

# 2007 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



## SALUTE YOUR 2007 AWARDS HONOREE, DONNA ROMAN

NOMINATED BY GERARDO HERNANDEZ



From left: Nominator Gerardo Hernandez and honoree Donna Roman



From left: George Arwady, Publisher of the Star-Ledger, honoree Donna Roman and Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards

### Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community?

If you do, then nominate them for the prestigious Jefferson Award by visiting [www.nj.com/jeffersonawards](http://www.nj.com/jeffersonawards)

Jefferson Awards honor ordinary people who, through public service, do extraordinary things for other people, their community, their nation, or the environment.

Donna Roman, a retired Police Captain, is a community leader and resource for victims of domestic violence, by providing free counseling, safe house assistance and Spanish-to-English interpretation. Donna devotes countless hours advocating for the rights of domestic violence victims. She lectures students about bullying, sexual predators, and the perils of dating and sexual/domestic violence. Donna helped to organize and train the West Essex New Jersey Domestic Violence Response Team which is comprised of volunteers that provide networking and advocacy for victims of domestic violence. Donna is not only a domestic violence advocate, she is a survivor herself. Donna directed, produced, and wrote a documentary-memoir called "The Ultimate Betrayal: A Survivor's Journey" which is her personal story that chronicles her family's 40-year secret of physical and emotional abuse which Donna and her mother endured at the hands of her father. Donna's domestic violence intervention skills and lectures have saved countless of victims from further abuse and prevented young adults from entering into dangerous relationships.