



*Michigan
Developmental
Disabilities Council*

*2010 Outstanding Advocates
Awards Program*



“Our Community Includes Everyone”

The DD Council Outstanding Advocates Awards highlights the contributions of those individuals or groups that have improved the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities. Their efforts bring to light the work of the Council in the broader community.

Help us make the 2010 awards a success by nominating the person, group or RICC you know has done outstanding work in the Councils goal areas; employment, housing, transportation, education, public policy, health, and family support.

People without disabilities are eligible to be nominated in all categories **except Young Leader**. You **may not** nominate yourself or group for any award. DDC staff and current council members **are not** eligible for nomination, but are eligible to nominate others. 2009 winners **cannot** be nominated for the 2010 awards.

Award Categories

Young Leader Award

This award recognizes a young adult with a developmental disability who demonstrates initiative, talent, determination, and achievement. Service must be completed outside of school hours, if nominee is a student.

Eligibility Criteria:

- A person 26 years or younger, at the time of nomination, with a developmental disability.

Unsung Advocate Award

This award recognizes a person or group who demonstrates the spirit of the Council's mission and goals. Nominees for this award should have gone beyond the requirements of any standing committee or Council grant in a way that has benefited people with disabilities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Individual or a group, non-profit organization, community agency, excluding RICCs.
- Individual RICC members are eligible.

RICC That Makes a Difference

This award recognizes a Regional Interagency Consumer Council (RICC) that has significantly improved the visibility, influence and integration of persons with developmental disabilities. Nominees for this award should demonstrate substantial consumer direction in activities and projects that benefit persons with developmental disabilities. They should incorporate team work and volunteerism in their group structure. The RICC should be a champion in advocating for the rights and responsibilities of people with developmental disabilities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Currently an active RICC
- 3 community endorsements (letters of recommendation)

2009 Winners

Young Leader

Justin Rankin

Diversity Outreach

Julia Hernandez

Unsung Advocate

George Hanley

Trailblazer Grantee

Bay Arenac Health

RICC That Makes A Difference

Iosco RICC

Champion

Marie Donagan

Award Categories

Diversity Outreach Award

This award recognizes a person or group who demonstrates success and leadership in outreach and recruitment of people with developmental disabilities from diverse cultures. Nominees for this award should cultivate and promote a more inclusive community for people with developmental disabilities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Individual or a group, non-profit organization, community agency, including RICCs.
- Individual RICC members are eligible.

Current grantee staff members are eligible for work performed outside the scope of the grant.

Trailblazer Grantee Award

This award recognizes a Development Disabilities Council (DDC) project that, has had significant impact, blazed a trail for systems change, self-determination and inclusion.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Current and past Council grantees within the last 3 years.

Champion Award

This award recognizes a legislator or other elected official who has worked to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities, by enacting legislation or other policies. Nominees for this award must demonstrate an understanding of the disability movement and the concept of self-determination. They must exhibit a commitment to the rights of all people with disabilities. They have worked in cooperation with people with developmental disabilities to make systems change a reality.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Current or recent (within the last five [5] years) Legislator or other elected official

When completed, a DDC Awards nomination should include:

1. Nomination Form

The nomination form is one page. The form must be filled out completely. **Incomplete forms will not be considered.** Please type or print neatly.

2. Nomination Narrative

The Nomination Narrative must answer the two questions listed on the narrative form and describe how the award criteria is met. The narrative will be used by reviewers when choosing the award winners.

3. Supporting Materials (Optional except for RICC That Makes A Difference)

Nominators may submit up to four pages of supporting materials with each nomination packet. This includes: letters of support, newspaper articles, etc. All supporting materials must accompany the nomination package. Supporting materials received separately will not be considered. If you are submitting by e-mail all documents must be electronic, including the supporting materials. Supporting materials will not be returned. Copies are acceptable.

If you have any questions please contact the DD Council at 517-334-7240 or 517-334-6123; for help completing the nomination forms please call by Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

SUBMITTING THE NOMINATIONS PACKET via US Mail

The nomination packet must be postmarked by Thursday, December 17, 2009. Information should be arranged in the following order:

1. Nomination Form
2. Nomination Narrative
3. Supporting Materials

Mail one (1) unstapled original for each nominee to:

Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council
Attn: Awards Committee
1033 S. Washington Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910

Or electronically via email to Sharp@michigan.gov

Faxed submissions will not be accepted.

Additional Information

Only one individual or group may be nominated per form
A nominee can only be nominated in **one** category.

Review and Notification Process

All nominations will go through a review process of the awards sub-committee.
Both the award winner and the nominator will be notified.