



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

# News Release

Timothy Jeffries, Director

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## Arizona Recognizes Support Professionals who Care for Individuals with Disabilities

*Division of Developmental Disabilities' 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony*

**PHOENIX** – They are the men and women who dedicate their careers to assisting individuals with developmental disabilities to lead healthy and productive lives. Today, the DES Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), in partnership with the Office of Family and Community Resources, honored these men and women at its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Direct Support Professionals Award Ceremony.

Speakers at the event will include DES Director Timothy Jeffries, DDD Assistant Director Dr. Laura Love and Gina Judy, M.A.O.M., Chief Operations Officer of the [Easter Seals Blake Foundation](#).

“Our dynamic Division of Developmental Disabilities is the best in the nation when caring for our beloved individuals with disabilities,” said Director Tim Jeffries. “It gives me great joy to recognize the support professionals who show kindness, love and support for some of the most treasured individuals in our state.”

The event will be catered by members of [One Step Beyond, Inc.](#), a unique culinary training program that teaches individuals with intellectual disabilities basic cooking skills needed for independent living. The participants are recipients of DDD benefits, and shining examples of how the work of direct support professionals can empower them to live full productive lives.

For more information about the [Division of Developmental Disabilities](#), please visit our website.

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