



Laurel Bush
Family Dentistry

DOCTOR
MARY TEDDY WRAY

Dedicated to Serving
Our Community



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As a healthy, vibrant community, I think we all understand the importance of giving back. Many of us have found ways to contribute, fitting what efforts we can into our hectic schedules. Occasionally though, someone will rise to the forefront, showing almost super-human effort and dedication to serving others in their community. Dr. Mary Teddy Wray, is a perfect example of such commitment, and her efforts have not gone unnoticed.

On March 7th, Dr. Wray was honored as the recipient of the 2014 Athena Award, hosted by Harford Community College. The Athena Award is presented to a Harford County woman who provides valuable service to the community, demonstrates professional excellence and promotes leadership opportunities for women and business in our community - qualities Dr. Wray demonstrates in a multitude of ways.

Dr. Wray's journey to Harford County started in a politically unstable Uganda. As a young woman she witnessed oppression and violence... especially towards women. When a local priest and family friend offered her the opportunity to attend boarding school in New York, she made the decision to leave her family and everything she had known for a chance at a better life. She graduated high school cum laude. Determined to succeed, Dr. Wray continued on to college. With family and friends thousands of miles away, she was forced to work menial jobs and long hours to make her academic dreams come true. After receiving a Bachelor of Science degree from New York University, she forged on, and achieved a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Georgetown University.

She opened a dental practice in Towson, and sold it a few years later, migrating to Harford County in 2001, where she established Laurel Bush Family Dentistry. Referred to as "Dr. Teddy" by her patients, Dr. Wray has been practicing here for over thirteen years. She has wasted no time getting involved in the community, donating countless hours and financial resources to various local charities and organizations.

"When I opened my practice, I didn't have a single patient, or know anyone in Harford County. The community embraced me and helped me build my business and my life here," she explained.

On April 10th, Dr. Wray was honored by the Association of Fundraising Professionals who recognized her as the 2014 Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser. She will also be receiving The Daily Record Maryland's Top 100 Women Award on May 5th. But to Dr. Wray, it's not about the recognition, it's about the service. "Giving back to the community is how I express my gratitude, for all the wonderful support I received over the years," she said.

Dr. Wray sits on dozens of boards and supports more causes than we can mention. Her dedication to the needs of women and children is well known. She is also a staunch supporter of the arts, and loves to ballroom dance in her spare time. She lives in a lovely home in Bel Air with her two sons, and somehow manages to juggle it all. To give you



2014 Athena Awards - Center for the Arts Board Members (l-r) Laura Musser • Athena Winner, Dr. Mary Teddy Wray Kathy Smith (CFTA CEO) • Tracy Hart • Carolyn Evans

an idea of the magnitude of her dedication, I've listed just a few of her current accomplishments and endeavors.

Dr. Mary Teddy Wray - Making a Difference in Harford County

- Harford Friends School - Board Member
Established Dazzle & Denim Fundraiser in 2013 raising over \$23,000
- Center for the Arts - Board Vice-President
Celebrity Dancer & Top Fundraiser for 2010
- FCCAU - A Welcome One Emergency Shelter
Supports the only full-service emergency homeless shelter in Harford County
- SARC - Board Member
Sponsors and supports the organization including treating its clients
- Upper Chesapeake Health Foundation & The Children's Hospital at Johns Hopkins
- Harford Community College Dental Program
Supports students by hosting students & interns at her practice
- Harford Family House
Generous donations
- The Homecoming Project
Fundraises & volunteers her time at this transition home/program for recovering women addicts
- The Harford County Public Library
- Greater Excellence in Education Foundation
Annual Sponsor

"I think I spend as much time on my volunteer work as I do my dental practice, but I wouldn't have it any other way," said Dr. Wray.

Dr. Wray's dental practice doesn't seem to have suffered from any lack of attention. In the thirteen years since she founded Laurel Bush Family Dentistry, she has grown it into a thriving business. Four more dentists have joined her practice, including pediatric specialists. "It is very much a family atmosphere around the office," she said. "We owe our success to our patients and our staff is dedicated to providing each with personal, quality care."