



Montrones honored at City Year NH benefit: Nearly \$250,000 raised for dropout prevention

By STAFF REPORT
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New Castle — City Year New Hampshire honored Paul and Sandra Montrone with a Lifetime of Service Award at its annual Starry Starry Night benefit gala March 26, recognizing the Seacoast couple for their long history of supporting non-profit and community organizations.

On hand to present the award were Bill Shaheen and Mother Paul Marie of St. Charles Children's Home in Rochester, an intermediate group home for children from families in crisis that Mrs. Montrone has supported for many years.

The historic Wentworth by the Sea Resort hosted the black-tie gala, which raised more than \$240,000 for City Year New Hampshire through ticket sales, sponsorships and live and silent auctions. City Year New Hampshire Co-Executive Director Alexandra Allen said, "This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year, but it is also intended to celebrate our corps members for their passion and idealism, to appreciate the corporate sponsors and individuals who make our work possible, and to recognize members of the New Hampshire community who have demonstrated the leadership and commitment to service that City Year seeks to instill in its corps members."

Allen explained that Paul and Sandra Montrone have both demonstrated these qualities continually throughout their lives. Mr. Montrone has directed the development of numerous public and private companies and has participated in health care policy matters at the national level, including



Paul Montrone speaks after receiving, with wife Sandra, the Lifetime of Service Award. The award was presented by Bill Shaheen and Mother Paul Marie of St. Charles Children's Home in Rochester
(CITY YEAR NEW HAMPSHIRE)

membership on a Presidential Commission. He is also founder of New Hampshire's own Live Free or Die Alliance, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that promotes the civil exchange of opinions and provides objective information about issues and candidates.

Mrs. Montrone, who began her career as a teacher, was an active volunteer in the Hampton Falls school system, and was a founder and President of Seacoast Hospice, a volunteer organization that earned national recognition when it was selected as a distinguished service organization by the United Nations and named a Point of Light by the first President Bush. President Clinton appointed Mrs. Montrone to the President's Advisory Committee on the arts in 1995, and she was an Incorporator of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

from 1984 to 2002.

City Year New Hampshire corps members work to address the dropout crisis by mentoring and tutoring at-risk students in the classroom and by leading after-school and weekend programs designed to keep kids interested in their community, excited about school, and on track to graduation and life success.

Throughout the evening, guests were treated to spirited presentations by City Year corps members and alumni, an animated live auction emceed by WMUR's Tom Griffith, and moving testimonials by the corps members and the elementary school youth who have been positively affected by their service.