



# NEWS RELEASE

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## Waterford School District Employees to Receive Prestigious ARC Awards

**February 21, 2008 Waterford, Mich.** – The ARC of Oakland County has awarded Waterford School District employees Geralyn Janeczko, Secondary Special Education Supervisor *The President's Award*. This award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions that have enhanced the quality of life for individuals who have a developmental disability; Vicki Widman, Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator *The Inclusion Leadership Award*. This award is given to an individual who through their diligence and dedication has strived to make inclusive education a reality for students with special needs; Teri Dittman, Teacher of the Cognitively Impaired at Riverside Elementary *The Leonard Cercone Teacher of the Year Award*. This award is given to a classroom teacher who has been creative and enthusiastic in teaching students who have developmental disabilities; and Debi Blood will receive *The Support Professional Award* (posthumous) for her incredible support and dedication to students with special needs. This award is given to an individual who displays exceptional and genuine compassion for persons with developmental disabilities.

These special awards will be presented at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Dove Awards presentation and banquet on Friday, April 4, 2008, at the San Marino Club in Troy.

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The Arc of Oakland County is a non-profit United Way agency serving children and adults with mental retardation and other related developmental disabilities and their families throughout Oakland County. The Arc of Oakland County works through education, research and advocacy to improve the quality of life for children and adults with mental retardation and their families; and works to prevent both the causes and effects of mental retardation.

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