

Central Jersey People News

Hughes named new Alternatives trustee

STAFF REPORT

As executive director of the PeopleCare Center in Bridgewater, Marie L. Hughes has been familiar with the work of Alternatives Inc. for many years. But when her 5-year-old grandson, Ethan, was diagnosed with cerebral palsy, the Bridgewater resident knew it was an organization she wanted to help lead.

"Ethan lives in North Carolina so he will not benefit from Alternatives, but I realize that when he is an adult he will need the kind of services they offer," Hughes said. "There are thousands of Ethans out there that need our support. When the need strikes home like that, you just realize that we have to help people with special needs."

Hughes was recently appointed to the board of trustees of Alternatives, a regional nonprofit social service organization that provides a wide range of services for people with special needs, primarily adults with development disabilities and mental illness.

She joined the PeopleCare Center in 1998 as executive director and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A longtime Hillsborough resident before relocating to Bridgewater, Hughes was named the Outstanding Businesswoman of Somerset County in 2004.

previously served on the organization's board. The center is a private nonprofit organization that provides a physical plant to house nonprofit agencies and organizations at below market cost.

A longtime Hillsborough resident before relocating to Bridgewater, Hughes was named the Outstanding Businesswoman of Somerset County in 2004. She is actively involved with the Somerville/Bridgewater Rotary and Court Appointed Special Advocates. Hughes is a graduate of Berkeley College.

More information on is available by calling 908-685-1444 or by visiting www.alternativesinc.org.