

JCTOD receives statewide award

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UTICA —

Supportive Housing Network of New York officials said Utica's JCTOD Outreach, doing business as Johnson Park Center, was as a 2008 Network Residence of the Year winner.

Johnson Park Apartments I, II and III, which includes 15 apartments encompassed in three buildings in an inner city park, helped resurrect one of the city's "poorest and most dangerous neighborhoods."

This neighborhood resurrection was the vision of The Rev. Maria Scates, state officials said. In addition to onsite services, the residents have the opportunity to volunteer in the other Johnson Park Center community programs, including supportive housing, emergency shelters, food pantries, the community outreach center, the job club, peer mentoring programs and a community garden.

Funding for the Johnson Park apartments has come from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's Homeless Housing and Assistance Program, Supported Housing for Families and Young Adults program, HUD, HOME funds from the City of Utica and predevelopment funding by Enterprise.