

Hanscom receives Champion award for community service

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A tireless advocate for the developmentally disabled

Ellen Hanscom, area operations manager, Deloitte Services LLP, recently received a Champion award for her community service and advocacy efforts at the annual Jefferson Awards for Public Service which were held in Washington, DC. The Jefferson Awards were founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, U.S. Senator Robert Taft, Jr, and Sam Beard to create a "Nobel Prize" for public service. Deloitte is a key supporter of the Jefferson Awards through the Corporate Champions and Students in Action programs.

Since 2003, Hanscom has been actively involved with The Arc San Francisco, a non-profit service and advocacy organization whose mission is to serve people with developmental disabilities by promoting self-determination, dignity, and quality of life. She joined its Business Advisory Council as a corporate representative, and became chair in 2004. She was subsequently asked to join the Board of Directors, and served in that capacity for five years. She is currently the inaugural member of The Arc's Emeritus Board.

Hanscom has worked with many corporations, including many Deloitte clients, to develop and customize jobs for Arc clients. Deloitte hired two Arc clients in 2011, and they have been a great addition to the San Francisco office.

"The difference that Deloitte has made on the lives of these two employees is phenomenal," explained Hanscom. "They and their families have told me that being employed has made them self-sufficient and independent, which has been their life-long dream."

Hanscom has also organized the annual WorkLife Awards for the past five years which recognizes and honors Arc clients in the workforce, and the companies who hire them. In 2012, The Arc named Deloitte Employer of the Year.

At the Jefferson Awards event, Hanscom had the opportunity to meet General David Petraeus, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Jim Kelly, former quarterback for the Buffalo Bills, both of whom were Jefferson Awards recipients, as well as U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer who represents California.

"I will cherish the memory of these events always, as confirmation of the spirit of volunteerism, and a shining example of what can be accomplished when we commit ourselves to serving our communities," said Hanscom. "The opportunity to spend time in Washington, DC, networking with many other community volunteers, and meeting leaders and change agents, was inspirational. I was impressed hearing the stories of how efforts small and large are making a significant impact on neighborhoods around the country, and am motivated to do more. And I was so very proud to represent Deloitte and see the leadership our firm displays at a national level."



Hanscom with The Arc CEO Glenn Motola



Hanscom meets Jim Kelly



Hanscom with General