

Service industry professionals honored at awards program

By **JIM MARSH**
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Eight service industry professionals received SUITS awards March 28 for showing “horsepower” in their service sector.

The horsepower designation was a play on words by the awards program organizers, Equi-librium, of Sciota. Equi-librium is a nonprofit organization founded in 2001 to offer equine-assisted (horse related) activities for special needs children and adults.

Horsepower is defined by the organizers as the energy, expertise and resources to get the job done, with savings of significant human or financial resources.

Equi-librium is the successor organization to an Easter Seals program called RISE, which began as a therapy horse organization in 1982. Profits from the program benefit Equi-librium’s therapeutic riding programs.

Participants in Equi-librium’s programs have conditions such as cerebral palsy, autism, social-emotional difficulties, developmental delays, stroke, MS, and visual impairments, said Polly Beste, chairperson of Equi-librium. Many have multiple diagnoses, and their ages range from 4 to 74.



Photo by Jim Marsh

Award winners Tina Hamilton, left, president of HireVision and Attorney Buddy Lesavoy, right, chat with Fred Beste of Mid-Atlantic Venture Fund at the SUITS awards program, held March 28 at Daniels BMW showroom in Allentown.

Service industry sectors highlighted by the awards are: accounting; banks/financial services; insurance; legal; marketing/adver-

tising/design; management consulting; and service to the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley. The awards grow out of a

nomination and judging process.

“The event is unique in that it celebrates the success of, and promotes the fundamental importance of, best business practices in the Lehigh Valley business community,” Beste said.

The award recipients were:

- Accounting: Curt Sannie of Kerchner, Homa, Sannie & Co, Allentown;
- Banks/Financial Services: Tom Mazur of Financial Planning Services, Bethlehem;
- Human Resources: Tina Hamilton of hireVision Group, Whitehall;
- Insurance: David Dyson of HMK Insurance, Bethlehem;
- Legal: Buddy Lesavoy of Lamm, Rubenstone, Lesavoy, Butz & David, LLC, Allentown;
- Management Consulting: Watson Hart, volunteer for ProJeCt of Easton;
- Marketing/Advertising/Design: Anthony Taibi of Workhorse Design, Lehighton; and
- Turning the Curve (United Way award): Michael Keenan of Keenan-Nagle Advertising, Allentown

For more information on the Equi-librium program, visit the group’s Web site at: www.equi-librium.org.