

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NAPO to Honor Waste Not Center with Organizing Excellence Award

MT. LAUREL, N.J. — The National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO) has chosen Columbus, Ohio-based **Waste Not Center** (<http://www.wastenotcenter.org/>) as the winner of the 2010 Organizing Excellence Award. NAPO's Awards Committee Chair, Sheila Delson, CPO-CD®, will present this Award to a representative of the Waste Not Center during NAPO's 22nd Annual Conference and Organizing Exposition, which will be held in Columbus, from April 21 – 24.

According to Delson, the Waste Not Center not only meets the award's criteria, but also aligns with NAPO membership. The Center's Director, Neil Drobny, explained that one of their hopes is to increase public awareness and create a change in the way people think about recycling. He stated: "*A common mindset about recycled items is that they are 'not good enough' for reuse,*" a common concern shared by the professional organizing industry as a whole.

About Waste Not Center

The Waste Not Center (WNC) receives donations from individuals and businesses of supplies that would otherwise be discarded and makes them available to teachers, artists and non-profit organizations at no charge other than a small annual membership fee. The Center accomplishes the dual objectives of enabling teachers to obtain materials for their work that would otherwise be unaffordable and reducing the burden on local solid waste disposal systems.

On an average day, the Center will host 30-40 clients who collectively select about 1500 pounds of material and supplies for which they pay nothing other than the small annual membership fee. Member clients estimate the collective value of what they obtain at the Center each week is about \$4,500 based on what the items and supplies would cost if they were purchased commercially. On that basis the Center contributes to the community about \$250,000 of value each year.

The Center is a 501(c)(3) organization, so all donations are tax deductible.

Organizing Excellence Award nominees

In addition to the Waste Not Center, NAPO members in Ohio selected two other nominees for 2010 NAPO's Organizing Excellence Award:

- **CLEVENT** (<http://www.clevnet.org/>): Now among the largest public library systems in the world, Clevent is a consortium of over 30 library systems across 9 counties in Northeast Ohio. Using automation, databases, and

technology, Clevent has organized their members collective resources so that they can offer patrons shared access to more than ten million library items, exclusive online subscription resources, and a rich collection of downloadable media. .

- **Ronald McDonald House** (<http://www.rmhcleveland.org/>): The Ronald McDonald House® of Cleveland is a home-away-from-home for families whose children are receiving medical care at Cleveland-area hospitals. Most of these children have serious illnesses, such as cancer, leukemia, cystic fibrosis or heart defects. An exemplary model of a well-organized operation, The Ronald McDonald House has 37 guest rooms and hosts 1,100 families a year from the US and abroad..

About the NAPO Organizing Excellence Award

NAPO members in Ohio were asked to nominate local candidates for the 2010 Organizing Excellence Award. The Organizing Excellence Award is presented to an individual or group that has demonstrated outstanding values and achieved measurable results through their organizational efforts. This award stresses achievement tied directly to organizational capability. The search for worthy recipients was conducted in the following categories: Business, Community Service, Education, Family, or Humanitarian.

About NAPO

The premier national association dedicated to the field of organizing, the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO) is The Organizing Authority®. Founded in 1985 as a nonprofit professional, educational association, NAPO is dedicated to serving its members through education, networking, industry resources, and promoting the profession to the public. NAPO's mission is to develop, lead, and promote professional organizers and the organizing industry. For more information, visit www.napo.net.

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Editor's note: To learn more about NAPO's 22nd Annual Conference and Organizing Exposition, visit www.napo.net. To interview a NAPO member, please visit the NAPO website at www.napo.net/press_room/media_request.aspx.