

# Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County Honors Doctors Maloney and Mancuso



On November 19th, 2008, the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County honored Dr. Peter Mancuso and Dr. Shannon Maloney for their longtime support of the Extension and volunteer efforts performing diabetic foot screenings on Long Island.

Susan Wilk, Project Coordinator, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, credits the two podiatrists for helping reach the organization's foot education and screening goals in 2008. According to Wilk, they provided over 20 hours of their time to four collaborative events where community members with diabetes learned about foot care and prevention of the complications of diabetes through foot screenings.

In 1999, the reported rate of lower extremity amputations (LEA) per 1,000 people with diabetes in New York State was at 6.3%. The rate in Suffolk County was 7.2% and in Nassau County 6.7% - both of these higher than the state average. Data provided from the NYSPMA revealed that foot screenings could

reduce diabetes complications of the feet to include amputations by 45-85%. Upon receiving that data, the Diabetes Resource Coalition of Long Island made community foot screenings a major focus of their efforts.

Dr. Mancuso has been an active and dedicated member and friend to Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County and The Diabetes Resource Coalition of Long Island since 2000, working tirelessly with them as they developed foot screening programs.

Wilk says community foot screenings and educational events have reached thousands in Suffolk County and attendees now have a better understanding of the importance of foot care, self-checks and the role of the Podiatrist in the care plan for diabetes self-management.

“Dr. Mancuso and Dr. Maloney have been a vital part of reaching our goals, as well as being long-standing active and supportive members of the Coalition, and for their time and expertise we are truly grateful,” said Wilk.

*Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County provides leadership and administrative support for the Diabetes Resource Coalition of Long Island - an alliance of over 70 community-based organizations, agencies, businesses and healthcare professionals committed to identifying resources and raising diabetes awareness through the provision of information and education about the prevention and treatment of diabetes.*