



PEOPLE

you should know



Jennifer Welch Brushafer - 2019 Inductee



Jennifer (Welch) Brushafer graduated in 1990 from DHS. She then attended Immaculata University where she received a B.A. degree in Business Administration and Economics in 1994. After working at GE Capital in Philadelphia, Jennifer returned to the area in 1998 to raise her family and begin her altruistic endeavors. These efforts began in Jennifer's home. After the birth of their two children in 1999 and 2000, she and her husband, Rob, welcomed three foster children who they adopted in 2004. They have also opened their doors as a host family to the NYS Festival of Balloons pilots every year since 2001.

Jennifer continued her volunteering efforts at the St. Mary's School in Dansville when her children enrolled in school there. Jennifer poured her time into fundraising efforts including cash raffles, Heroes for Hire and the successful Valley Affair events.

Jennifer was also the President of the Catholic Schools of Dansville Alumni Association (2002-2005). After St. Mary's School closed, her children attended Lima Christian School. Jennifer took her organizational skills and generous heart there as she became involved in numerous fundraising and school events over the years.

Jennifer's dedication and commitment to Dansville's youth is evident beyond the school walls. In 2011 Jennifer launched the annual Sunshine Softball game and later in 2015 helped start the Sunshine Swimming event with her son. These sporting activities provided opportunities for students with physical or intellectual challenges to compete alongside peers. Their participation prompted Jennifer's philosophy to place "service above self". In 2011 she devoted her time to helping her daughter create the Santa Hat Society. This group assists families who have experienced a traumatic loss, on-going medical needs or other financial hardships by providing a Christmas that these children might not otherwise have.

These experiences, along with her selfless spirit led Jennifer to donate a kidney to her former teacher, Sue Mettler, in 2018. Jennifer and Sue actively educate and encourage others to join the NYS Organ Donor Registry. By giving of herself and investing her time wherever there is a need, Jennifer Brushafer continues to be an inspirational community member.