

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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PROVAIL Announces Winners of Wyckoff Awards

Awards to be presented at Anniversary Dinner & Awards Ceremony

SEATTLE – October 1, 2004 – PROVAIL, one of the state's largest organizations serving children and adults with disabilities, has announced the winners of its Wyckoff Awards, to be presented at the annual Wyckoff Anniversary Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Each year PROVAIL presents seven Wyckoff Awards in honor of Dr. Hulett J. Wyckoff, who was instrumental in the founding of the organization 62 years ago. The awards recognize individuals and organizations that have made extraordinary efforts to support people with disabilities.

One of the most prestigious awards is the Wyckoff Award for Philanthropy, which will be presented to Wells Fargo in Washington for its Title Sponsorship of the Wells Fargo Golf Classic, held May at Sahalee Country Club. The golf tournament raised over \$100,000 to benefit PROVAIL's services for children and adults with disabilities.

In 2004, Wells Fargo's contributions to nonprofit organizations in Washington will total over \$2 million. Last year, Wells Fargo donated more than \$83 million to 14,000-plus nonprofit organizations nationwide – that's an average of \$1.6 million a week.

"We are honored to receive this prestigious award from PROVAIL," said Mark Dederer, vice president, Community Relations for Wells Fargo in Washington. "The services PROVAIL

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provides to the community is not only important to the clients but also to their families. Wells Fargo is proud to partner with an agency that is so dedicated to enriching the lives of people in the disabled community.”

Other corporations being acknowledged for their efforts are Starbucks and REI, both receiving the Wyckoff Award for Corporate Partnership. Both companies have recently added employees with severe disabilities to their workforce, with the support of PROVAIL’s Employment & Community Services program.

The other award categories are: Advocacy, Individual Merit, Inspiration, Staff Excellence and the Rose Reinhart Award for Lifetime Achievement.

The awards will be presented at PROVAIL’s Wyckoff Anniversary Dinner & Awards Ceremony on Thursday, October 14th, at Town Hall, Seattle. The evening will feature an inspirational presentation from keynote speakers Kevin and Melinda Berg. Kevin, an adult with cerebral palsy, will talk about choice, opportunity, independence, and dignity, the theme words of this year’s event, and how these words have special meaning for himself and others with disabilities.

About PROVAIL

PROVAIL is one of the state's largest private, multi-service agencies dedicated to meeting the needs of children and adults with all types of disabilities. With 300 employees and a \$9.5 million budget, PROVAIL has provided occupational, physical and speech therapy, assistive technology, community living, employment, and dental services to thousands of people throughout it's 62 year history. To learn more about PROVAIL and the services offered, visit www.provail.org