

## RCIL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 18, 2011

### AWARD NOMINATION FORMS

The Resource Center for Independent Living (RCIL) seeks your nominations for the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting. This is an opportunity for individuals and community agencies to gain recognition for efforts made towards the mission of independent living. Award winners will be recognized on October 18, 2011.

#### **Nomination Form Deadline: July 30, 2011**

**Instructions:** Each nomination must include a detailed written summary addressing the criteria and answering the questions in complete sentences for each category. The written summary should include approach, strategies, tactics, objectives and measures used specific to each category. Collateral is also accepted in addition to the written summary.

Nomination forms must be received no later than July 30, 2011 to Jennifer DePasquale, RCIL P.O. Box 210, Utica, NY 13503-0210 or [jdepasquale@rcil.com](mailto:jdepasquale@rcil.com)

If you have any questions, please call Jennifer DePasquale at (315) 797-4642, ext. 2934 or e-mail to [jdepasquale@rcil.com](mailto:jdepasquale@rcil.com)

## GENE FIORENTINO SELF-ADVOCATE AWARD

Self Advocacy refers to an individual's ability to effectively communicate, convey, negotiate or assert his or her own interests, desires, needs, and rights. The Gene Fiorentino Self-Advocate Award was established in memory of one of RCIL's most committed board member's, Gene Fiorentino. He was a true advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities and truly believed in the vision and mission of RCIL.

Gene understood physical challenges because he faced them himself, everyday. He believed that personal responsibility was just as important as the availability of outside support. Gene believed in the importance of employment and the independence it provides every individual, and was a strong supporter of real jobs for real wages. He worked hard to help create the foundation for the competitive employment programs at RCIL.

RCIL would like to honor an individual who is committed to self-advocacy; is knowledgeable of disability issues and barriers; demonstrates a willingness to publicly take a stand without regard to consequences and has the ability to articulate disability issues and barriers.

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Being Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Below please provide a description of how this candidate has met the following criteria:

(If needed attach additional sheet(s))



## COMMUNITY SUPPORT AWARD

Growing out of the disability rights movement, Independent Living Centers were created with the explicit goal of integration and advocacy. For example, people with disabilities comprise, at minimum, 51% of RCIL's Board of Directors, thus putting policy and advocacy decisions in the hands of the people those decisions directly impact.

RCIL is looking for individual(s), community organizations, agencies or businesses that have made an outstanding contribution and increased the availability of support services to persons with disabilities, has served in a volunteer capacity, and/or improved the quality of life for persons with disabilities.

Examples of this support may be in the form of (but not limited to): commitment of dollars, in-kind donations and technical support, or campaigns to promote awareness of or action around the needs of persons with disabilities.

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Being Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Below, please provide a detailed description of how this individual(s), community organization, agency or business has made an outstanding contribution and increased the availability of support services to persons with disabilities, has served in a volunteer capacity, and/or improved the quality of life for persons with disabilities. Please provide specific examples in the summary. (If needed attach additional sheet(s).) (20 points)

## PUBLIC POLICY AWARD

Public Policy is the course of action taken by governmental entities with regard to Independent Living, Advocacy Services and Civil Rights.

RCIL is a civil rights organization offering a wide range of Independent Living and Advocacy Services.

RCIL is looking for an individual or community organization that has reflected a commitment to excellence and a resolve in supporting changes in Legislation and Public Policy that has promoted full integration of Civil Rights for people with disabilities.

Past recipients of this award include former Senator Raymond Meier and Alice Savino, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board along with Assemblywoman, RoAnn Destito. In these cases, the recipients advocated for system-wide changes in public policy that truly support the Independent Living Philosophy.

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Being Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a description of how an individual or community organization has demonstrated a commitment to excellence and a resolve in supporting changes in legislation and public policy that has led to the full integration of civil rights for people of disabilities.

(If needed attach additional sheet(s).) (20 points)

## **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

“Employee of the Year” Award is an award that the Agency will recognize at least one individual or team annually.

This individual or team will have provided outstanding, high-quality service furthering RCIL’s mission directly or indirectly, allowing equal opportunity for community participation for individuals with disabilities. Furthermore, the nominees must act in a manner in keeping with the Independent Living Philosophy and have made a significant impact on RCIL or the community. The purpose of the “Employee of the Year Award” is to:

- Support the Agency’s goal of developing and recognizing talent
- Reward Agency’s valued talent by celebrating their accomplishments at the Annual Dinner held in October
- Complement and reinforce the Agency’s mission, vision and values

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

Eligibility criteria for the “Employee of the Year” are as follows:

- All staff levels are eligible, including part-time and field employees
- At least 1 year of service with the Agency is required
- Has not previously won an Employee of the Year Award in the last 5 years
- Employee is in good standing

### **Decision Criteria:**

The committee will consider the following elements of exceptional service equally:

- Mission – service in reducing the widespread poverty, segregation, or isolation of people with disabilities
- Values – acting in accordance with the Independent Living Philosophy
- Impact – how the agency or community has been impacted by the service

**2011 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARD  
NOMINATION FORM**

Completed forms are due to Jennifer DePasquale no later than July 30, 2011. Late submissions will not be considered. (If needed, attach additional sheets.)

Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate Being Nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Explain how the nominee provided exceptional service to individuals or to the Agency to reduce the widespread poverty, segregation, or isolation of people with disabilities. Detail the nature of the accomplishment. (10 points)

2. Explain how the nominee exemplified the core values of RCIL: respect, appreciation, honesty, integrity, empathy, trust, and accountability. (5 points)

3. Please state how the Agency or community benefited from this employee's accomplishments. How has the impact of the service been beyond expectations for a person in a similar position? (5 points)