Evelyn Chianelli, Executive Assistant to Rick Vilello, holds actual serving of Penn State Creamery cone (prior to pandemic). (Photo credit: JD Dunbar)

Rick Vilello & Evelyn Chianelli were selected to be DCED Representatives during the pandemic inside PEMA. (Photo credit: Jared Grissinger) Harrisburg, PA

Some people may be unsure if PEMA is a place or part of the solution to the pandemic. It is both, actually. It is a physical building for the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. Its mission is to, “help communities and citizens prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.”

Two RULE alums who work together at PEMA on behalf of DCED, presented to RULE XVIII remotely from PEMA. Evelyn Chianelli, of RULE XVII, suggested Rick Vilello, RULE VII, as a speaker when RULE pivoted to provide the class with remote webinars to maintain momentum of leadership curriculum. Evelyn noted, “We are lucky to have Rick’s calm demeanor and assured leadership during this uncertain and ever-changing world.”

Reaching back, Evelyn related, ‘RULE played a big part to getting RULE Name Game, ‘Reasonable Rick’ to where he is today. We both gained a lot from RULE. He nominated me to go through a recent RULE class.” It must have seemed like penance at the time for Evelyn to attend a program where your leadership skills are challenged in front of others. That fear aside, Evelyn recently addressed the RULE XVIII Class on, “Back Of The House Leadership” which earned her a stunning standing ovation.

When you see people working in tandem, grounded in support, confidence and trust, you know it’s an effective team. Rick indicated linked words, “leadership lessons” as takeaway he has absorbed during the pandemic at PEMA.

Rick Vilello summed up his PEMA experience:

“High Intensity Public Service.”

Evelyn Chianelli spelled out PEMA:

P- Prepared
E- Effective
M- Multi-faceted
A- Assured