

**Open Hearts****Open Minds****Open Doors****Creating Congregations Where People of All Abilities Participate****Announcing the 2004 Open Hearts Awards**

Pathways Awareness Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the 2004 Open Hearts Awards. The annual awards recognize Chicago area congregations for including worshipers of all abilities in active membership. The Junior Open Hearts Awards recognize children's contributions to the inclusion efforts of the faith community.

**2004 Open Hearts Awards****\$1,000 Award Winners:**

St. Christopher Episcopal Church (Oak Park)  
 St. Thomas of Villanova (Palatine)  
 St. Catherine of Sienna-St. Lucy (Oak Park)

**\$500 Award Winners:**

A.G. Beth Israel Congregation (Chicago)  
 St. Cornelius (Chicago)  
 St. Julie Billiard (Tinley Park)

**\$250 Honorable Mention:**

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church (Justice)

Three congregations received Junior Open Hearts Awards.

**Children's Junior Open Hearts Awards****\$1,000 Winners:**

Christ Lutheran Church (Orland Park)  
 Shir Hadash Reconstructionist Synagogue (Northbrook)  
 Santa Maria Addolorata Catholic Church (Chicago)

**Pathways Awareness Foundation Updates Website**

Visit the Pathways Awareness Foundation newly designed, updated and easier to use website at [www.pathwaysawareness.org](http://www.pathwaysawareness.org). Click on "Open Hearts Program" for a wealth of information and downloadable materials to create congregations where people of all abilities participate. Find stories of expert congregations, applications for the annual Pathways Awareness Foundation Open Hearts Awards, Inclusion Awareness Day planning materials, tips on how your congregation can be more inclusive and lesson plans for religious educators to assist with your inclusion efforts.

**ABOUT PATHWAYS AWARENESS FOUNDATION**

Pathways Awareness Foundation was established in 1988 to raise awareness about early intervention and inclusion of children and youth with physical challenges. The Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors Program promotes inclusion in worship. For more information please call 1-800-955-2445, write to 150 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60601 or visit <http://www.pathwaysawareness.org>.

## **Inclusion Awareness Day: Increased Participation**

Each year Pathways Awareness Foundation invites congregations to celebrate Inclusion Awareness Day. The goal is to make worshipers of all abilities feel welcome to participate every day of the year.

This fall the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, the Episcopal Dioceses of Chicago and the Baha'i Temple again set dates for congregations to reflect on how well they welcome worshipers of all abilities into full membership. New to the effort was the Chicago area Mormon Churches.

"Inclusion Awareness Day began a helpful conversation at our parish. Our restoration committee has now added inclusion to every one of their agenda items," stated Rev. David Jones of St. Ambrose Parish, Chicago. For example, now the committee discusses lighting to improve visual acuity as well as to "decorate" the church.

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### **NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS**

- **2004 Open Hearts Awards Winners**
- **Pathway's New Website**
- **Inclusion Awareness Day 2004**
- **Calendar of Events**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **OPEN HEARTS EXHIBITS**

**Saturday, November 6, 2004**

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago Leadership Day  
Maria High School, Chicago

**Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13, 2004**

Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Convention  
Hyatt Regency, Oakbrook

### **WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday, November 14, 2004  
2:00 p.m.**

St. Josaphat Church  
2311 N. Southport, Chicago  
Annual Mass for Mental Illness Awareness

### **Inclusion Tip**

A new publication **Creating an Inclusive Worship Community: Accommodating All People at God's Table** by Elizabeth Brown, Ph.D., is now available for \$14.95 from Liguori Publications at [www.liguori.org](http://www.liguori.org) or by calling 1-800-325-9521.

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