

**THE 2010 LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH
PRESIDENT'S AWARENESS COMMITTEE FOR
CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES AWARDS**

The Lafayette City-Parish President's Awareness Committee for Citizens with Disabilities is seeking nominations for the 2010 Awards. These Awards will be presented in October in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Awards will be presented to individuals, organizations or agencies whose contributions have advanced opportunities for individuals with disabilities in Lafayette Parish.

Please submit all nominations to:

**Jim Richard
Event Coordinator
Goodwill Industries of Acadiana
P. O. Box 62270
Lafayette, LA 70596-2270
jrichard@lagoodwill.com**

Deadline for submission for Awards is September 1, 2010.

THE 2010 DISTINGUISHED MERIT AWARD

This award is given in public recognition of extraordinary service by an individual, organization or agency working in the disability field that has substantially advanced opportunities in Lafayette Parish for persons with disabilities to utilize their capabilities in achieving full participation in society.

Criteria for the Distinguished Merit Award

- **Expanding educational opportunities**
- **Improved Access to housing, buildings, and transportation**
- **Greater participation in recreational, social and cultural activities**
- **Greater opportunities for employment**
- **Expanded and strengthened rehabilitation program/ facilities**
- **Increased application of technology on behalf of persons with disabilities**
- **Purposeful application of biomedical research aimed at conquering major disabling conditions**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name, address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

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THE 2010 YOUTH of the YEAR AWARD

The Youth of the Year Award is given in recognition of a young person with a disability in Lafayette Parish who has, by example of achievement provided encouragement and inspiration to others.

Criteria for the Youth of the Year Award

- **An individual between 13-19 years of age**
- **Someone who has demonstrated persistence and initiative in dealing with his/her disability**
- **Someone who has contributed toward increased awareness for persons with disabilities**
- **Someone who has participated in activities for the benefit of persons with disabilities**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name, address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

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THE 2010 OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY AWARD

The Outstanding Individual with a Disability Award is given in recognition of a person with a disability in Lafayette Parish who has, provided encouragement and inspiration to others, and has advanced opportunities for persons with disabilities in our community.

Criteria for the Outstanding Individual with a Disability Award

- **An individual with a disability recognized for their leadership abilities and achievements**
- **An individual who has participated in activities to benefit persons with disabilities**
- **An individual who has demonstrated persistence and initiative in dealing with disability issues**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

Jim Richard

Event Coordinator

Goodwill Industries of Acadiana

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Deadline for submission for Awards is September 1, 2010.

2010 MEDIA AWARD

The Media Award is given in public recognition of outstanding coverage of concern and issues relevant to persons with disabilities. Radio, television, and/or print nominees servicing Lafourche Parish are welcome. Media projects should include coverage of the accomplishments of people with disabilities, their families, advocates helping in crisis situations, special projects or other news worthy events regarding disability issues.

Criteria for the 2010 Media Award

- **Sensitivity to topic and language**
- **Accuracy and depth of coverage**
- **Attention to circumstances of people with disabilities in our society**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

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Deadline for submission for Awards is September 1, 2010.

2010 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes extraordinary service by a volunteer who has substantially enhanced the opportunities in Lafourche Parish for persons with disabilities to use their skills and develop their potential as members of society.

Criteria for the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Award

- **Outstanding or unusual contributions as a volunteer**
- **Achievements that have increased public awareness and understanding of persons with disabilities**
- **Participation in activities for the benefit of persons with disabilities**
- **Exhibited selflessness and willingly gave time, talent and effort on behalf of persons with disabilities**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

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2010 OUTSTANDING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL

The Direct Support Professional at times is the most important person in the life of an individual with severe disabilities. It is the person who makes it possible to start the day and to go to bed at night. It is also the person who enables the individual to participate in a quality of life within the world. This person does not just help their client with the basic physical and medical needs, but provides them with a caring, understanding, compassionate, stable relationship that enhances the dignity, integrity and total well-being of the person with disabilities they serve. The Direct Support Professional must live or work in Lafourche Parish.

Criteria for the 2010 Outstanding Direct Support Professional

- **Respect for the client's daily choices and life choices**
- **Dependability and punctuality**
- **Attention to the appearance and grooming of client and self**
- **Participation in activities at home and in the community**
- **Quality and variety of activities in which the client is engaged**
- **Individual with disabilities' testimony on the quality of life due to the Direct Support Professional's involvement**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

Jim Richard

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Deadline for submission for Awards is September 1, 2010.

2010 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Recognizes an outstanding individual who has contributed significantly in educating persons with disabilities in our community.

Criteria for 2010 Educator of the year

- **Demonstrates outstanding leadership within the field of education for persons with disabilities**
- **Advances the importance of education and awareness through strong advocacy and programs**
- **Motivates and inspires others including students, colleagues, and those in the community**
- **Positively influences students with disabilities**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

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2010 SERVICE ANIMAL OF THE YEAR

Service animals assist people with disabilities with some of the function and tasks that the individual cannot perform.

Criteria for the 2010 Service Animal of the Year

- **Pulls wheelchairs, carries or retrieves items for persons with mobility impairments**
- **Assists persons with mobility impairments with balance**
- **Must be certified and qualified by an accredited institution**
- **Both owner and service animal have demonstrated perseverance in facing barriers**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

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2010 VETERAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Recognizes a veteran with a disability who has served honorably in the United States Armed Forces and has a record of exemplary services in the disabled community.

Criteria for the 2010 Veteran of the Year

- **Contributes toward increased awareness for veterans with disabilities in the community**
- **Devotes outstanding volunteer efforts in his or her community**
- **Works continually to inspire the lives of others**
- **Honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

Letters of support are optional.

The name address and phone number of the person making the nomination.

Submit the Nomination Packet to:

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2010 FAMILY OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award is given in recognition of a family who has a member or members with disabilities and who, by involvement in the community and mutual support of one another are an example of courage, strength and unity for other families in Louisiana. Traditional and non-traditional families can be considered.

Criteria for the 2010 Family of the Year Award

- **Meets the challenges of a disability**
- **Maintains outstanding efforts in achieving a dynamic and cohesive family unit**
- **Recognizes the contributions of each family member**
- **Is recognized by others in the community for quality of family life and participation in the community**

The Nomination Packet should include the following:

A letter of nominations describing the nominee's achievements and contributions incorporating the criteria listed above.

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