



AUTISM CENTER  
OF NEBRASKA

## ***Rene Ferdinand receives the 2025 ACN John T. Clark Award***

May 2025, Omaha

The Autism Center of Nebraska is proud to announce Rene Ferdinand as the distinguished recipient of the John T. Clark Award. This accolade celebrates Mr. Ferdinand's exceptional dedication and contributions to advancing the lives of individuals with disabilities in Nebraska.

Rene Ferdinand is known statewide as an expert in the field of developmental disabilities and service delivery. His experience as an advocate for persons with developmental disabilities began during his tenure with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

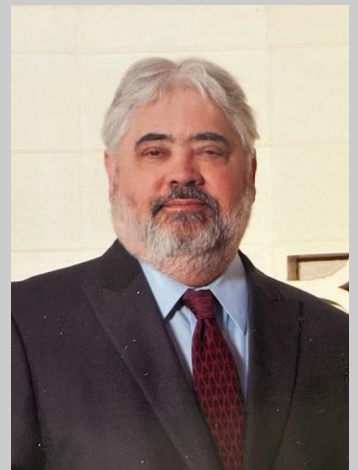
His work with Autism Center of Nebraska (2007-2018) and the Arc of Nebraska has cemented his legacy as a role model and inspiration for the world of Nebraska disability providers.

During Mr. Ferdinand's tenure at ACN, the organization grew exponentially and achieved new heights in both the quality and quantity of services provided for people with disabilities.

This award was celebrated at ACN's [2025 Hats Off Gala](#), which will be held Saturday, April 26th. The event was a heartfelt celebration of Mr. Ferdinand's dedication, passion, and unwavering advocacy for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The award was presented by Leslie Bishop Hartung.

Mr. Ferdinand's career does not only inspire positive change and empower individuals with disabilities to reach their full potential, his career inspires all people who love and support individuals with disabilities to work together to set new standards of humanity, compassion and equity for a society that includes all people regardless of disability.

Thank you, Rene!



*Rene Ferdinand, 2025  
recipient of the John T.  
Clark Award*

You may honor Mr. Ferdinand with your presence at the Hats Off Gala by registering [here](#) or sending a donation in Rene's honor to Autism Center of Nebraska (address below). Please indicate "in honor of Rene Ferdinand" in the memo section of your check or in the notes section of your [online gift](#).

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PHOTO: From left: Rick Lowery, John T. Clark, Rene Ferdinand, ACN, circa 2014