



**2014 National Women's History Month Celebration  
March 31, 2014**

Women's History Month was celebrated at DOCCS with a brief presentation on March 27<sup>th</sup> followed by an award ceremony. Four staff members from various units and divisions across the state were honored for representing the very best of the department. The event began with a reading of the proclamation issued by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.



**Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci addresses the guests at the Women's History Month event.**

Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci then delivered a thoughtful speech reminiscing about his previous colleagues and he concluded with some kind remarks about Superintendent Sandra Amoia-Kowalczyk who served as the keynote speaker.

Superintendent Amoia has risen through the security ranks from a Correction Officer to now, Superintendent of Groveland Correctional Facility. In her speech she highlighted challenging moments in her career but excelled at any opportunity she had. From day one

as an officer, she was already thinking about becoming a sergeant. She presented great advice for women all throughout the department and she has an inspiring story to tell.

This year marks the 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary that the Department has recognized women of distinction for their achievements and accomplishments. There are four categories in which one can be nominated: Career Advancement, Community, Organizational and Education. DOCCS is proud of all its staff members and all their achievements within the Department and the community.

All four honorees were presented a plaque by Acting Commissioner Annucci and Deputy Commissioner Osbourne A. McKay. Their support for the agency is remarkable and in turn many staff members from across the agency came and showed their support for them! Congratulations again to all four honorees!



**Superintendent Amoia-Kowalczyk delivering the keynote address at the 2014 Women's History Month celebration.**

**[Timyiaka Waithe](#), Community Award**

Parole Officer  
Brooklyn V/Sex Offender Unit

**[Julie Goodrich](#), Education Award**

Academic Supervisor  
Attica Correctional Facility

**[Lana Jolma](#), Career Advancement Award**

Senior Parole Officer  
Central NY/Utica Area Office

**[Nancy Lyng](#), Organizational Award**

Director of Health Services  
Operations & Management

**The event in photos!**



**Kim Ghatt, Agency Training and Development Specialist II, leading off the events with a few words.**



**Lashanna Fraiser, Affirmative Action Administrator II, reading the proclamation issued by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo.**



**Honoree Lana Jolma, Senior Parole Officer, receiving the Career Advancement Award.**



**Lana Jolma is seen with fellow Community Supervision colleagues, Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci, Deputy Commissioner Tom Herzog and Regional Director Marco Ricci after the event.**



**Honoree Timyiaka Waithe, Parole Officer, receiving the Community Award.**



**From l. to r.: Deputy Commissioner Osbourne A. McKay, Timyiaka Waithe & Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci.**



Honoree Nancy Lyng with her family along with Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci, Dr. Carl Koenigsmann and Assistant Commissioner Ritter.



Nancy Lyng, Director of Health Services addressing the crowd after receiving the Organizational Award.



Julie Goodrich receiving her Education Award from Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci and Deputy Commissioner Osbourne A. McKay.



From l. to r.: Deputy Commissioner Osbourne A. McKay, Julie Goodrich & Acting Commissioner Anthony J. Annucci.