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## Do the Right Thing supporter honored

Grace Tillinghast, an avid participant in various community agencies, was recently awarded the Certificate of Mayoral Recognition from Mayor Robert Duffy for her countless years of commitment, dedication and support to the Rochester Police Department's Do the Right Thing program. The program seeks out outstanding young people in the community who have distinguished themselves as role models among their peers.

### Why did you decide to join the Do the Right Thing program?

I was working at Kodak at the time and the Police Department needed a person to represent the company. I am interested in youth programs and since I am trained as a teacher it was a good fit for me. My mother was also a teacher. In the end, I guess I just have it in my blood.

### What was your role with the program?

I was involved from the very start of the program, 11 years ago. I was appointed to the board of directors by then-Rochester Police Chief Bob Duffy. We met monthly to decide everything about the program and how to improve it. As a board member, I was also a member of the selection committee, which meant that I would review all nominations every month and select the five young people that should be recognized.

### Your work in the community is extensive. Why have you always worked with community agencies?

When I came to this country, I was a stranger. But the community received me with open arms. And my mama told me that God only gives you one chance to make a difference so you should help as many people as you can. So I continue to work within the community because I know that I am making a very small difference.

### What type of programs do you see yourself getting involved with next?

I was asked a few weeks ago to rejoin the Rochester Police Department's Board and will participate as co-owner of The Battery, my family business, which is a baseball and softball training facility. I will continue to work in Rochester and always be involved in everything I can.



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 Grace Sandvigen  
 Grace Tillinghast, who was born in Argentina, is dedicated to giving back to the Rochester community.

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