

The Homework Helper's program wins national award!



The Alliance for Community Media has selected New Bedford Cable Network (NBCN) to receive a national award for the daily educational program, "Homework Helpers." The live show is produced and filmed by NBCN staff and is hosted by New Bedford Public Schools teachers who provide real-time guidance to students.

Each year, the Hometown Media Awards honors and promotes community media, and local cable programs that are distributed on Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) access cable television channels. Awards are presented to creative programs that address community needs, develop diverse community involvement, challenge conventional commercial television formats and move viewers to experience television in a different way.

This year, more than 800 entries were submitted in 30 categories. New Bedford's Homework Helpers program won the top prize in the Live Format category.

Mayor Jon Mitchell said of the recognition, "Homework Helpers is a terrific show and an important tool in connecting what goes on in our schools with what goes on at home." He added, "I could not be more proud of NBCN. The NBCN staff is committed to producing quality public television for New Bedford residents and their efforts have not gone unnoticed. Channels 17, 18, and 95 link residents to important activities in government and education and serve as an outlet for community engagement and communication."



Homework Helpers is a live show hosted by New Bedford Public Schools teachers who provide guidance to students seeking help with their homework, is currently in its second season. Current and retired New Bedford Public Schools teachers host the half-hour call-in show on New Bedford's Education Channel 17 and provide helpful instruction and advice to students tackling difficult homework questions.

Students may call into the show with their questions four days a week from 5-5:30 p.m. at (508) 979-1600. Students may also e-mail questions to homeworkhelpers@newbedfordschools.org or leave a voice message either before or after the show airs. The show is rebroadcast at 7:30 the same night, and 7:30 the next morning.

Hosts of the Homework Helpers and New Bedford Public Schools teachers include Amy Furtado, Cindy Goodfellow, George Goodfellow, Kristina Dahlene, Estelle Mota, Eileen Diggle, Marcia Guy, Sharon Pinho, Kelly Freitas, Ashley Hebert and Armand Viera.