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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Connecticut Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs awards Sooz DeLeon "Opening the Door" Leader Award

**Shelton, CT, October 1, 2018** – The Connecticut Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs and the Connecticut Area Council held its annual leadership dinner on Wednesday, September 26.

The awards honored ten Boys & Girls Club Board members throughout the state of Connecticut for leadership, dedication, and service to clubs.

Sooz DeLeon of the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley was among those honored. Sooz has been actively involved for nearly 20 years. The Club became a second home to her children when she moved to Shelton, a recently divorced, full-time employed mother of two.

Sooz was content that the Club was not only a safe environment but had counselors and mentors that were there to help. Both of her children became involved in every aspect of the Club, including work as they grew older.

Sooz joined the Board as a way to give back and never left. Sooz has served as a Board member for 17 years, including a 3-year term as President. She is currently serving as Secretary. She has served on most committees, including the John "Red" Larsen Golf Classic, Herbie Rollinson Memorial 5K Run-Walk, Executive, Personnel, and Governance, as well as serving as chairman of our 60th Anniversary Gala committee.

Sooz's passion isn't limited to our Boys & Girls Club though. She is also involved with the March of Dimes and TEAM Inc. Sooz has been employed at Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company for the past 25 years as a Paralegal and Compliance Specialist, and has been a part of Iroquois' annual United Way campaign committee for more than 20 years. Iroquois also strongly believes in community support; the company received our Champion of Youth Award in 2009.

The Connecticut Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs provides a mechanism for joint decision making and cooperative action among the 17 organizations in the state and seeks to promote and strengthen relationships with public and private agencies in order to increase support for clubs.

For more information about the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, please visit us at www.BGC-LNV.org.





Pictured front row (left to right) Jennifer DeLeon, Shaye Roscoe, Jim Queen, Fred & Lisa Serra. Back row (left to right) Lisa Savoid, Joe Pagliaro, Bill Miller