

# Schwartz Center Honored Two Volunteers at Annual Appreciation Breakfast



*In the photo attached (from left to right):  
Kenneth Shwartz, Margaret Alden-Roderick,  
Mary Hodgson*

On Friday, December 13, 2013, the Schwartz Center for Children hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast and honored two special volunteers, Margaret Alden-Roderick and Kenneth Shwartz. Margaret received the Carol J. Almeida Award for outstanding employee volunteerism, and Kenneth received the Constance D. Mello Award, presented annually to honor an outstanding contribution which furthers the mission of the Schwartz Center.

“When I think of employee volunteerism, Margaret easily comes to my mind. Margaret is known to donate unbelievable after school and evening hours, as well as many of her days off. Margaret has almost single-handedly designed, coordinated and implemented our children’s annual summer Carnival, sponsored

by the Family Involvement Committee. Whether she is organizing a small or large group of volunteers, Margaret makes each person feel like part of the team. She is always up for the challenge of organizing the annual carnival, keeping meticulously detailed notebooks and computer files. She gives of herself week after week, months prior to the event and oversees all of the details," says Carol J. Almeida. "Thank you, Margaret, for bringing the carnival to life for our kids!" added Carol.

Kenneth Shwartz volunteers weekly at the Schwartz Center working directly with our children, in the physical therapy area. "Ken isn't afraid to jump right in and assist wherever and whenever needed. Our staff love working with him. He has a great understanding of our children. Ken is kind and encouraging," said Kyle Duguay, a teacher at the Center who works closely with Ken.

CEO Mary Hodgson added, "Our staff looks forward to days Ken is scheduled, not because he always arrives with boxes of donuts to share, but because he is so wonderful to work with. Anyone walking through our halls may spot Ken helping the physical therapy staff work with our children, and it's apparent how much he cares. It is a true pleasure to have Ken here to contribute to our children's progress and happiness!"

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***About Schwartz Center for Children:***

*The Schwartz Center for Children, located in Dartmouth, MA has been serving children with a variety of special medical and developmental needs in Southeastern Massachusetts since 1947. Services include a year-round Day School, an Early Intervention Program, Outpatient Rehabilitation Services, a Regional Consultation Program, Pediatric Specialty Clinics, and a variety of other programs. For more information visit: [schwartzcenter.org](http://schwartzcenter.org).*

