

JOHN W. BECKLEY TO RECEIVE VERICE M. MASON COMMUNITY SERVICE LEADER AWARD ON BEHALF OF HUNTERDON COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH

Lawrenceville, NJ – January 6, 2009 – Paul J. Hirsch, MD, Chairman of the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation, today announced that John W. Beckley, MPH, will receive the Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award on behalf of Hunterdon County Partnership for Health. The award will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton.

The Verice M. Mason Community Service Leader Award is presented to an organization that demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to improving the health and welfare of the citizens of New Jersey; and to an individual representing that organization who has personified, led and/or provided the vision for that organization. John Beckley, MPH, has been practicing public health for over 30 years, and has been the Public Health Director for Hunterdon County since 1985. Mr. Beckley has been deeply involved in helping to meet many emerging public health challenges in New Jersey. In 1995, he co-founded the Hunterdon County Partnership for Health with Robert Wise of Hunterdon Medical Center and Dr. Bernadette West of Local Advisory Board IV. This “healthier community” initiative was among the first in the state and helped to establish relationships and partnerships that continue to serve the health needs of county residents to this day. Mr. Beckley presently serves as the President of the New Jersey Association of County Health Officers.

“Mr. Beckley unquestionably merits recognition for the many contributions he has made to the residents of Hunterdon County,” said Dr. Hirsch. “His leadership and the many accomplishments of the Partnership for Health have impacted even those residents who have never come in contact with the Medical Center or Department of Health directly.”

The other 2009 awardees include:

- Edward J. Ill Physician’s Award®: Kenneth G. Swan, MD
- Peter W. Rodino, Jr., Citizen’s Award®: Fred M. Jacobs, MD, JD
- Outstanding Medical Educator Award: Nagaswami S. Vasan, DVM, PhD
- Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Clinical Research: Joseph R. Bertino, MD
- Outstanding Medical Research Scientist Award for Basic Biomedical Research: Aaron J. Shatkin, PhD
- Outstanding Medical Executive Award: Gary S. Carter, FACHE
- Special Award: Jill A. Lipoti, PhD, for protecting the people of New Jersey from unnecessary exposure to radiation from natural and man-made sources

The awards will be presented at the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Awards® ceremony on May 6, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. To purchase tickets or advertisements for the event or to learn more about the awards, contact the Edward J. Ill Excellence in Medicine Foundation at 609-803-2350 or visit www.EJlawards.org. Profits from this year’s event will benefit the Community Food Bank of New Jersey and the Joetta Clark Diggs Sports Foundation’s Head 2 Toe Fitness Program. The awards program is sponsored by MDAdvantage Insurance Company of New Jersey, a leading provider of medical professional liability insurance in New Jersey.