

## 2009 SPOTLIGHT AWARD CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA

**Community Partnership.** An organization or individual that demonstrates exceptional leadership and creativity in expanding meaningful opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to become full participants in community life.

**Consumer.** An individual who has a developmental disability whose personal example and achievements inspire others and advance awareness about the capabilities and talents of people with disabilities in Orange County.

**Elected Official.** An elected office holder, at any level of government, whose official acts have resulted in significant opportunities for an enhanced quality of life for people with disabilities in Orange County.

**Employer.** A business that demonstrates exceptional leadership and creativity in expanding integrated employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities.

**Frontline Award.** An individual whose direct service to people with developmental disabilities has demonstrated exceptional ability to enhance the life of one or more RCOC consumers. For example, nominees might include (but are not limited to) instructional assistants, in-home caregivers, job coaches, and personal assistants.

**Lifetime Achievement.** An individual whose personal, professional or volunteer activities, **over a long period of time**, have made **exceptional contributions** toward enhancing the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities in Orange County.

**Living Options (Residential) Vendor.** A **residential service provider** that demonstrates excellence in support to people with developmental disabilities through the development and/or operation of living options that are responsive to the developmentally disabled individual's choice, dignity and quality of life.

**Parent/Family Member.** A parent or other family member committed to improving the quality of life for his/her family member, as well as others with developmental disabilities, through support, compassion and advocacy.

**Professional Achievement.** A community healthcare or other professional serving people with developmental disabilities who has demonstrated exceptional care, compassion and understanding to those they serve and whose professional achievement demonstrates exceptional contributions that reflect the best practice in the field of developmental disabilities services. Examples of healthcare or other professionals include physicians, nurses, dentists, physical, occupational and speech therapist, psychologists and behavior analysts.

**RCOC Achievement.** An RCOC employee whose professional contribution, while an employee of the Regional Center of Orange County, demonstrates exceptional accomplishments toward fulfilling the Mission and Guiding Principles of the organization on behalf of people with developmental disabilities.

**Support Services Vendor.** A support services provider that demonstrates excellence in support to people with developmental disabilities through the development and/or provision of support services, **other than residential**, that are responsive to the individual's choice, dignity and quality of life.

**Volunteer.** An individual with the demonstrated willingness and commitment to voluntarily act on behalf of people with developmental disabilities, and whose volunteer activities bring about a quality of life that are characterized by enhanced community acceptance, participation and personal self-sufficiency.

**E. Kurt Yeager Servant Leadership.** An individual who has served in a volunteer leadership position in an organization that serves people with developmental disabilities. The person's efforts have resulted in both improved services and supports, and significantly expanded opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to participate in policy making.