FSL Volunteer Star Award 2023: Evelyn Mattal

In 2010 Evelyn Mattal joined the then newly formed SeniorNet Annex in East Yaphank as a coach. Shortly after she became an instructor of Computer Basics and also developed a new curriculum for more advanced students.

Evelyn developed a curriculum for the newly formed Mobile Learning Classroom (MLC) targeted at 55+ communities in Brookhaven, Ridge, and the Bellport Annex as SeniorNet continued to expand into underserved communities on the East End of Long Island. During this transition Evelyn supervised while also staying hands-on teaching classes; a harbinger of her drive and dedication to teaching in SeniorNet.

With a growing demand for more MLC classes, Evelyn became project manager for the East End locations and in 2016 she opened the Henrietta Acampora Community Center location in Blue Point. In addition, she assembled a team of instructors and coaches to serve the eastern south shore of Long Island. Currently, she also oversees and teaches at FSL Bay Shore, another SeniorNet learning center.

In 2016, Evelyn was recognized by SeniorNet National leadership as a member of the team that won their curriculum award in excellence and innovation.

In 2017 Evelyn received the Phyllis Haber Award and she was elected co-coordinator of Education.

In 2019 Evelyn was elected as Co-Coordinator of SeniorNet.

In 2020 Evelyn piloted SeniorNet through a Cat 5 hurricane named "The Pandemic" by pivoting us to Zoom for classes and seminars, therefore, keeping both students and volunteers actively engaged during the shutdown. Also in 2020, she received the Bill Baker Excellence in Education Award.

In 2023, Evelyn supervised the return to in-person classes. Currently, she continues to expand to new sites in the East End as well as new programs, such as library-hosted classes that expand SeniorNet's reach to new students.

Under Evelyn's leadership, SeniorNet has grown and continues to flourish and serve our primary mission, teaching seniors technology. Thank you Evelyn!