

SPECIAL POPULATIONS DIVISION RECEIVES AWARD

Lawrence Parks and Recreation Department's Special Populations Division received the InterHab annual Kansas Inclusive Communities Award for 2007 at its annual state conference Oct. 10-12 in Wichita, Kan.



(above) Annette Deghand, Special Populations supervisor, (center) poses with Ernie Shaw, interim director of Parks and Recreation, and Sharon Spratt, CEO of Cottonwood, Inc. and member of the LPRD Advisory Board at the InterHab State Conference in Wichita, Kan. Deghand accepted the Kansas Inclusive Communities Award on behalf of the department for her work of integrating programs for the disabled. (Right) Annette poses with her sons, Cole (left) and Lane, who were also in attendance.

The Special Populations Division is headed up by Annette Deghand, who was singled out in the nomination for her work in developing inclusive programs and for encouraging individuals with disabilities to take part in any program offered by the department. She has worked for the department for nearly 16 years. In that time, Deghand has developed award-winning programming for the disabled. With many of the programs, she has integrated those with and without disabilities to create awareness and understanding with all participants.



InterHab is the resource network for Kansans with disabilities and links agencies together across the state. The award is for programs and services that promote community

inclusion for persons with developmental disabilities. The Parks and Recreation Special Populations Division was nominated by staff at Cottonwood, Inc.



Clients in attendance at the LPRD Special Populations Halloween Party, which took place Wednesday, Oct. 17. Shown are female costume contest winners (LtoR) Lisa Madison and Carol Thiry; male costume contest winners Tom Rowe and Brady Tanner; and Yvette Bell, who was dressed as a clown.