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Ruth Anne Callaham

Jeffrey A. Cline

William B. McKinley



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE: May 13, 2013**

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**RE:** WCDSS Employee Recognition

**Status: For Immediate Release**

On April 19, 2013 the Washington County Department of Social Services held its 24<sup>th</sup> annual Employee Recognition Day at its headquarters at 122 N. Potomac Street, Hagerstown, MD. National Employee Appreciation day was started in 1995 as a day to honor employees everywhere. In Maryland, Governor O'Malley issued a proclamation recognizing the value of the Maryland workforce.

“Our employees provide services with professionalism, skill and dedication that protect vulnerable children and adults as well as those facing economic struggles,” said David A. Engle, Director Washington County Department of Social Services. This annual recognition provides an opportunity to thank staff for always going the second mile to serve our neighbors.”

Attending the event were County Commissioner President Terry L. Baker, Commissioners Jeffrey Cline, Ruth Anne Callaham, and William McKinley; Delegate Andrew Serafini; and Hagerstown City Administrator Bruce Zimmerman. Commissioner President Baker addressed the employees and thanked them for the service they provide to the citizens of Washington County. Tim Gard, a motivational speaker, provided an inspirational message, “A Comic Vision.”

The day’s activities included an awards ceremony during which employees were recognized for their outstanding performance and contributions. Employees were also recognized for their participation in the agency’s Continuous Performance Improvement Program, which has been in place for 14 years.

The following awards were given:

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| Director’s Award for Distinguished Service: | Russell Citro, Social Worker Supervisor |
| WCDSS Employee of the Year:                 | Rhonda Forrest                          |

Outstanding Supervisor of the Year: Barb Shevokas  
Outstanding Support Person of the Year: Sandy Martin

Agency Value Awards linked to the Agency's mission and vision statement were also awarded:

Communication Value Award: Ligia Teodorovici, Social Worker, Child Welfare  
Quality of Services Value Award: Ellie Murto, Family Investment Work Participation Specialist  
Becky Rice, Social Worker Supervisor  
Respect Value Award: Sarah Cutchall, Child Support Specialist  
Shana Matthews, Social Worker

Outstanding Community Partner Awards were granted to:

Community Free Clinic, accepted by Robin Roberson, Executive Director

David Bonebrake, Washington County Mobile Crisis Services

*The Washington County Department of Social Services is a field office of the Maryland Department of Human Resources under the direction of Governor Martin O'Malley, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, and Secretary Theodore Dallas*

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