

## **Dr. Timothy Stone Award for Public Health speech honoring Lisa Braccio and Carol Willoughby**

***Presentation by Board of Health member Liz Zulick at Southborough's 2024 Annual Town Meeting on March 23, 2024***

"It is with great honor and gratitude that we gather here today to celebrate the tireless efforts and unwavering commitment of the individuals who exemplify the true spirit of Public Health Service.

The Dr. Timothy Stone Award for Public Health recognizes those whose dedication to serving their communities knows no bounds. This year we're privileged to honor two extraordinary individuals whose actions have left a mark on the lives of many. In the face of uncertainty they rose to the occasion, embodying the values of compassion, resilience, and public service.

This past August as our communities face the challenges brought forth by unprecedented circumstances, these two exceptional volunteers stepped forward without hesitation. Amidst the chaos they provided a beacon of hope and assistance to those in need. Their unwavering commitment to serving the most vulnerable among us was evident as they dedicated themselves wholeheartedly to the task at hand. Through their involvement in the Medical Reserve Corps and the Community Emergency Response Team that not only offered logistical support but also extended a compassionate hand to those who had nothing. . .

Their efforts were instrumental in providing essential human services to 20 migrant families and a total of 75 individuals of all ages who found themselves in dire need of assistance, including shelter, sustenance, and care. Each day they worked tirelessly demonstrating unparalleled dedication and empathy as they supported those migrant families.

While countless volunteers rallied to offer their support during this crisis, Lisa Braccio and Carol Willoughby stood out amongst them. Their selfless actions serve as a testament to the power of community and their profound impact that individuals can have when they come together for the greater good.

Today as we bestow them with the Dr. Timothy Stone Award for Public Health, let us not only celebrate their remarkable achievements but also take inspiration from their example. May their unwavering dedication to serving others continue to inspire us all to strive for a healthier more compassionate world.

Please join me in congratulating Lisa Braccio and Carol Willoughby for their extraordinary contributions to public health."