

STEP Staff are the Recipients of the Arc Detroit's 2009 Distinguished Service Award



From left to right: William Carr, Tommy Meadows, Senator Martha G. Scott, Pat Houlihan, Hank Johnson, Kathleen Mahoney, Jim Grice, Kisha Jones, and Jamie Kling.

October 16, 2009

After his most passionate speech of the evening Hank Johnson, Executive Director, named **Kisha Jones, Jamie Kling, and Kathleen Mahoney** as the recipients of the Arc Detroit's 2009 Distinguished Service Award. These STEP Skills Trainers are all very involved in community activities, volunteering, and consumer advocacy. They are great examples of the dedicated and caring people who provide supports to persons with developmental disabilities including the extraordinary efforts that they have made in assisting people to learn self advocacy skills through People First of Detroit and Wayne County, the largest and most active People First organization in Michigan. All three enjoy working in the field and express great satisfaction and feel blessed to work with persons with developmental disabilities.

Kathleen has assisted persons with hearing disabilities through her knowledge of sign language which was learned through raising her daughter, Michelle, who has a developmental disability and a hearing impairment. **Jamie** helps persons with micro enterprises to learn self-employment skills and earn additional income. She is a Crew Leader for persons working in the community cleaning and maintaining ATM machines. **Kisha** takes out over 100 consumers a month from the Detroit & Eastern Resource Centers into the community and several volunteer sites. Like many persons involved in direct care, she also works in a group home and attends college to further her career.