



2009 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards, honoree Debbie McWilliams and Daria Placitella, Executive Vice President, Eastern Region, PNC Wealth Management



Honoree Debbie McWilliams (right) with guest Glen Koechling

**“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 Debbie McWilliams

Debbie McWilliams of Essex Fells was nominated for establishing and leading the Timothy C. McWilliams, Jr., Foundation to support victims of traumatic brain injury. Channeling her maternal grief upon the loss of her son Timothy to TBI, Debbie established the Foundation which has raised more than \$750,000 in just four years to provide direct financial relief to TBI patients and families. The Foundation also supports a 4-year college scholarship award at West Essex Regional High School, Tim's alma mater, and donates annually to The Seeing Eye in Morristown and injured NJ veterans participating in the National Wheelchair Games. Debbie's "enduring spirit" has impacted the quality of life of many NJ residents. Debbie's nominator, Brenda Koechling*, has passed away since submitting her nomination but we are sure she is with us in spirit tonight.

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: