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**Regional Center of Orange County
Honors Business Champions for Employees with Developmental Disabilities**

Santa Ana, CA (October 27, 2026) – [Regional Center of Orange County](#) (RCOC) has honored the following seven Orange County businesses as champions for employees with developmental disabilities.

[Discovery Cube](#) (Santa Ana)

[Grocery Outlet](#) (Anaheim and Long Beach)

[Lamppost Pizza](#) (Orange)

[Oakley](#) (Irvine)

[Heroes Hall – OC Fairgrounds & Event Center](#) (Costa Mesa)

[Provider Contract Food Services](#) (Fullerton)

[Walgreens](#) (Anaheim)

Decades ago, few people with developmental disabilities were able to get paying work. Many who had jobs were employed in what were sometimes called “sheltered workshops.” These types of workplace settings (which are no longer eligible for Regional Center funding) included only adults with disabilities and were isolated from the broader community.

“Now we take for granted that people with disabilities can and should be able to work alongside coworkers without disabilities,” said RCOC Executive Director Larry Landauer. “But individuals we serve continue to face challenges, so it’s important for us to recognize role-model employers like our honorees who know the benefits of including people with developmental disabilities in their workforces.”

Several years ago, the RCOC Board of Directors adopted an Employment First policy that makes competitive integrated employment the first option for the working-age adults RCOC serves. This aligns with the state policy that also favors inclusive employment. Toward that end, RCOC and its network of service providers partner with businesses of all sizes, community organizations and government agencies throughout Orange County to identify job opportunities and then match individuals’ skills, talents, abilities and interests with the right job and the right employer.

The businesses honored at this event received certificates from the offices of [Assemblymember Diane Dixon](#), [Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris](#) and [Assemblymember Avelino Valencia](#).

For more information on the advantages of hiring adults with disabilities, visit RCOC’s [Employment First](#) and RCOC’s [Employment for People with Developmental Disabilities](#) web pages.

About Regional Center of Orange County: Regional Center of Orange County is the private, nonprofit organization contracted by the State of California to coordinate lifelong services and supports for more than 29,000 Orange County residents with developmental disabilities and their families. The Regional Center is the first stop for those seeking to obtain local services and supports to help them live safely and with dignity in the community. Developmental disabilities include intellectual disabilities, autism, epilepsy and cerebral palsy. Learn more at www.rcocdd.com.