



Connecting Lawyers and Communities

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PRO BONO ETHIC AND COMMUNITY ACTION HONORED AT ANNUAL EVENT

DETROIT – December 7, 2011 – At its 13th annual event last night, Community Legal Resources presented six awards for remarkable pro bono legal representation and outstanding community achievement.

Over 150 guests attended the event at the N’Namdi Center for Contemporary Art. Among the guests were city officials, nonprofit and law firm executives, attorneys and community activists.

Titled “My Community”,

Awards were given for the outstanding volunteer attorney, law firm, partner, and community action of the year. This year’s honorees were:

Miller Canfield was awarded Law Firm of the Year for its marked improvement in pro bono representation and strong support in advocating for CLR in new communities across Michigan.

The Detroit Office of Foreclosure Prevention and Response was awarded Partner of the Year.

Greater Woodward CDC and Helco Block Club were both awarded the Outstanding Community Action Award.

Penny Brown Webster of Wayne State University Law School and Jennifer Oertel of Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss were both awarded Volunteer of the Year. Penny Webster routinely helps CLR clients through Wayne State Law School’s Small Business and Nonprofit Start Up Clinic. But this year she stood out for personally accepting additional referrals, often assisting in emergency situations with short time frames. Because of this, Penny has helped several vital organizations keep their doors open. She is a fantastic resource on 501c3 status and general exemption law and the clients she assisted are all overwhelmed by her knowledge, help, and responsiveness.

The 13th annual event was presented by Michigan State Housing Development Authority and also sponsored by Flagstar Bank, Detroit LISC, Ford Building, Trent Design, Ameriprise and Harbor Computer Services.

The mission of Community Legal Resources is to support and empower nonprofit community organizations in Michigan that serve low-income individuals and communities, with an emphasis on

community economic development, by providing pro bono legal services and technical assistance. Founded in 1998, CLR has provided over \$10 million in free legal assistance to over 1,000 nonprofits in Michigan and vacant property related assistance to over 200 community organizations in Detroit. Find CLR at www.clronline.org and on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.