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THE ARC OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY

advocacy • respect • commitment

Serving and advocating for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Arc Staffer named 'Woman of Distinction' by Assemblyman Emmerson

Riverside, CA – Assemblyman Bill Emmerson recently announced the 63 women from his district that will receive his Woman of Distinction award, an honor the Assemblyman established six years ago. Among the recipients is Jennifer O'Farrell, program coordinator for The Arc of Riverside County's NineZero Project.

The award will be presented by Assemblyman Emmerson on Friday, March 26th at the annual Women of Distinction luncheon. The event is being held at the Doubletree Hotel in Ontario at 11:30 a.m.

Each year, Assemblyman Emmerson selects just 63 women to receive the award. Recipients of the award reside in and serve communities throughout California's 63rd district, which is made up of 11 cities throughout the Inland Empire. O'Farrell was selected for her many volunteer activities and her dedication to the community. In addition to raising awareness across the region of the dangers of drinking alcohol during pregnancy, which is the aim of the NineZero Project, O'Farrell sits on a number of boards and committees for organizations like the YWCA Riverside County, The Pick Group, and Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge's Green Action Plan Committee, among others.

O'Farrell is honored by the award, "I serve the community because I love the community and the people in it, and I am honored to be recognized," said O'Farrell.

The Arc of Riverside County's NineZero Project educates youth in their formative years, women in recovery, and women seeking prenatal care in order to shift the cultural use of alcohol consumption during the nine months of pregnancy. The project includes a peer-to-peer training curriculum called Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Teaching and Research Awareness Campaign (FASTRAC). To learn more about the NineZero Project, visit ninezero.org.

In addition to providing occupational services and life skills training for adults with developmental disabilities, The Arc of Riverside County advocates on their behalf for dignity and respect. The Arc's *The Value of One* campaign promotes the idea that people with developmental disabilities have inherent value and deserve respect. For more on this campaign, visit thevalueofone.org.

The Arc Riverside County is a non-profit organization that provides supports and services for more than 300 adults with developmental disabilities. The Arc is headquartered in Riverside at 8138 Mar Vista Court. For more information about The Arc, visit arcriverside.org.

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(Formerly Arc Riverside)