



Crystal Run Village, Inc.

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News

For Immediate Release: April 14, 2003

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Jim Lawler, Executive Director of Crystal Run Village, Inc. was honored at the Sullivan County Association for Retarded Citizens' (Sullivan ARC) 12th Annual Community Recognition Dinner, receiving the Ruth Bennett Humanitarian Award. The award established in 1990 commemorates the accomplishments of Ruth Bennett, a tireless advocate for people with intellectual disabilities who is recognized as the founder of Sullivan ARC.

Citing Crystal Run Village, Inc. as its sister agency, Sullivan ARC's Executive Director, J. Richard Schwartz, expressed that a value cannot be placed on the friendship and camaraderie that exists among those who serve and those served. The two agencies have collaborated on providing services to people with mental retardation living in the county since 1971.

Lawler an employee of Crystal Run Village since 1969 was appointed to the post of executive director in 1998. He is an At-Large Board Member to the New York State Association of Community and Residential Agencies (NYSACRA). His committee work for this group has focused on professionalizing the direct support workforce and providing a living wage that is commensurate with the responsibilities of the position. He is also on the board of The Mid-Hudson Coalition for the Development of Direct Care Practice, Inc. As the Regional Facilitator for the NYS Developmental Disabilities Council's Promise of Opportunity Initiative he has been instrumental in the development of communication venues focusing on quality of life issues and new ways for improving the delivery of services and supports to New Yorkers with developmental disabilities and their families.

Lawler holds a Humanistic Masters Degree in Professional Services from SUNY New Paltz. He earned his undergraduate degree from University College in Dublin, Ireland and a Higher Diploma in Education from University College in Galway, Ireland.

Lawler lives in Middletown with his wife Patricia. They have four children and one grandchild.

Crystal Run Village, Inc. with an operating budget of over \$28-million serves more than 700 people with disabilities and their families in Sullivan, Orange and Rockland Counties. The agency employs approximately 690 people. Services provided include: Group and Independent Supportive Residential Opportunities in the Community; Service Coordination; Day

Habilitation; Educational and Vocational Services; Job Placement; Respite House; In-home Residential Habilitation; In-home Respite Care; Shelter Care Plus; HUD Supportive Housing for Families; Supportive Case Management; Orange County Single Point of Access; Invisible Children's Project; Shelter Care Plus, and Community Development for the Homeless. For more information on services offered by Crystal Run Village, Inc. call: 845-692-4444.

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