

For Immediate Release September 10, 2025 Contact: Krystin Blauch (717) 761-0702 krystin@wschamber.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE TWO RECIPENTS OF THE 2025 WEST SHORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUMINARY AWARDS!

CAMP HILL, PA: Congratulations to all the outstanding nominees for the Shining Star and Visionary Awards for the West Shore Chamber of Commerce's annual Luminary Awards Luncheon held on September 4, 2025! The West Shore Chamber honored nine individuals nominated by their peers because of their excellence in their work environment and the community. The 2025 Shining Star Award nominees were: Essence Doucet, JMA Resources Inc; Autumn Lang, Capital Blue Cross; Tristin Milazzo, Members 1st Federal Credit Union; Kelly R. Palmer; and Lori Krause Renne, UPMC Central PA. The 2025 Visionary Award nominees were: Janet Anderson, Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation; Dr. Linda Fedrizzi-Williams, Central Penn College; Mary Elise Kuna, Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authorities; and Christine Pavlakovich, Members 1st Federal Credit Union. Voted on in a blind review process by our committee, Kelly R. Palmer was the recipient of the Shining Star Award and Janet Anderson of the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation received the Visionary Award. Midwest Food Bank and Leadership Cumberland were the two nonprofits chosen by the recipients to receive a portion of the proceeds from the event.



[From Left to Right: Janet Anderson, Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation and Kelly R. Palmer]

Shining Star Award Recipient

Kelly R. Palmer

Kelly doesn't wait for permission to reimagine what's possible. As Angela Davis said, "I'm no longer accepting the things I cannot change. I'm changing the things I cannot accept." That quote reflects how Kelly approaches her work, her community, and the systems she's determined to make better. Driven by big ideas, equity, and connection, Kelly has spent her career helping people navigate complex systems, break down barriers, and create space for voices too often left out. She believes in building systems where everyone can thrive. Whether she's mentoring students interested in public facing careers or shaping thoughtful land use decisions on her local planning commission, she's constantly asking: Who is being left out, and how can we do better? Kelly also serves on the Cumberland County Commission for Women, where she brings people together across political and organizational lines to address issues like housing, childcare, and civic engagement. A strong advocate for mentoring young women and girls, she believes that when girls see women in leadership and are given the confidence, tools, and support to lead themselves, entire communities benefit. Kelly was proud to work for PPL Electric Utilities, a company that shows up for its communities every day. She's grateful to be part of an organization that empowers her to lead this work with purpose and impact. Kelly believes we all have a role to play. Change doesn't start with permission – it starts with people. So, step up, speak out, and get involved. Your voice matters.

Visionary Award Recipient

Janet Anderson, Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation

Janet has been the Executive Director of the Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation (CAEDC) for two years, after starting as the Director of Economic Development. She oversees the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau, Cumberland Area Economic Development, and administrative activities. Janet specializes in business planning, exporting, foreign direct investment, small business lending, workforce development, and administration. She has held roles in the Governor's Office, Senator Jane Earll's Office, the PA Department of Community and Economic Development, the PA Department of Labor and Industry as Deputy Secretary of Administration, the Gannon Small Business Development Center, Northwest PA Regional Planning Commission, and the Northwest PA Workforce Development Board. Janet earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Penn State University and several master's certificates from George Washington University and the American Graduate School of International Management, Thunderbird School. She is dedicated to her community and has volunteered with the Erie Airport Authority, the Governor's Transportation Advisory Committee, local non-profits, and as a Deacon and Sunday School Teacher.

to make this event possible. In addition, we would like to thank Conte Photography who took the photos for this event along with Alicia Richards of abc27 for emceeing the event.

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About The West Shore Chamber of Commerce

The West Shore Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic business organization that advances member success, influences issues and exemplifies strong business performance. The Chamber represents, promotes and facilitates business for the community. To learn more about the West Shore Chamber of Commerce, visit wschamber.org.