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UNITY HOUSE DAY HABILITATION MANAGER WINS NYSADSP LEADERSHIP OF THE YEAR AWARD



Unity House Day Hab and Residential-at-Home Habilitation Manager Angela Dudley

AUBURN – Angela Dudley, manager of Unity House of Cayuga County Inc.’s Cayuga County Day Habilitation and Residential Habilitation-at-Home programs and services for individuals with developmental disabilities, has been chosen as the winner of the New York State Association of Day Service Providers (NYSADSP) 2007 Leadership of the Year Award for that organization’s Central West region.

“Angela was chosen from among a group of very deserving nominees on the basis of her exemplary work and accomplishments,” said NYSADSP’s Lynn Goodwin, overseer of annual recognition awards for the organization who announced this year’s leadership award winners. “The Central West region, one of six statewide in NYSADSP, includes 19 agencies eligible to nominate day service provider employees for the award, which for 2007 represents our fourth year of bestowing it. We have a six-person subcommittee of assistant regional directors that carefully reviews and considers all nominations, and based on the one Unity House and Angela’s supervisor submitted, she is very deserving of this year’s award.”

Nominated by her supervisors and staff, Dudley, whose career at Unity House started in August 1995 in the day habilitation program she now manages, was praised for her outstanding leadership skills including her initiative, professional demeanor, communication skills, and integrity; her innovative program development, planning, and execution; her commitment to and compassion for individuals with disabilities and their families; and her superior and successful efforts at collaboration within Unity House and her dedication to growing professionally.

Dudley, who oversees a staff of two assistant managers and 33 full- and part-time employees, will receive the award at the 2007 NSYADSP Annual Symposium awards ceremony on November 7, 2007 in Albany. She and her staff currently provide 48 day habilitation and five (5) residential habilitation-at-home individuals with developmental disabilities with a variety of programs and services that are designed to build their self-worth, integrity, and support and help them achieve individual goals, personal growth, and greater independence. Offered full- (including evenings) and half-days seven days a week, the services and programs encompass one-to-one interactions and group sessions with trained staff and assistance with volunteer jobs, transportation to and from programs, budgeting and purchasing, behavioral support, skill acquisition and development, health and nutrition, exercise, and community participation.

Unity House of Cayuga County Inc. provides transitional and permanent housing, rehabilitative, and employment services and programs daily in six Central New York counties to more than 700 individuals with developmental disabilities, mental health illnesses, and those

recovering from chemical dependencies. The agency is celebrating its 30th year of operations in 2007.