

Richard DeRienzo '85

2008 Community Service Award



Rich DeRienzo is a servant-leader who establishes long-term commitments to causes and organizations, supporting their efforts with dedicated service. For example, he volunteered on the Leadership Rhode Island Board of Governors for a decade, including serving as Chair from 2002-2004. In the words of a colleague on the LRI board, Rich led the organization “with hard work, determination and patience.”

Rich grew up in Long Island and earned a B.S. in Accounting and a M.S. in Taxation from Bryant University. As a young accounting professional, he went through Leadership Rhode Island as a member of the 1985 Epsilon Class. Today he is a principal of Lefkowitz, Garfinkel, Champi & DeRienzo, a Providence-based firm that has strong commitment to the community.

Over his professional and volunteer career, Rich has served the community in many ways and given generously of his time and expertise. He began volunteering with the Greater Providence YMCA in the early 1980s, and since then chaired numerous committees, served as Chair of the Providence and East Side branches, and as the Metro Board Chair. Rich also serves as an ex-officio member of the Finance Committee at Meeting Street, where he has volunteered for about 20 years.

His long record of service to the Rhode Island community continues today. Rich has been a RI National Trustee of the National Jewish Medical Center for over 5 years. He served on the original committee which started Tee Off for Toys in 2003. In April 2006, he began serving on the board of Beacon Mutual Insurance Company, and now chairs the board.