

# Solid Ground's 2012 Year-End Employee Awards

## LEADERSHIP AWARD 2012:

**Marcy Bowers**

Statewide Poverty Action Network Program Manager

Marcy is a visionary for our agency and community. Her ability to build a movement of people from all walks of our service spectrum, and from all abilities and backgrounds, is an incredible asset to Solid Ground. She is a recognized leader on economic justice and racial equity who has guided Poverty Action to important changes in legislation for our clients and state. She successfully works across departments and is seen as an important contributor in our community.



## LEADERSHIP AWARD 2012:

**Dee Hillis**

Broadview Program Director

Dee is a positive and knowledgeable leader at Broadview and Solid Ground. She has an amazing presence with donors and is constantly seeking new ways to enrich services for Broadview clients. Through her outreach efforts, local partner Girls Giving Back has remodeled all 31 units at Broadview so residents have clean and newly remodeled living spaces. Her demonstrated leadership skills have influenced several Solid Ground programs. She inspires our clients and ensures that they succeed, while at the same time providing a positive work experience for her staff. She is a joy to work with!



## SERVICE AWARD 2012:

**Yolanda Mendez**

Seattle Personal Transit (SPT) Operator

Yolanda has over nine years of safe driving and numerous customer commendations. Most importantly, she makes the time to be actively involved with making SPT a better place to work! She serves as an operator coach, teaching our new operators how to do their jobs efficiently and effectively. She participates on the Safety Committee, bringing new ideas to the forefront and brainstorming possible solutions. Every day, she shows up at work and solicits information from other drivers to solve problems and improve safety. She has organized a work bulletin board with helpful driver tips and publishes a newsletter called, "Extra Board" to keep drivers informed. Yolanda definitely serves Solid Ground in a positive light!



## SERVICE AWARD 2012:

**Edlira Kuka**

Tenant Housing Counselor

Edlira consistently shows up to work with positive energy, and lots of it! She is actively involved in the advocacy portion of Homeless Prevention Programs' work and attends meetings with tenant attorneys and other advocates to help change the laws that adversely affect our clients. She is extremely knowledgeable, compassionate with clients and her coworkers, and very efficient at her job. Her compassion and desire to help our community extends beyond the work at Solid Ground as she also volunteers in our community.



## RACIAL JUSTICE AWARD 2012:

**Marita I. DeLeon**

Mortgage Housing Counselor

Marita has shown great strength and leadership to continue the efforts of the Anti-Racism Initiative (ARI) at Solid Ground. She represents Solid Ground on the City of Seattle's Race and Social Justice Initiative Core Team IV. Also, she worked on the ARI evaluation team this past year, helping staff members to trust the process would be authentic and transparent. Marita brings creative and critical thought to difficult discussions. She helps further those discussions to encourage learning opportunities. Marita has a gift for meeting people where they are and gracefully turning any moment into an opportunity to grow.



***Congratulations to all employees nominated. Thank you all for the services you provide to our agency, coworkers and clients! We couldn't do it without you!***