



## 2012 ITCA Parent Leadership Award

The IDEA Infant and Toddler Association (ITCA) promotes mutual assistance, cooperation, and exchange of information and ideas in the administration of Part C and provides support to state and territory Part C coordinators in the administration of effective early intervention services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families.

The IDEA Infant and Toddler Association (ITCA) ***National and Regional Parent Leadership Awards*** will be given annually to acknowledge outstanding state / regional, and/or national parent leadership on behalf of the Part C program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families. Parents may be nominated on the basis of significant contributions, in either a volunteer or paid capacity, during a specific period of time, or for exceptional efforts over a period of several years. These efforts may range from family support efforts, recruiting and/or training families, serving on committees, working on legislative initiatives etc.

The *ITCA Parent Leadership Awards* are presented during the Part C Coordinator's Meeting, which is hosted by the IDEA Infant and Toddler Coordinators Association during the annual OSEP National Early Childhood Conference in Washington, DC.

## Criteria

Parent nominees can be biological/adoptive parents, foster parents or grandparents of children with special needs who have participated in a Part C program. Nominees can represent a variety of different leadership roles that contribute to the Part C program, including:

1. Parent volunteers or parents not affiliated with any formal organization.
2. Parents serving in appointed positions on state or local ICC's.
3. Parents in salaried positions, or who are compensated for their time.
4. Parents of young children with disabilities currently in the Early Intervention Program, as well as parents whose children have transitioned, or whose children are older, but have remained actively involved in the Part C program.
5. Parents associated with a PTI, advocacy or other formal organization.

In selecting the recipients, consideration will be given to a parent or parents whose contributions include any of the following activities:

- ❖ Actively engaging the involvement of other parents in local, state or national Part C policy/program level activities, and sustaining that involvement through ongoing mentorship.
- ❖ Promoting best practices in early intervention through participation in personnel preparation or collaborative training activities at the local, state or national level that enable families and providers to: understand and implement Part C family rights; understand and encourage children's development; build family-centered support; actively and successfully participate in their communities.
- ❖ Advocacy at the local, state or national level that includes, but is not limited to activities that result in: changes to public policy that strengthened the Part C program; increased or preserved levels of funding; enhanced service delivery, including creating opportunities for services in natural environments; better public awareness; implementation of family-centered supports and services, etc.

The ITCA will appoint an Awards Committee of at least three (3) individuals, one of whom is the ITCA Past President and another shall be an individual who previously received an ITCA Parent Leadership Award to determine the award recipients.

The ITCA reserves the right to not make a regional or national award in a particular year.

## Nominations

Requests for nominations will be distributed broadly to numerous organizations and entities.

To nominate an individual for the *Parent Leadership Award*, prepare a nomination packet that contains:

1. The nomination form
2. A short biography and/or a copy of the nominee's vita
3. A brief description of the nominee's major achievements, which address at a minimum:
  - a. What was outstanding about the nominee's contribution(s)? Include information that highlights the scope of the nominee's achievements.
  - b. What was accomplished? How are these accomplishments relevant to the Part C Program? What was the impact of the activities on the Part C system at the state or national level? Are the activities consistent with the mission and goals of the Part C program and the philosophy of family-centered early intervention?
  - c. Who benefited? Did the nominee's contributions make a difference for: Infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families? Parents serving in leadership roles? Professionals involved in the Part C program?
4. Letter(s) of support.

- a. One letter preferably from a parent (e.g., ICC Parent, parent mentee, parent advocate, etc.)
- b. One from the state Part C Coordinator, if the person is being nominated for the regional parent leadership award

**Submit Electronic Nomination Packet by June 15, 2012 to: [ideaitca@aol.com](mailto:ideaitca@aol.com)**

## 2011 Nomination Form

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am nominating this person for:

☐ Regional Award

☐ National Award

Nominator Contact Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's major achievements: