## **Centerstone to honor six Community Champions**

Centerstone, a national leader in behavioral health care, has named its 2020 Community Champion Award winners. The Community Champion Award honors community leaders who have made a difference by advancing mental health and substance use disorder services through their advocacy, leadership, and service.

## **Metro-East Winner**

Steve Konopka – Taylor Marks, Centerstone's Director of Flourish and Youth & Family TREE programs, nominated Konopka for being a "key player" in getting Centerstone's TREE program – a substance, alcohol and nicotine treatment program that focuses on reducing or eliminating the use for individuals ages 12-25 – implemented at Highland High School. Marks noted, "Substance use services are now a normal treatment provided at the school and Steve not only led the school down this route, but provided education to staff members on the importance" of substance, alcohol, and nicotine treatment and prevention. Konopka was also nominated by Lindsey Ebers, former Behavioral Case Manager at Centerstone, who praised him on his "efforts to

former Behavioral Case Manager at Centerstone, who praised him on his "efforts to link youth and adolescents to needed services," and Audra Poovey, Mental Health Counselor at Centerstone, who said that Konopka "brings a brand of social work credibility seen very rarely in the field."

Please see the Centerstone Website for more details: <a href="https://centerstone.org/news-events/news/centerstone-to-honor-six-community-champions/">https://centerstone.org/news-events/news/centerstone-to-honor-six-community-champions/</a>