



### **Abby Daly 2015 Literacy Champion**

Abby Daly is the Founder and Executive Director of the Bridge of Books Foundation, an all-volunteer non-profit organization. Over its 12-year history the foundation has delivered nearly 500,000 books into the hands of underserved children in order to inspire a love of books and support literacy skills.

In 2014 Abby's work was recognized when she was named a "New Jersey Hero" by the New Jersey Heroes Initiative (founded and chaired by NJ First Lady, Mary Pat Christie). Most recently, she presented a talk titled "Books: Bridging the Gap" at the TEDxNavesink 2015 symposium at Monmouth University.

Abby is a graduate of Smith College and Dickinson School of Law. After pursuing children's rights cases for several years, she left the practice of law in 2001 to be home with her children. Bringing the Bridge of Books to New Jersey provided a perfect vehicle for her to remain involved with at-risk children, to pursue her love of reading and to expose her children to the concept of giving back to the community.

Abby has supported Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County by providing our Family Literacy programs with books for the children of the parents who are receiving free tutoring in English literacy skills. By improving their English skills and providing their children with books of their own to have in their homes, Abby champions the love of reading. Abby still lives in the house where she grew up with her husband, Fran, and children Ellen and Lang.

Literacy Volunteers of Monmouth County is proud to award Abby Daly with our Literacy Champion Award for 2015 and we thank her Bridge of Books Foundation for their generosity and support to LV Monmouth's literacy programs.