

# The Arc of East Central Iowa Annual Awards Categories

Winners will be recognized at The Arc's Annual Awards Ceremony  
Nomination forms can be found online at [www.arceci.org](http://www.arceci.org) under the *Ways To Give* tab.

**Bill Sackter Self-Determination / Self-Advocate of the Year:** The award recognizes a self-advocate who is an achieving and inclusive member of society. The award recognizes a person with intellectual disabilities who has demonstrated, through his/her talents and abilities, extraordinary and meritorious success. The person who is selected serves as a role model, peer and mentor to others.

**Business Supporter of the Year:** To recognize a company or organization that has provided extraordinary support enabling The Arc to advance its mission.

**Community Advocate of the Year:** Recognize a community volunteer/group/organization who has demonstrated a positive attitude toward an individual or a group of individuals with a disability to achieve a higher degree of independence by increasing their quality of life and concept of self-determination.

**Direct Service Professional of the Year:** To recognize a direct care staff member who demonstrates exceptional sensitivity to people with intellectual disabilities and who exhibits quality work within the position held.

**Employer of the Year:** To recognize employers who have made outstanding contributions in the employment of lowans with intellectual disabilities. A philosophy of supporting employment opportunities, exhibited through recruiting, accommodating, employing and advancing persons with disabilities, is viewed as strength. Businesses who focus on the ability of the employees (rather than the disability) are excellent nominees.

**Media Excellence:** To honor outstanding media efforts that create better community understanding of intellectual disabilities and the individuals affected. This award recognizes reports, programs, and news stories in television, radio, and print. Has provided extraordinary support enabling The Arc to advance its mission.

**Meritorious Service Award:** To honor an individual who, over a long period of time, has provided excellent service or advocacy that has led to better community understanding of intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

**Outstanding Community Service:** To recognize a company or an organization that has performed an outstanding service on behalf of persons with disabilities either financially or through service or leadership.

**Para Educator of the Year:** To recognize a classroom Para educator who demonstrates excellence in helping students with disabilities to meet their educational goals.

**Professional of the Year:** Recognize an individual employed in the health, education, human services or other fields that has demonstrated the ability to obtain outstanding professional results that have increased independence or additional opportunities for persons with disabilities.

**Super Sibling of the Year:** To recognize a brother or sister who has demonstrated through his/her actions a positive attitude that enhances the quality of life for their sibling with an intellectual disability. The person who is selected serves as a role model, peer and mentor to his/her sibling in their home and in the community.

**Teacher/Educator of the Year:** To recognize extraordinary and meritorious service of an Educator (public or private non-profit agency employee) who has substantially contributed to the education of persons with intellectual disabilities. Through patience, care, and understanding he/she has made a significant impact on the lives of persons with disabilities in helping them meet their educational goals.

**Volunteer of the Year:** To recognize extraordinary and meritorious service of a volunteer who has substantially contributed integrity and dedication in support of persons with intellectual disabilities. His/her generous contributions of time and talents have enhanced the lives of persons with disabilities.

**Volunteer Group of the Year:** To recognize extraordinary and meritorious service of a volunteer group who has substantially contributed integrity and dedication in support of persons with intellectual disabilities. Their generous contributions of time and talents have enhanced the lives of persons with disabilities.

*Let someone know that you appreciate them!*