



Help us celebrate Direct Support Professionals!

**DELAWARE'S THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR
DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS**

“Feeling Good About Yourself and Your Work”

Thursday, May 1, 2008

Sheraton Dover Hotel

8:00 AM—3:00 PM

This conference is designed to promote the valued role Direct Support Professionals play in supporting people with disabilities and provide networking and skill development. As part of this event, we will be honoring 5 Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) in Delaware for their Outstanding Service.

What's a DSP? A person whose job it is to help people with disabilities live the lifestyle they choose. Direct Support Professionals help by providing assistance and support with activities of daily living, communication, transportation, recreation and home management so that a person with a disability can work, go to school, participate as a valued member of the community...and follow his dreams. DSPs may be job coaches, personal assistants, case managers, counselors, CNAs, activities aides, home health aides, and residential coordinators, among other titles.

We ask that you help get the word out about this wonderful event and encourage those you know to nominate a deserving Direct Support Professional! Please share the enclosed nomination form and guidelines with your staff, consumers and advisory groups.

Completed nominations are due no later than **Friday, March 14, 2008**. A Review Committee consisting of people who receive supports, family members, and Direct Support Professionals will determine the award winners. All nominations should be forwarded via general mail, fax, or email to:

University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies
DSP Awards
461 Wyoming Road, Newark, DE 19716
Fax: 302.831.0350
nourie@udel.edu (please put *DSP Awards* in the subject line)

If you have additional questions, please contact: Cory Nourie at 302.831.1705 or nourie@udel.edu.

Sincerely,
DSP Awards Committee

OUTSTANDING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL NOMINATION FORM FOR 2008

A **Direct Support Professional (DSP)** is a person whose job is to help people with disabilities live a lifestyle they choose. DSPs help by providing assistance and support for activities of daily living, communication, transportation, recreation, and home management. DSPs may be job coaches, personal assistants, case managers, counselors, CNAs, activity aides, home health aides and residential coordinators, among other titles.

Outstanding Direct Support Professional: An individual who has worked in the field *a minimum of one year*, demonstrates extraordinary skill in all areas of his/her job; is knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and dedicated; demonstrates positive and respectful relationships with whom they come into contact; encourages others so that they can do their best; and overcomes obstacles to solve problems while empowering the people they support to achieve their dreams and goals.

Please Print Clearly

Nominee's Name: _____

Work Location: _____

Contact Information (Home or Work Address/Phone #) _____

Nominated by: _____ Address: _____

Phone: () _____

What is your relationship to the nominee? _____



Your nomination must include why you believe this person is an OUTSTANDING DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL. Remember your nomination will be judged against all other nominations received. Give specific, detailed reasons for nominating the person you did, keeping in mind the judges can only score based on the information you provide. You believe this person deserves recognition, make sure you convey this to the judges in your write-up!

DO include specific examples that illustrate the following qualities:

1. How the nominee has demonstrated knowledge, enthusiasm, dedication, and extraordinary skill in all areas of his/her job.
2. How the nominee has formed positive and respectful relationships with those they support as well as his/her co-workers, and encourages others to do their best.
3. How the nominee has overcome obstacles to solve problems and empowers the person(s) he/she supports.
4. Share any other information relevant to the nomination you feel appropriate.

(Note - You may be contacted to provide further information about the nominee.)

NOMINATIONS DUE NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 14th, 2008.

Send to: University of Delaware Fax: 302-831-0350
Center for Disabilities Studies Email: nourie@udel.edu
DSP AWARDS (Attn: Cory Nourie) (please put DSP Awards in subject line)
461 Wyoming Road
Newark, DE 19716

*If you require accommodation to complete this form,
contact Cory Nourie @ 302-831-1705 or email nourie@udel.edu for assistance*