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SARATOGA BRIDGES EMPLOYEE RECEIVES AWARD

Saratoga Bridges is pleased to announce the recipient of the NYSARC Jonathan Weingold Scholarship is Carol Goerold. Four \$3,000 awards are presented annually (one for each NYSARC region) to full-time employees who wish to further their education. Carol is pursuing her Master's degree in Music Therapy at SUNY New Paltz to become a licensed therapist. Her goal is to incorporate her expertise and apply these techniques to the people with developmental disabilities that she serves at Saratoga Bridges.

Carol has been a dedicated, committed staff member at Saratoga Bridges since July 2006. She began her career as a Day Habilitation Assistant at their Clifton Park Day Program. After 2 years, she was promoted to the position of Day Habilitation Instructor II. As an Instructor in a classroom, she supervises two assistants along with providing direct care to the individuals. She is responsible for developing lesson plans that use the agency's person-centered philosophy to ensure individuals are participating in meaningful and interesting activities in the classroom as well purposeful community endeavors. Carol has not only strong relationships with the participants, but has a very nice rapport with family members and interdisciplinary team members. She is caring, thoughtful and treats the individuals with the highest level of respect. An exemplary role model, her co-workers speak highly of the passion and enthusiasm she brings to her job. Carol embodies the quintessential employee, uses her experiences to offer helpful suggestions and ultimately enhances lives.

Three years ago, Carol created a music group for the people who attend the Clifton Park Program. They rehearse weekly to prepare for concerts. Along with organizing the rehearsals and concerts, Carol does an excellent job of involving individuals based on their abilities -- whether they sing or play a percussion instrument.

About the NYSARC, Inc. Jonathan Weingold Scholarship

The award honors Jonathan Weingold who was a symbol of the people NYSARC supports. His father, Joseph T. Weingold, was the first President and first Executive Director of NYSARC, pioneered NY policy that significantly shaped national policy, advanced the concept that people with developmental disabilities should have a legal status distinct from other disabilities, originated the concept of a separate state agency responsible for people with developmental disabilities and was one of the primary founders of The Arc of the United States.

About Saratoga Bridges

Saratoga Bridges has been providing the highest level of programs to people with developmental disabilities and their families for more than 55 years by promoting their abilities and achievements in every aspect of community life. As one of the largest private non-profit organizations in Saratoga County, they have been committed to ensuring that the individuals they serve are able to realize their goals, hopes and dreams as they work, shop, play, and volunteer while leading full, productive and contributing lives. This voluntary service provider believes that the care they give increases immeasurably the quality of life for every citizen. Saratoga Bridges' philosophy is that every day is full of possibilities!

