



Employers
of Distinction
Awards Ceremony

October 31, 2007

Special Thanks to

**The Baltimore
Business Journal**

For Co-presenting
The Arc of Baltimore
Employers of
Distinction Awards



Welcoming Remarks.....Gilbert F. Kennedy III
President, Board of Directors

John Dinkel
Publisher, Baltimore Business Journal

Breakfast

Employers of Distinction Awards.....Steve Morgan
Executive Director, The Arc of Baltimore

Recognition of 2006 Award Recipients.....Steve Morgan

Presentation of 2007 Employers of Distinction Awards.....Steve Morgan
Gil Kennedy
John Dinkel

Closing Remarks.....John Dinkel



Employers of Distinction Award

This award was created to honor those companies that have demonstrated that employing people with developmental disabilities has contributed to their company's success. Employers of Distinction have committed the time and resources needed to enable this success, boosting the self-esteem of the individual employees, increasing the productivity of their workplaces, and setting the example for the entire business community.



Mercy Ridge

Koons Chevrolet

Oak Crest

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston

Glyndon Lord Baltimore Cleaners



2007 Awardees

SYMS Clothing



Marcy Syms
CEO
SYMS Clothing

Doris Rowe has worked proudly at SYMS Clothing for close to five years. The job was Doris' first individual employment placement after working in a group situation for several years. Store manager Bill Selden and other SYMS employees took Doris under their wing and today, Doris knows every nook and cranny of the store and can help customers find any style or color of clothing they desire. Doris is part of the SYMS family, she gets rides home after late shifts, and management accommodates her scheduling needs when she has Arc board meetings. Ask Doris what she likes best about her job and she talks about her colleagues – and the fact that her vacation time will increase when she hits her five-year anniversary.

"Doris has a great attitude, pleasant, always is willing to learn something new."

William Selden, Store Manager
SYMS Clothing

Carl Reeder has cleaned the parking garages and surrounding grounds of the Dulaney office and Sheraton Hotel buildings off Dulaney Valley Road for 16 years. Carl is a valued part of the staff and part of the RREEF family. RREEF managers work in a proactive fashion with Arc staff to address job changes or performance issues as needed. While RREEF Management gets kudos as an Arc Employer of Distinction, the tenants at the Dulaney and Sheraton buildings also deserve thanks; they have embraced Carl through the years and they share with him their photographs which Carl treasures and swap coupons which he collects avidly – signs of good colleagues and good friends.

"I have known Carl for seven years. Carl's dedication to his job is supported by his dependability and the pride he takes in his work. Carl loves people, he has never met a dog he didn't like and he loves a good laugh. Carl is my friend and I am proud of it."

Jim Albright

RREEF Management



Jim Albright
Building Engineer
RREEF Management



Home Depot

Three Home Depot stores have proven excellent employers for three Arc-supported individuals. James Wilson has been at Golden Ring for nine years and drives himself to work. He helps out at the pro-desk by pulling large orders for commercial customers. Bill Dillman has been at the Reisterstown store for four years and while Bill requires one-on-one staff support, Home Depot has accommodated the situation in a productive and helpful manner. Chris Mayer works at the Cockeysville store, keeping carts ready for customers and offering assistance and finding anything needed from the massive inventory. Chris has worked at The Home Depot since it opened, knows everyone, and with his ready smile, affectionately addresses all his co-workers as “Chief.”

"What a great addition to The Home Depot team. Reliable and a great work ethic. A fantastic example for any associate to follow."

Matt Rankin, The Home Depot - # 2584 Reisterstown

"His hard work, positive attitude, and commitment to excellence have made him a true asset to the store as well as a leader amongst his peers. It is a pleasure to have James on our team."

John Jarst, The Home Depot - #2587 Golden Ring

"Unselfish dedication, epitome of customer service. I wish I had 20 more of Chris."

Ira Zaverdinos, Home Depot, #2565 Cockeysville



Chris Gibson
Store Manager
Home Depot - #2565



Matt Rankin
Store Manager
Home Depot - #2584



John Jarst
Store Manager
Home Depot - #2587



2007 Awardees

McDonald's

While many employees may come and go over the years, these three McDonald's stores have seasoned, veteran workers in Karen Sheridan and Kendrick Winders (15 years and 14 years respectively at Washington Blvd.), Bill Burke (13 years at Perry Hall), and Derrick Hairston (17 years at Towson). The three McDonald's restaurants have always recognized the value and consistency of these workers and have communicated well with staff and family along they way. Karen and Kendrick keep the lobby clean and cook. Bill cooks and works the drive-thru, and Derrick's work recently earned him the Employee of the Year award from the Baltimore County Commission on Disabilities.

"Everyone may have challenges at times. However Bill, is always smiling, helpful, and grateful to be at work."

Wanda Muse, McDonald's - Perry Hall

"Co-workers as well as customers have been inspired by Karen and Kendrick's hard work. Both individuals always want to learn more."

Jean Hayden, McDonald's - Washington Blvd

"A great self starter with a positive attitude."

McDonalds' Associates and Customers, Towson



Colleen Fletcher
Store Manager
McDonald's - Towson



Wanda Muse
Store Manager
McDonald's - Perry Hall



Jean Hayden
Owner
McDonald's -
Washington Blvd



Safeway



James Werner
Store Manager
Safeway - Carney

The Safeway store in Carney has provided employment to two men with developmental disabilities for nearly five years. Andrew Vaughn and James Snair work as parking lot attendants and keep carts assembled and ready for customers. They bag groceries, return misplaced items to proper shelves, clean grocery aisles, and lend assistance to shoppers looking for items needed. Safeway managers provide a supportive environment for Andrew and James and are proactive in communications with Arc support staff when work changes or issues arise. In addition, Andrew and James are treated like any other employee at the store – as equals – and give opportunities for other jobs within the store so they can expand their skills and knowledge of the store.

“Most reliable and dependable employees around.”

Jim Werner
Safeway Store Manager



The Arc of Baltimore Mission Statement

To ensure that people with developmental disabilities have maximum opportunities to actively participate in all aspects of community life, and to offer programs and services that support them in doing so.

These employers have star quality!

Guiding Stars

The Arc of Baltimore and the *Baltimore Business Journal* congratulate this year's inductees into the Employers of Distinction Hall of Fame. These companies have set the standard for helping the business community recognize the value and work ethic of employees with developmental disabilities.



JIM WARNER
Store Manager
Safeway—Parkville



JOHN JARST
Store Manager
The Home Depot—
Golden Ring



JEAN HAYDEN
Owner
McDonald's—Washington Blvd.
Hayden Enterprises



MARCY SYMS
CEO
SYMS Clothing



CHRIS GIBSON
Store Manager
The Home Depot—
Cockeysville



MATT RANKIN
Store Manager
The Home Depot—
Reisterstown



JIM ALBRIGHT
Building Engineer
RREEF Management



COLLEEN FLETCHER
Store Manager
McDonald's—Towson



WANDA MUSE
Store Manager
McDonald's—Perry Hall

Rising Stars

The Arc of Baltimore also salutes the following companies for hiring individuals with developmental disabilities.

- Alban Tractor
- Applebee's
- Aramark, Towson University
- Baltimore County Public Schools
- Big Lots
- Bob Evans Restaurant
- Burger King
- Calvert School
- Charlestown
- Dunkin Donuts
- Eddie's Supermarket
- Edenwald
- Giant Food, Inc.
- Greater Baltimore Medical Ctr.
- Harbor Hospital
- Holiday Inn Select, Timonium
- Home Depot
- Joe Corbi's
- Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies
- Johns Hopkins University
- Koons Chevrolet
- Lowe's Home Improvement
- Marriott Baltimore Hunt Valley Inn
- Maryland Athletic Club and Wellness Center
- McDonald's Corporation
- Mercy Ridge
- Morrison Services, Union Memorial Hospital
- National Aquarium in Baltimore
- North Oak Retirement Home
- Oak Crest
- Rainforest Café
- RREEF Management Company
- Richard Opler Auctioneering, Inc.
- Safeway
- 7 Eleven
- Shoppers Food
- Silver Spring Mining Company
- Staff Management at Procter & Gamble
- Superfresh
- SYMS Clothing
- Talmar
- Tessco
- Town & Country Apartments
- Towson Elks
- Trifinity
- University of Maryland Facilities Management
- Wal-Mart
- Weis Markets
- Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP
- YMCA of Central Maryland



Reach for the stars!

Contact The Arc of Baltimore Employment Services at 410-296-WORK (employmentservice@arcofbaltimore.org) and discover how employees with developmental disabilities can enhance your business!



Maryland Relay
800-735-2258
410-583-0060 (voice)

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