



*Mrs. Charlet and Director of Economic Development Services Jerry Bologna present the Charlet award to Dr. Gerry.*

## Dr. Gerry Cvitanovich Honored for Civic Involvement

Everyone is probably familiar with the heroic efforts of the Cvitanovich family in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Their restaurant, Drago's, was an unofficial base of operations, providing 77,000 free meals to Jefferson residents and emergency workers for weeks following the storm.

During that same time period, another member of the family did his own part to literally "heal" the community. Gerald Cvitanovich, MD (affectionately called "Dr. Gerry"), had the East Jefferson After Hours Urgent Care in Kenner back up and running only eight days after landfall. Without electricity or running water, Dr. Gerry and his team tended to hundreds of patients working alone in the sunlight of the lobby until the Arkansas National Guard joined them in providing medical care. The urgent care clinic was the first non-emergency center to reopen, treating more than 4,000 patients at no charge.

Recognizing the growing need for local alternatives to hospital emergency rooms, he also founded the Millenium Healthcare Group with partner Keith LeBlanc. The group provides start up, management, billing and collection services to urgent care clinics throughout the region. There are now 11 affiliate facilities from Lafayette to Biloxi.

With more than 60 employees, Dr. Gerry continues to provide quality healthcare. His two East Jefferson After Hours centers in Kenner and Metairie were among the first facilities in the country to receive Joint Commission Accreditation.

Because of the commitment to his patients, his employees and to the community as a whole, Dr. Gerry received the Charlet Business Recognition Award from the Jefferson Economic Development Commission (JEDCO) at its annual luncheon in December. His brother, Tommy, is a past recipient of the award for his work at Drago's. Their parents, Drago and Klara, are so proud that they now have a matching set. ▀



*Dr. Gerry at the award ceremony with his daughters and business partner, Keith LeBlanc.*

As seen in Spring 2010

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