his all and letting his peers and the community know the work that his crew was doing and how they were improving Camden’s environment. His goal was to show that young adults from a city like Camden, with a bad reputation, had the potential to serve their communities and also wanted to give back. He completed over 900 hours of service, was selected to serve in a leadership position for an additional six months and managed to balance the stipulations of house arrest, probation and the courts while also fully committing himself to serving. He is now effectively and enthusiastically serving as Assistant Crew Leader and working toward a totally of 1800 plus service hours within a year.
**Against All Odds**

**NO. A1715**

**NOMINEE: Bob Virgadamo**  
Nominator: Kashmiri Delory

**20% | What was their service?**  
Lion Bob Virgadamo was inducted into the Cranbury Lions Club in 1998, and immediately found that serving his community – locally, regionally, and globally was the most satisfying and rewarding experiences of his life. Despite his serious physical handicaps, he has contributed his time, effort and dollars to benefit humanitarian causes. As Chair, he had participated in virtually every Service Project and Fundraiser held in Cranbury between 1998 and 2013. He is currently the Secretary of West Windsor Lion Club. Lion Bob is the LCIF Major Catastrophe Grant Administrator and Chairman of the MD-16 Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Committee and responsible for the distribution, disbursement and accounting of nearly half million dollars of “designated” LCIF donations for and towards approved projects.

**20% | What motivated them to serve/volunteer?**  
As a member of the Cranbury Lions Club, Lion Bob found that serving his community – locally, regionally, and globally was the most satisfying and rewarding experiences of his life. Despite his serious physical handicaps, he has contributed his time, effort and dollars to benefit humanitarian causes. Serving on various Projects and Fundraisers held in Cranbury including Lions Club International Foundation and Major Catastrophe Grant Administrator and Chairman of the MD-16 Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Committee, Lion Bob fullfilled the motto of Lionism, "We Serve".

**60% | What did they achieve/how did they make a difference?**  
Lion Bob Virgadamo most favorite charitable work is Eye Glass Recycling project. He is responsible for the collection, refurbishing and distribution of over five thousands pairs of glasses to communities – locally, regionally, and globally. He finds it very satisfying and rewarding experince of his life.