

# Good Neighbor Awardees Announced

The Good Neighbor Awards are presented annually by Goddard Riverside Community Center to those people who voluntarily do something extraordinary to improve community life or help their neighbors on the Upper West Side.



At the sixth annual Neighbor to Neighbor Dinner on May 6, 2006, Goddard Riverside officials and volunteers join this year's Good Neighbor Award recipients.

Front row from left: Awardees Betty Sellers, Patricia Craddick, Joseph Meezan, Esther Gross, Morris Levine and Betty Dickstein. Back row from left: Evie Joselow, Award Committee Chair; Victor Gonzalez, Board member; Stanley Heckman, Board President; Stephan Russo, Executive Director; Doris Brunson, Board Vice President; Rob Grossman (for the award to the Veteran REACH volunteers); Edmundo Yearwood, Awardee; Eric Rosenfeld, Board member; Anita Fiorillo and Peter Meyer, Dinner Co-Chairs

## The following people are this year's awardees:

**Patricia Craddick:** for her vision and dynamic leadership in establishing ParentJobNet, a three year old organization which empowers public school parents and caregivers on the Upper West Side to share with each other and employers via the internet information about jobs, childcare options, business and volunteer opportunities and professional services; additionally providing in person training for parents for whom English is a second language and workshops in schools about jobs and careers. All without cost.

**Betty Dickstein:** for her strong leadership at the Senior Center, her invaluable contributions to the Advisory, Recognition, Public Issues and Food Committees, her extensive work in the community with her tenants association, at a neighborhood public school and Symphony Space and her compassion and devotion to the homebound and the hospitalized.

**Esther Gross:** for her devotion to improving the conditions of life for her neighbors, her outspoken advocacy for social and political justice, her work in the community with her church and public housing, her assistance to her neighbors with translations and helping them negotiate government bureaucracies, and her impassioned efforts to educate the public about autism.

**Morris Levine:** for his expertise, devotion and care in assisting seniors the past fifteen years with befuddlingly complex Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance problems; for his tenacity in dealing with the health bureaucracies resulting in helping hundreds of his neighbors by giving them peace of mind and saving them thousands of dollars.

**Joseph Meezan:** for a lifetime of activism pursuing social justice, his work with his union, as a Mitchell Lama tenant organizer and his devoted work with the blind and the homeless.

**Betty Sellers:** for her devotion to the residents of Corner House, for teaching and helping those of her neighbors who are disabled or elderly with housekeeping, for her leadership in recreational activities and birthday parties and for helping provide food and clothing to families in the neighborhood.

**Veteran REACH Volunteers:** to the nine veteran tutor-mentors, Seth Eisenstein, Elizabeth Greenburg, Robert Grossman, Heather Hanson, Jeffry Ho, Lisa Hunter, David McCarthy, Nitzan Palman and Frances Rosenfeld for their devoted service and multi-year commitment to the students of the REACH program.

**Edmundo Yearwood:** for his devoted caregiving to the elderly residents of Columbus Park Towers; for looking after their welfare, for shopping for them or doing their laundry when they weren't able to, for escorting them to appointments when they couldn't go alone; for his wise counsel and the friendship, comfort and support he has given to his neighbors.

The Good Neighbor Awards committee congratulates the award winners and is grateful to everyone who participated in this process. The Sixth Annual Good Neighbor Awards was presented at the Neighbor to Neighbor Dinner on **May 6, 2006**.