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## **Press Release**

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## The NJCDD Seeks to Honor Individuals Who Make a Difference in Their Communities at the 2015 Community Building Awards

**STATEWIDE** – On **Wednesday, April 22, 2015**, the <u>New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities</u> (NJCDD) will once again honor individuals who promote inclusive values in their communities at the **7th Annual <u>Community Building Awards</u>** Ceremony and Luncheon.

Now, the Council is reaching out to the public to help identify recipients for these awards. The NJCDD is looking for individuals and groups within New Jersey communities who believe in and promote fuller community inclusion for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The deadline for the public to make nominations for the 2015 Community Building Awards is Wednesday, February 18, 2015.

Community members are invited to make nominations for award recipients in one of the following categories:

- The Colleen Fraser Self Advocate Award
- The Lifetime Achievement Award
- The Access Above And Beyond Award
- The Multi-Media Award

- The Elizabeth Boggs Family Member Advocate Award
- The Distinguished DD Systems Change Award
- The Exceptional Policymaker Award
- The Inclusive Education Award

For more information about each award category and to make a nomination, please visit <a href="www.njcdd.org">www.njcdd.org</a> or contact Jane Dunhamn at 609-984-3379 or jane.dunhamn@njcdd.org.

Since 2009, The NJCDD has recognized New Jersey residents who demonstrate inclusive values in their everyday lives and professions. Past recipients have been legislators who have worked tirelessly to defend the rights of people with I/DD, school teachers who go above and beyond to practice inclusive education in their classrooms, parents who have dedicated much of their time to advocating not only for their own children's well-being but for the interests of all people with I/DD, and many others who fight for inclusive values in our communities. Each spring, the Council recognizes the recipients at an awards luncheon attended by the New Jersey I/DD community, legislators, and other I/DD stakeholders.

This year's awards luncheon will be held at the **Wyndham Garden Hotel in Trenton, NJ on Wednesday, April 22, 2015**. Winners of this year's awards will be announced on March 18 with subsequent information about each winner to be released soon afterwards.

For more information about the Community Building Awards and the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities, please visit <a href="https://www.njcdd.org">www.njcdd.org</a>.

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