



2009 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards, Dorrene Bludgus (mother of William Bludgus), and Daria Placitella, Executive Vice President, Eastern Region, PNC Wealth Management

Honoree William Bludgus in with George Arwady, Publisher of The Star-Ledger

“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

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



Linda Bowden, President
PNC Northern New Jersey

Honoree William Bludgus

William (Billy) Bludgus of Bayonne was nominated by Dorrene Bludgus for establishing and leading the House of Blue Hope Foundation, which supports a safe house for the street children of Mabibo, a village in Africa. Billy adopted the St. Peter’s Prep motto, “a man for others,” and has lived up to his personal challenge to help those in need. He volunteered in soup kitchens and homeless shelters, and spent summers working with the handicapped and poor as a teen. Upon spending two years in Africa as a volunteer teacher, he recognized the need to provide more for the orphaned children; and the House of Blue Hope was born. “Billy does not work for glory; he works from his heart.”

To read the full essay and to learn more about this year’s honorees, please visit www.nj.com/helpinghands/jeffersonawards

A program of:



Sponsored by:

