



Teresa Ward

Teresa's Family Cleaning

Teresa's Family Cleaning

is an award-winning Long Island home and commercial cleaning company that creates a feeling of welcome, comfort, and beauty in the homes of its valued customers, while fostering the spirit of generosity in the lives of their employees and the Long Island community.



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How it all started

In 1993 Teresa Ward started her business in the basement and garage of her own home. Today *Teresa's Family Cleaning* has grown into one of the most successful home and commercial cleaning services on Long Island, with 35 employees, 14 crews, 4 full-time office staff and a spotless reputation.

Named Small Business Person of the Year for New York State, Long Island's Top 50 Women, and recently inducted into the [**Suffolk County Women's Hall of Fame**](#), Teresa Ward is a determined business leader with a huge heart for people. Since founding Teresa's Family Cleaning in 1993, she has supported a wide variety of local charities and nonprofit organizations by donating her services to help others in need. She also was the first NY Founding Chapter of Cleaning For A Reason, as well as getting her own non-profit in motion.. Cleaning Angels USA. "There is such a need for free cleaning services to those who are in a medically stressed situation, I felt I needed to do more to help them" said Teresa during a recent News 12 interview.

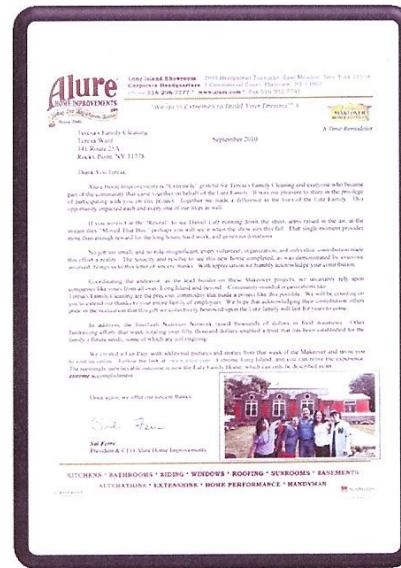
A native Long Islander who grew up running a successful family business, Teresa served as the Vice-President of the Association of Residential Cleaning Services (ARCSI) and is an active participant in more than 25 business, civic, and charitable organizations. She frequently networks with other local business people to share her successful business techniques, and is also highly sought after as a public speaker.

Testimonials

HGTV



Extreme Home Makeover



In the news:

newsday.com
<http://www.newsday.com/section/business/cleaning-service-honored-at-white-house-1.1202>

Rocky Point cleaning service helps cancer patients

By TOM BRUNE
Published: May 19, 2009

Of all the many things on Lori's mind as she battles her second bout of cancer, and recovers from a recent double mastectomy, the last thing on her mind is money. Lori doesn't have to worry about housekeeping for at least a day - thanks to a program run by the Caryl M. Stern Breast Care Center at North Shore University Medical Center.

Lori received a gift certificate for two hours of cleaning services from the nonprofit, founded by Teresa's Family Cleaning in 2005.

"You're very limited when you come home in what you can do," said Lori, who didn't want her last name used because of her ongoing treatment. "Your general mobility, the strength in your upper body is all gone. I can't bend over and scrub the tub when I'm all stitched up."

The cleaning service is a much appreciated break for Lori, 42, of Wantagh. "It's like the best day of vacation in a difficult time."

Business owner Teresa Ward, 51, said her firm has donated cleaning services in the past to the Caryl M. Stern Breast Care Center, Cleaning for a Reason, when Ward helped found it in 2005.

For the past four years, her company has provided cleaning services to women fighting cancer, and has been helping out 150 cancer patients.

When Ward started her business in 1993, she said she would see clients ailing at the end of their beds. "I would say, 'One patient would wait for her kids after school, but I couldn't even leave her bed,'" she said.

When Dr. Brian Dine of the [GIFT](http://www.gift.org) cancer center called to enlist her services for its Give Inspiration Fighting Together, or GIFT, program, Ward said she didn't hesitate. She had lost her sister to lung cancer in 2003.

"I struggled with anger after her sister's death," Ward said. "Why did this happen? Starting Cleaning for a Reason helped me release that feeling."

She knows that what should be minor chores can become overwhelming. "It's a great feeling for me and my crew to help out," Ward said. "We're going to continue working until they find a cure for cancer."

LI woman is honored at the White House

Published: May 19, 2009
By TOM BRUNE

WASHINGTON - In 1992, Teresa Ward of Rocky Point began cleaning homes because, she said, she is "a compulsive cleaner." The next year she turned her passion into a business. And yesterday, 16 years later, Ward was recognized by President Barack Obama as [New York's small-business person of the year for 2009](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/19/us/19small.html), an honor awarded by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Ward, 51, and her husband, Kevin, 48, a former construction company owner, have grown Teresa's Family Cleaning Inc. into a business with more than 35 employees, nearly \$1.2 million in revenue, and about 60 homes and commercial sites cleaned each day.

Ward was among 52 honorees chosen from each state and territory for their entrepreneurial spirit and success, selected along with many others for the dozens of awards in an array of categories handed out during Small Business Week. Ward said she was surprised she was chosen and believes her charitable work made the difference. After her sister died from cancer five years ago, Ward said she founded the New York chapter of Cleaning for a Reason Foundation, which cleans homes of women with cancer at no cost. It started with eight companies. Now 150 firms participate, she said.

Her husband was pleased with the award. "It's not a cutting-edge technology industry," Kevin Ward said of the cleaning business. "It's good to see an old grizzled, mom-and-pop business can actually win an award." At the White House ceremony, Obama praised the winners. "You're the job creators responsible for half of all private-sector jobs," he said. "Small businesses don't just strengthen our economy, they also strengthen our communities."

Two years ago, Teresa Ward sought the assistance of the SBA's Small Business Development Center at Stony Brook University. Through the center she obtained a loan and received help in streamlining her business, consolidating debt and improving her marketing. So far, her husband said, the business has weathered the economy. "We're hanging in there," he said. "That's sort of why we diversified away from residential cleaning. We do some niche commercial work, of boutiques and small shops."

Television Interviews

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