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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information, please contact:

Jeanne Maddox, 330.945.6232

Crystal Erickson, 330.864.5895

REM Ohio Program Director To Be Recognized for Outstanding Achievement

AKRON, OH - REM Ohio, a provider of human services for adults living with developmental disabilities, announced today that program director, Kathryn Redding, from their central region office in Columbus, will receive the Outstanding Front Line Supervisor Award from the Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) at the organization's annual awards ceremony, in Columbus, Ohio on October 28, 2009.

OPRA presents the award annually to supervisors who energize their staff and lead by positive example. Redding has been an active member of the REM Ohio team for seven years. Although the central office is located in Ohio's largest city, Redding's duties take her daily to smaller, rural towns south of the state capital. It was in one of these small towns, Lancaster, where Redding's drive and efforts were able to mobilize known and unknown resources to make necessary and costly repairs to a brother and sister clients' home that allowed them to remain independent in the only home they had ever known. Her efforts also served as a means for educating and uniting a community in support of individuals with developmental disabilities.

"Because of Kathryn's courage to not only talk the talk, but also walk the walk, she continues to inspire fellow program directors, front line supervisors and direct support staff to see the importance of going the extra mile and the important role each of play in the lives of those that they care for each day," said Carla Parker, state director, REM Ohio. "The clear message that we all have the power to make a difference in the lives of others resounds in her actions, the staff she coaches and mentors, and most importantly, with the individuals she supports through her professional and personal mission."

Since its inception in 1991, OPRA annually recognizes those individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding service and achievement in the field of mental retardation and developmental disabilities in Ohio.

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About REM Ohio

REM Ohio provides an array of high-quality services for people with developmental disabilities and other complex conditions throughout Ohio, with a state headquarters located in Akron, Ohio and regional offices in Cleveland, Columbus, and Cincinnati. The company currently employs 605 full

time and 324 part time employees. The individuals and families supported by REM Ohio have a variety of needs, all of which are met within the communities where they live, work and play. Because each person's needs and preferences are different - an often change over time - REM Ohio offers a range of community-based residential and non-residential programs and supports.

REM Ohio is a partner of The MENTOR Network, an organization dedicated to providing high-quality, community-based services to adults and children of all abilities, headquartered in Boston, MA. Founded in 1980, The MENTOR Network has evolved from a single residential program to a national network of local human services providers, offering an array of services to adults and children with developmental disabilities, acquired brain injuries or other catastrophic injuries and illnesses; youth with emotional, behavioral and medically complex challenges; and elders in need of home care.

About OPRA

The Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA) is a statewide association of service providers, and a leader in efforts to collaboratively build a statewide service system to meet the needs of our ultimate customers - Ohioans with mental retardation and developmental disabilities.

Founded in 1974, OPRA is a non-profit organization that represents community-based providers of services to individuals with disabilities. At the beginning of de-institutionalization, OPRA supported efforts to move Ohio's citizens with developmental disabilities from large state-operated institutions into small, privately owned, community-based residential settings. Today, while still offering community-based services in supervised residential settings, we also are providing individualized supports to adults and children in their own homes, as well as vocational and employment assistance.