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Local Woman Honored As 'Woman Of Worth'

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Receives \$5000 For Van Bokkelen PTA

Congratulations go out to Rhonda Ulmer!

L'Oréal Paris has announced that an Anne Arundel County parent and longtime volunteer is among one of ten women from across the country to receive the 2009 Women of Worth Award.

Rhonda Ulmer, who began her volunteer activities in 2001 at Van Bokkelen Elementary School, will receive a \$5,000 donation for the school's PTA. Ulmer is now a member of the Seven Oaks Elementary School PTA, where her two youngest children are students, and the Meade High School PTA, where her oldest child is a student.

This win places her in the running for the National competition where the winner will receive \$25,000 for charity.

L'Oréal Paris describes a "Woman of Worth" as one who, "sees a need around her and doesn't hesitate to get involved. She empowers women, mentors children, helps survivors to heal and motivates troops overseas. As a leader, she encourages and coaches others to make a difference in their community."



**Rhonda Ulmer,
Women of Worth
recipient.**

As president of Van Bokkelen's PTA, she helped obtain a grant from the Maryland Parent Leadership Institute to fund the Van Bokkelen Family Network. The project initiative connected parents with children in the elementary school with local resources that helped provided education, food, health, and housing assistance. After being put on a list for possible state takeover, Van Bokkelen has met state standards in each of the last five years. The PTA is also going strong, and membership has increased dramatically in recent years. The Van Bokkelen Family Network Project led Ulmer to create University for Parents, a community program designed to provide parent and family education to assist parents in helping their children succeed in school.

For more information on the Women of Worth program, log on to www.womenofworth.com.