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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eastway Ends 2009 with Celebrations

Banquet honors community partners and outstanding employees and party provides holiday cheer for clients

Dayton, Ohio: At the end of the year, Eastway reflects back on the people and partnerships that made 2009 so successful. And they look forward to a great 2010 by celebrating the holidays with the clients who make all the work worthwhile.

Recognition Banquet

On Friday, December 11, Eastway held its 27th annual Recognition Banquet to honor both employees and community members who provide outstanding services and support to Eastway's clients.

Community partners recognized included Dr. Jillian Waite from Trusted Health Care, Inc., the Christ Child Society of Dayton, and Deborah Myers from the IDDT Coordinating Centers of Excellence.

Employees who go above and beyond the call of duty are also recognized for their outstanding work. Eastway recognized many employees including:

- Board of Directors' Award: Laura Ferrell
- President's Award: Derrick Pope
- Manager's Awards: Priscilla Epps, Jesse Jackson, Kara Marciani, David Scott, Patricia Tingler and Beverly Wirth
- Star Awards: Crystal Lowe, Ian Bock, Natisha Hogan, Star Hairston, Janel Lieber, Richard Price, Jennifer Smoot, Debbie Williamitis, Beatrice Keeton, Wayne Jenkins, Donna Yount and Tiffany Hillsman.

Eastway also honored their all volunteer Board of Directors and 18 employees who celebrated milestones of service at 5-year increments.

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Client Holiday Party

On Wednesday, December 16 from 11:30 AM-2 PM, Eastway hosted approximately 300 clients to celebrate the holidays with fellowship, food and fun. For many clients, the Eastway staff becomes a second family, and this party provides a casual environment to celebrate the end of the year.

Some of Eastway's clientele struggle to make ends meet, and they may not be able to provide an extensive holiday meal for their families. This lunch (with all the trimmings) is a great opportunity for them to get into the spirit of the season and feel as if it a special time of year.

Organized by Heather Waggoner, one of Eastway's clinical administrators for Adult Recovery Services, the party offered prizes, great food, and music performed by the Cleveland School Jazz Ensemble. Waggoner said, "This is a time for us to let our hair down and really enjoy time with our clients." Fellow Case Manager Kim Ackley said of the party, "We don't get to do this every day. Some of the time we spend with our clients is taken up by boring paperwork – this party gives us a chance to have some fun together."

Attached photo: Eastway staff serves food at the Holiday Party.



Eastway is advancing behavioral healthcare, housing and employment effectiveness through the creation of innovative programs and services that positively impact the lives of those we serve everyday.

<http://www.eastway.org>