

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**THE ARC OF OAKLAND COUNTY  
MARKS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH IN MARCH  
WITH ITS 42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL DOVE AWARDS**

**TROY, Michigan** – The Arc of Oakland County joins a network of 700+ chapters of The Arc with 140,000 members, including self-advocates, families and volunteers across the nation to mark Developmental Disability Awareness Month in March. The month will commemorate the progress toward improving the lives of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and also highlight the challenges that remain in achieving full inclusion.

The Arc of Oakland County recently announced the recipients of its 2012 Dove Awards. These awards will be presented at The Arc's annual Presentation and Silent Auction on Friday, April 13, 2012 at the San Marino Club in Troy. Deena Centofanti of FOX 2 will serve as the Honorary Chairperson and Mistress of Ceremonies.

For 42 years, The Arc of Oakland County has honored individuals, companies, agencies, residential settings, technicians, teachers, employers and volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to the lives of children and adults with intellectual and other related developmental disabilities. Over twelve hundred nomination forms were sent out to professionals, families, members and friends of The Arc of Oakland County. Each and every nomination that was sent back to The Arc was reviewed by a Selection Committee comprised of individuals working in the fields of mental health and special education.

The Arc of Oakland County is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable agency that provides direct legal, general advocacy, informational and referral services as well as community

awareness and recreational programs for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

The Arc is the world's largest community-based organization of, and for, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The organization exists to ensure that all citizens with disabilities are valued, and that they and their families can participate fully in, and contribute to, the life of the community.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2012 DOVE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

### **JANET and PAUL MacCORMACK LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**J. Douglas Otlewski**, Attorney, Otlewski & Maloney, P.C.

### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

**Amanda Hoffman**, Special Education Teacher, Clarkston High School, Clarkston School District & Director, Clarkston SCAMP

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

**Kym Juntti**, Director, Center for Positive Living Supports

### **SHELDON DUNN INSPIRATION AWARD**

**Richard Graff**

### **AL CARTER VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Cathy Fresia**

### **YOUTH VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Coby Moscovitz**

### **LEONARD CERCONE K-12 TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Sylvia Radhs**, Special Education Teacher, Waterford School District

### **LEONARD CERCONE POST-SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Jeanne DiCicco**, Teacher & Transition Coordinator of the L.O.F.T Program, Oxford School District

### **GOLDEN DOVE AWARD**

**Joseph Foster**, Special Education Teacher, Lamphere Center, Lamphere School District

### **EMPLOYER/CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Kellermeyer Bergensons Services**

### **PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**JARC**

**INCLUSION LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**Laura Lenaway**, Job Coach, New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

**ROBERT THOMAS SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

**Mark Weiss**, Supports Coordinator, Macomb Oakland Regional Center, Inc.

**VOCATIONAL SERVICE AWARD**

**Michelle Janness**, Vocational Evaluator, New Horizons Rehabilitation Services, Inc.

**RESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARD**

**Kathy Anderson**, Home Manager, Integrated Living

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AWARD**

**Erin Lawson**, School Psychologist, Waterford School District

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AWARD**

**Barb Szeremet**, Para-professional, Kingsley Montgomery School, Waterford School District

For more information on the 2012 Dove Awards Presentation and Silent Auction and to purchase tickets please contact The Arc of Oakland County at (248) 816-1900. To learn more about The Arc of Oakland County and their services please visit the organizations website at [www.thearcoakland.org](http://www.thearcoakland.org).

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