

## **BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT ON NICHOLAS R. SCALERA**

Nicholas R. Scalera has more than 50 years' experience in youth and family services management and human care licensing and nonprofit board management. He was Director of the NJ Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the state's child protection agency, from 1989-94 and Assistant Director from 1972-89.

As DYFS Director, Scalera administered an agency of 3,600 employees in 64 work sites and a \$ 427 million annual budget, delivering services to over 300,000 clients. He also worked as: Chief, Public Information, NJ Department of Community Affairs (1967-72); Public Information Officer, NJ Office of Economic Opportunity (1966-67); writer, *Associated Press*, Philadelphia (1966) and reporter, the *Newark News* (1964-66).

Since 1995, Nick has administered Scalera Consulting Services, a management consulting firm specializing in children's services, human care licensing and nonprofit board management. He has provided consultation services to numerous private child care, youth and family service and community development agencies; school-based preventive health programs for students and parents; a program that trains individuals to assist persons with disabilities achieve education and work opportunities; and a Senior Companion Program for adults with developmental disabilities.

From 1998-2001 and from 2003- 2004, Scalera served as Corporate Consultant on Youth Services for Community Education Centers (CEC), a national corporation that operated residential treatment programs for adult inmates. He helped plan CEC's Wynona M. Lipman Education and Training Center (Lipman Hall), a residential treatment facility and school in Newark, NJ serving adolescent boys with serious mental health, emotional and behavioral problems. Nick was Director of Lipman Hall from June 2001-August 2003.

Nick earned a BA in Social Studies from Seton Hall University in June 1963 and an MS in Journalism "Cum Laude" from Columbia University in June 1964. He did post graduate study at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1964.

Scalera has earned a national reputation in human care licensing. He is a charter member of the National Association for Regulatory Administration (NARA) and has served as its President (1988-90), Vice-President (1986-88), Treasurer (1999-03) and At-Large member of its Board of Directors (1979-99 and 2003-2008).

Scalera co-authored chapters on "The Formulation of Licensing Rules" and "History and Concepts of Licensing" in the *NARA Licensing Curriculum*. He was a keynote/workshop presenter at national conferences sponsored by NARA, Child Welfare League of America, National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Indian Child Care Association, National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, Vermont Department of Human Resources and several universities.

Nick trained the licensing staffs of the states of Maryland (1995), Pennsylvania (1996), Oklahoma (1997), Georgia (1998) and Delaware (1999) and helped revise Delaware's licensing rules on children's residential facilities and day treatment programs (1996-97). He authored *The State of Regulated Child Care Programs in New Jersey* for the NJ Child Care Association in 1997 and articles on worker safety in *Child Welfare*, international journal of CWLA (1995), and in *Children's Voice*, its quarterly magazine (1994).

Scalera has received many honors, including: Man of Achievement Award for services to at-risk youth, Phi Kappa Theta National Fraternity (2011); Men of Valor Award, Project Re-Direct (2008); Humanitarian Award for lifelong service to troubled children/families, Seton Hall University (2006); Public Administrator of the Year, NJ Chapter, American Society for Public Administration (1994); Humanitarian of the Year, Association for Advancement of the Mentally Handicapped (1992); Special Certificate of Award from inmates of New Jersey's only state prison for women (1992); Regional Administrator's Citation, US Department of Health and Human Services (1994); Children's Service Award, NJ Chapter, National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse (1994); Appreciation Award for making New Jersey a safer place for children, Governor's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect (1994).

Certificate of Recognition, State Affirmative Action Officers' Council (1992); Commendation for dedicated service to NARA (1990); Award for Service, Dedication and Commitment to Underserved Communities, Hispanic Directors' Association of NJ (1994); Award for Dedicated Services for Excellence in Services for People with Disabilities, NJ Personal Assistance Advisory Council (1994); Commendation for Affirmative Action in DYFS, Director's Advisory Committee on Affirmative Action (1994); Howard Weiss Award, Foster Grandparent Program (1987); Virginia Commonwealth University Recognition Award (1986); First Annual Award, NJ Child Care Association (1989); Certificate of Appreciation, NJ Division on Women (1986); and "Who's Who in the East."

Nick is a member of the President's Advisory Group, College of Arts and Sciences, Seton Hall University; Board of Overseers, Immaculate Conception Seminary; Member, Honorary Member, Board of Directors, Community Access Unlimited, a non-profit Elizabeth agency serving developmentally disabled adults and at-risk youth.

Scalera also served for several years on the Board of Directors, La Casa de Don Pedro, a non-profit human services agency in Newark; Advisory Council, Thomas J. Griffin Bridges Program, which provides financial and social support to inner-city students at Seton Hall Preparatory School. Scalera also mentored five Griffin Bridges students during that time.

In 2010, Scalera created the Nicholas R. Scalera Scholarship at Seton Hall University in 2010 for academically qualified but economically needy students. He mentors 25 young adults, who were once part of the NJ child welfare system, students from the Griffin Bridges Program at Seton Hall Prep and Scalera Scholarship recipients. Many have become an integral part of his extended family and vice-versa.