



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Connolly Named to The Governor's Prevention Partnership 2010 Mentoring Corporate Honor Roll

Wilton, CT, May 1, 2011 - Connolly was named to the [2010 Corporate Honor Roll](#) of [The Governor's Prevention Partnership](#) as a result of the efforts of five Connolly employees, and an employee's spouse. George Marrazzo, Director of Data Services; Jason Lee, Manager, Data Services; Stephanie Schwartz, HR Generalist I; Mike Spellman, Connolly Business Systems Analyst; Mike's wife Alex, and Christina Askenback, Data Center Coordinator provide ongoing volunteer mentoring to K – 12 students through the Norwalk Mentor Program.

"Connolly's mentors are absolutely terrific," said Jackie Effren, [Norwalk Mentor Program \(NMP\)](#) Director. "The mentees need a positive role model, friendship and someone who will listen, which helps them get through whatever challenges they are facing. That's exactly what I see the Connolly mentors doing so well." The Norwalk Mentor Program is conducted in partnership with [The Human Services Council](#) and the [Norwalk Public Schools](#). Those needing mentors are identified by their school social workers as being in need of extra help due to self esteem and other behavioral issues or situational challenges. Mentors can choose a student from any grade in one of the 19 Norwalk public schools. Mentors spend time each week with their assigned student playing games, engaging in structured activities, or just listening. This is [Connolly's](#) first year participating in the program which the internal Employee Activity Committee instigated. The EAC is an internal volunteer committee that provides community liaison opportunities and staff activities designed to encourage work- life balance for the nearly 200 Wilton Audit Support Center employees. The group is a highly visual representation that reinforces the [values](#) of the company.

"I got involved in the program to help a child in distress," said George Marrazzo, a member of the EAC. He mentors an eight year old boy whose father is no longer a part of the family, and who is experiencing anger issues and other difficulties. "My goal is to provide stability and act as a role model," George said.

"I work with a 12-year-old girl who lost her mother a few years ago and who attends the same middle school in Norwalk that I did," said Christina Askenback, also an EAC member. "The little girl was recently adopted and I am an adoptee, so the social workers thought we would be well matched. It has been a great experience for both of us," Christina said.

"I am mentoring a bright "at risk" 8th grader who moved from Brooklyn to Connecticut because his male role models were incarcerated," said Jason Lee, Manager, Data Services. "He had several outbursts his first year in Norwalk and was sent to a special school for six months. Now he is back in the regular school and is doing much better. His grades have gone up and he is even talking about college. I plan to mentor him next year as well."



The Norwalk Mentor Program recently celebrated “25 Years of Changing Lives” with a celebration at Norwalk’s [Stepping Stones Museum for Children](#) which drew more than 400 people. The Connolly employees who are mentors work at the company’s Audit Support Center in Wilton, Connecticut. Connolly was recently voted one of the [Best Places to Work](#) in Connecticut by the [Best Companies Group](#).

The Governor’s Prevention Partnership is a not-for-profit partnership that was created in 1989 between state government and business leaders who have a mission to keep Connecticut’s youth safe, successful and drug-free. The [Prevention Partnership](#) provides leadership and services to help schools, communities, youth organizations, colleges and businesses create and sustain quality programs in these core areas.



Norwalk Mentor Program participants affiliated with Connolly include: (L- R): the spouse of a Connolly employee, Alex Spellman; Stephanie Schwartz, Connolly HR Generalist I; George Marrazzo, Connolly Director of Data Services; Mike Spellman, Connolly Business Systems Analyst; Jackie Effren, Norwalk Mentor Program Director and Jason Lee, Connolly Manager of Data Services. Not pictured: Christina Askenback, Connolly Data Center Coordinator.

About [Connolly](#) - Headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and with offices throughout the U.S., Canada and the UK, Connolly Inc. is the world’s largest privately-held provider of recovery audit services. With more than 800 employees serving 124 clients, Connolly reviews more than a trillion transactions annually and recovers nearly a billion dollars a year in overpayments for its clients through its three lines of business - Healthcare, Retail and Commercial. In addition, Connolly reviews contracts for non-compliance and offers process improvement recommendations that mitigate future financial losses. Connolly was founded in 1979 and currently provides services for 19 of the top 20 U.S. retailers and seven of the top eight healthcare payers as well as commercial and government clients. Connolly maintains a 97% Customer Satisfaction rating, is consistently listed on the Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in America, and has twice been named “One of the Best Places to Work in Connecticut.” Connolly is a trademark of Connolly, Inc. Copyright © 2011

About the Connecticut Mentoring Partnership - In Connecticut, there are more than 190,000 children (25 percent of Connecticut youth) that have life situations that place them at risk for personal and academic failure. These situations include poverty, inadequate early



childhood experiences and preparation for school, family drug use, violence, involvement in the criminal justice system, and lack of access to needed social and mental health services, among others. Children who have ongoing relationships with caring adults are more likely to avoid alcohol or other drugs, stay in school and get good grades, have a better self-image and have better relationships with their families and friends. Many more mentors, especially men and minorities, are needed. Since its inception, CMP has:

- Created over 300 new mentoring programs
- Established a state-wide and a specialized male mentor recruitment campaign
- Initiated the Mentor Training Institute
- Established quality standards and formed Regional Mentoring Networks

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