



2006

LONG ISLAND ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

MATTIE ANGUS

Born in Marion, South Carolina, Mattie Angus has four children and eleven grandchildren. A former Head Start parent and a present day Head Start grandparent, she has worked for the Long Island Head Start for thirty eight (38) years.

Ms. Angus has contributed a great deal of her professional career to improving the quality of life for children and families in various communities. She planned and implemented workshops including "Dressing for Success" and Ethics and Professional Standards as well as various training on housing, employment, and health services. Mattie was chosen as a member of a Head Start Delegation to Russia where she visited cities such as Saint Petersburg and Moscow to bring the concept of "Head Start" to that part of the world. In 1987 she was transferred to the Central Brookhaven Head Start center and promoted to Center Manager where she supervised 17 staff/volunteers and approximately 67 preschool children ages 3-5 years. In 1989, Mrs. Angus was transferred back to the Amityville Head Start center as Center Manager where she supervised 24 staff/volunteers and 124 preschool children ages 3-5 years.

Ms. Angus has worked in several communities in Suffolk County as a Head Start center worker. She has developed community partnerships with various organizations such as churches and school districts in an effort to establish programs that focus on improving education of the children and families of the Head Start program. Through Head Start, Mattie was able to establish a computer lab at the Amityville Center for parents, staff, and community members so that they can learn and increase their computer skills in order to better compete in the job market.

Mrs. Angus was "*raised in the church,*" and has held many positions in the various churches that she attended. She has been a contributing member of The First United Christian Church since 1966; has held the position of Secretary on the Women of Faith Ministry Group and a prayer partner; is a member and past Chairperson of the Trustee Board; a Deaconess; President of the Usher Board; assisted in the organization of United Christian Church's Outreach Ministry which began in 1997; is a member of the United Christian Church Choir, and in October 2005, became a licensed Evangelist.

She received her Bachelors degree in 1981 but her quest for knowledge never ceased. She re-enrolled in Empire State College, completing additional coursework in Early Childhood Education that was required to graduate from their Administrators Credentialing program.