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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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## *House of Representatives*

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION

**J. GARY DECOMO**

HON. MIKE KELLY  
of pennsylvania  
in the house of representatives  
Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Mr. J. Gary DeComo. Since 1994, Gary has honorably served as Magisterial District Judge for the 33rd District in Armstrong County. However, his dedication to the community goes far beyond the judicial system.

Also in 1994, after seeing and sentencing countless drug offenders, Judge DeComo began his crusade against drug use and established the Drugs Kill Dreams program, in order to educate and distribute his drug prevention messages. The mission of the Drugs Kill Dreams program is to make our youth and community aware of the dangers and destruction of drug usage.

Driven by the belief that if we increase prevention we will decrease addiction and crime, Judge DeComo strives to reach as many individuals as possible. Remarkably, the Drugs Kill Dreams program has become a collective effort throughout the entire community. This success can be attributed to Judge DeComo's dedication to creating partnerships that promote the Drugs Kill Dreams mission and contribute to its overall success. Drugs Kill Dreams has flourished due to collaborations with various schools, churches, treatment centers, law enforcement agencies and hospitals - Including the Armstrong County Memorial Hospital (ACMH), which has been the programs most significant and influential relationship.

Throughout the years, Judge DeComo has adapted and updated the Drugs Kill Dreams program, to ensure the content is relevant and that the needs of the community are addressed. Although the

program continues to be modified and altered appropriately, Judge DeComo's sincere passion for this initiative remains the same.

In serving the judicial system, the community, and all of those in need, Judge DeComo is an absolute inspiration. His compassion and generosity has positively influenced the lives of so many, and will continue to do so for years to come. Therefore, on behalf of the Third Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I would like to express sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Honorable J. Gary DeComo, an admirable professional, a selfless individual, and a true Community Champion.

