

Governor's Team Excellence Award—2006

Award Recipient

Energy An\$wers Team, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)

This team of professionals successfully launched the Energy An\$wers Program, a new \$8 million program in less than four months, reaching every Delaware household and providing an opportunity to save energy, save money and improve our environment. By partnering with the state's libraries and electric suppliers, this team of state employees was able to provide free compact fluorescent light bulbs and appliance rebates to 100,000 Delaware homes to offset rising electric rates experienced in 2006.

Finalists

American Dream Team, Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA)

Delaware State Housing Authority, charge, in part, with providing affordable homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income Delaware residents, posted record-breaking results in 2006, issuing \$285 million in Single Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds and helping more than 1,200 lower income families purchase their first homes. The agency's "American Dream Team" exhibited uncommon ingenuity and dedication in overcoming the challenges of Delaware's skyrocketing home prices.

Griffith Lake Rescue and Reconstruction Team, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)

With virtually no notice, this team of varied professionals responded to a potentially hazardous situation at Griffith Lake in Milford to save the dam, pond, and its inhabitants. The team surveyed the problem, secured the area and equipment, stabilized the dam, drew the pond down, rescued the game fish, collected and relocated the freshwater mussel community, secured the necessary reconstruction permits and federal funding, repaired the dam, replaced the boat ramp and dock, replaced several hundred feet of bulkhead, refilled the pond, and restocked the fish.

The Lang TB Clinic Team, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)

The Lang TB Clinic Team, a busy clinic serving all of New Castle Co., expertly handled an extremely large and complex contact investigation of a case of tuberculosis in a popular restaurant in the Wilmington area. Complications included cultural and language barriers and a flurry of media attention. A crisis in public confidence was averted, and more than 100 contacts to the case were identified and screened in less than three weeks, resulting in no known transmission of the disease.

Governor's Team Excellence Award—2006

Finalists (continued)

One Stop Business Registration and Licensing Initiative Team, Department of Finance

In February 2006, Governor Ruth Ann Minner announced the one-stop business licensing initiative that enables a business to register and obtain one or more business licenses with the Department of Finance, Division of Revenue, as well as to register as a Withholding Agent. It also enables a business to register with the Department of Labor, Division of Unemployment, and also the Office of Workers' Compensation. In addition, the One Stop application provides the ability to connect to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to obtain a Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) and to connect to the Division of Corporations. The user is able to complete any one or all of these applications.

This initiative greatly simplifies the process for businesses, by significantly reducing their effort and cycle time. It provides agencies the advantage of electronic data submission thereby easing their manual handling, data entry, and error handling processes.

The announcement was the culmination of an effort by four departments teaming up to support the Governor's goals for more efficient and effective public sector management and leading edge e-government solutions to improve customer service, minimize delays, and remove bureaucratic barriers.

Planning/Aglands Team, Delaware Farmland Preservation Program, Department of Agriculture

This team has permanently preserved 80,000+ acres of valuable farmland. This represents, nationally, the highest percentage of farmland enrolled in a permanent preservation program in relation to total state land area. This team implemented two program firsts. The first web-based geographic information system to track and disseminate geographically orientated data. And, the team developed the first web-based data base system, which tracks and documents every aspect of the preservation program.