

COMMUNITY

Soroptimists honor Nurturing Center founder

Susan Christofferson, founder and executive director of the Nurturing Center, will receive Kalispell Soroptimists' 2008 Making a Difference for Women Award at an awards dinner April 3 at Jagz Restaurant.

A no-host bar social will be available at 6 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner at 6:45 p.m.

Special guest speaker will be Kalispell Mayor Pam Kennedy.

The award acknowledges ordinary women who,



Christofferson

through their personal or professional activities, have worked in extraordinary ways to improve the lives of women and girls.

Christofferson will be awarded \$500 for her organization and is eligible for awards at other levels of the Soroptimist International. Tickets are \$20 each and are

available by calling Linda at 756-9535. Reservation deadline is March 26, and seating is limited.

Christofferson established the Nurturing Center in 1978 to provide comprehensive support, education and resources to families in a non-stigmatizing, accessible facility.

Her efforts have mobilized the awareness for quality child care, safe families, and the need to educate teenagers.

Christofferson was

instrumental in implementing a Dollar a Day program, an education-based strategy to encourage young teens to avoid getting pregnant.

She also helped create The Gemini Program — a mentoring program for ninth-grade girls to encourage them to complete their education and make positive life choices.

For more information about Soroptimist International of Kalispell, call Diane Yarus at 751-2175.