

THE ARC OF OAKLAND COUNTY 2026 DOVE AWARDS CATEGORIES & NOMINATION FORM



55th Annual Dove Awards Program

Each year, The Arc of Oakland County proudly hosts the **Dove Awards**, to recognize the efforts of individuals within our community that have enhanced the lives of individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. This annual fundraiser is a celebration of the **compassion, service, and achievements** of those who make a lasting difference in the lives of others.

Recognizing the advocates among us—both those who champion their own needs and those who selflessly support others—is an important part of building a stronger, more inclusive community. We encourage everyone to take a moment to nominate or re-nominate someone who deserves to be recognized for their outstanding efforts.

You can nominate someone to be recognized for the 2026 Dove Awards by completing the online nomination form. This year's awards will be presented at the **55th Annual Dove Awards Program** on **Thursday, March 19, 2026**, at Petruzzello's Banquet & Conference Center in Troy.

Scan the QR code to learn more about the 2026 Dove Awards or to fill out the **Online Nomination Form!**

Deadline for all award nominations is FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026.

Please see the 2026 Dove Awards Nomination Categories on the following page —→



THE ARC OF OAKLAND COUNTY 2026 DOVE AWARDS NOMINATION CATEGORIES



INSPIRATION AWARD

An individual with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, who resides or works in Oakland County, and who serves as an inspiration to others. Open to all ages.

POSITIVE IMPACT AWARD

An individual or organization in Oakland County that has made significant contributions to enhance the quality of life for persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORTS SERVICE AWARD

A direct support professional or supervisor in Oakland County who demonstrates exceptional compassion for persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, helping them live independently and achieve their best lives.

PROVIDER OF THE YEAR AWARD

An Oakland County community living supports or vocational organization that provides outstanding assistance in helping persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities thrive in their community.

SUPPORT COORDINATOR AWARD

An individual who provides exceptional supports coordination, delivers high-quality care, and demonstrates outstanding dedication and involvement for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in Oakland County.

VOCATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

A job coach, direct care worker or supervisor in Oakland County who helps individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities obtain and maintain employment within the community.

INCLUSION LEADERSHIP AWARD

An individual or group who, through diligence and dedication, has strived to make inclusion a priority in educational settings and/or throughout the community for persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in Oakland County.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

A classroom teacher or program instructor in Oakland County who has demonstrated creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication in teaching students with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AWARD

Any specialized instructional support personnel in Oakland County who advocates for children and young adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in an educational setting.

MEDIA DISTINCTION AWARD

An individual in the media industry who has made an outstanding contribution toward creating a better understanding of persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in Oakland County through news articles, editorials, broadcast reports, pictorial essays, or other media coverage. (Please include copies.)