

REMEMBERING AND HONORING JAN OGLIETTI

Jan began her career in the field of education, most appropriately as a classroom teacher. As her life will attest, she was always teaching, mentoring and inspiring both the young and the old. She was one of the first advocates and voices in the field of prevention, testifying in front of Congress. She found the love of her life in an Air Force officer, Anthony Oglietti. Their love and remarkable friendship began an adventure of 34 years that eventually brought them to Summerville, South Carolina. During one of their military assignments Jan and Tony were sent to Alaska. Jan continued to make her mark in the field of substance abuse in this remote area of our country. In Alaska, Jan was honored by the School Of Addiction Studies in Anchorage, which named their annual award as the "Janice Oglietti Professional Woman of the Year Award". In 1984, Jan was hired as the Director of Prevention Services for the Dorchester Alcohol and Drug Commission. Thus began her many contributions to the state of South Carolina, and more specifically to the residents of Dorchester County. On a local level Jan began to network, to assess needs and to identify those who could help her accomplish her goals. She was tireless in those things she believed in, rarely taking no for an answer, just finding a new way to tackle the problem. She was instrumental in the creation of three unique initiatives that would lead to the creation of organizations with the mission to address these specific problems. The first was the Smoke-Free Lowcountry Coalition. This tobacco coalition is one of the oldest of its kind in the state, created in 1989, the same year the Clean Indoor Air Coalition was formed at the state level. More specific to Dorchester County, Jan began two projects, Palmetto Youth Leadership and S.T.A.R.S. (Summerville Takes A Responsible Stand).



The Palmetto Youth Leadership project began in 1997 with the concept of teaching young people about their county. The S.T.A.R.S. Board was begun by Jan to address the issues of substance abuse and underage drinking in the Summerville area. Jan worked tirelessly for all the students within that district by helping to educate them, their parents and other members of the community about these issues. Her work on awareness activities associated with "Red Ribbon" will also never be forgotten. She organized and implemented all of Dorchester County's Red Ribbon celebrations through proclamations, presentations, media events, festivals and the famous larger than life ribbon that has always adorned the Dorchester County Services Building each October. On the state level, Jan served as one of the "Founders" of the South Carolina Association of Prevention Professionals and Advocates or SCAPPA. In 1996 Jan along with others in the field helped create the SCAPPA Certification Process, to promote the field of prevention and to address the needs of prevention professionals throughout the state. Jan was passionate about new prevention professionals and spent numerous hours guiding and mentoring them through their certification process. The SCAPPA board recently renamed the "Rising Star Award", given to the brightest and best of the prevention professionals in the field with less than 5 years experience, as the "Jan Oglietti Rising Star Award".