

## 2022 Hometown Hero Champion of Adult Literacy: Monica Horan Rosenthal



Acclaimed actor Monica Horan Rosenthal is best known for her role as Amy McDougall/Barone on the TV sitcom *Everybody Loves Raymond*. She also played Kieran Cannistra on the daytime soap opera *The Bold and The Beautiful* from 2016 to 2019. Currently, she can be seen on the Netflix food-travel series, *Somebody Feed Phil*, a show created and hosted by her husband, legendary comedy writer Phil Rosenthal.

Monica's enthusiasm for helping others is palpable and far-reaching. When she was approached by Delaware County Literacy Council (DCLC) to participate in the 2020 Literacy is Essential Telethon, she not only agreed to appear and share a message of support, but she also reached out to other entertainers with roots in Delaware County and encouraged them to be involved.

In Monica's 2020 telethon message she explained, "I was born and raised in Delco, but I had no idea about the incredible work the Delaware County Literacy Council has been doing for 45 years. And I was so touched to learn that it all started because Chester community members noticed that their neighbors were struggling with reading, writing, math, and they didn't just notice, they did something about it."

Learning about DCLC's history and students inspired Monica to take further action in support of DCLC's first online fundraising event. She and her husband suggested the innovative "Dinner with Phil" raffle prize. The prize offered one lucky winner the opportunity to share a delivered gourmet meal and casual conversation over Zoom with Phil and Monica.

And Monica didn't stop there. Through the Rosenthal Family Foundation, she and Phil awarded DCLC with a \$15,000.00 challenge grant to encourage donations to the Telethon. The \$15,000.00 grant was quickly matched by individual donors, resulting in a total of \$30,000.00 raised. Clearly, Monica knows how to offer assistance that has a big impact!

Monica's enthusiastic support of DCLC has continued well past those emergency days in the fall of 2020. Monica and Phil were featured in DCLC's 2021 online fundraiser, The Expert Academy Telethon, and the Rosenthal Family Foundation is currently providing funding that helps DCLC offer free community digital literacy classes for adults in Delaware County.

Monica's creative and consistent support of DCLC's hardworking students is a great example of her commitment to Delaware County. Monica grew up in Darby Township, graduated from Archbishop Prendergast High School in Drexel Hill, and participated in Upper Darby Summer Stage.

We are lucky that Monica has decided to "come home again" to make such a positive impact in the county where she was born and raised! DCLC is proud to honor Monica Horan Rosenthal as the 2022 Hometown Hero Champion of Adult Literacy.