



**PRESENTATION  
OF THE 2011  
JOAN WALD BAKEN  
AWARD**

# The Joan Wald Baken Award

- Established in 1997 to honor the memory of the devoted member of DPHD who dedicated herself to individuals with physical and health disabilities.
- Up to two awards are given annually to individuals whose accomplishments represent exemplary advocacy and educational practice.
- The recipient must be involved in directly impacting individuals with physical and health disabilities in schools, hospitals, clinics, homes, or in the community.

# 2011 Recipient of the Joan Wald Baken Award

**Pamela De Loach**



# Pam De Loach

- Pam has been working with individuals who have disabilities over 30 years
- She is an excellent example of
  - Teacher
  - Advocate
  - Leader



# Teaching Career

- **Pam has been a teacher Hillsborough County, Florida for over 30 years**
  - Teacher of Students with Varying Exceptionalities, 2008-Present
  - Teacher of Students with Severe and Profound Disabilities, 1993-2008.
  - Caminiti Exceptional Center, June 1987- July 1992
  - Lavoy Exceptional Center, November 1985- June 1987
  - Manhattan Exceptional Center, November 1981-June 1987
  - Mac Donald's Training Center, July 1978-June 1981
  - Angels Unaware, Inc., February 1976-February 1977

# Innovative Teaching

- She has a passion for improving the lives of her students and utilizes innovative approaches to challenge them. Pamela has fought to advocate for quality instruction for her students even when receiving opposition from administration. She has written and received several grants to help her develop and implement innovative teaching practices for her students. Pamela has been involved in curriculum development. One example of her innovative teaching is the use of a technology-enhanced lesson that incorporated science and fun (bubbles!) to provide access to standards-based instruction for students with severe and profound intellectual or multiples disabilities. Although Pamela could retire and has been pressured to do so due to her own health concerns, she continues to teach because she continues to make a difference in the lives of her students.

# Awards

- Florida Subdivision on Developmental Disabilities, CEC Teacher of the Year. 2002-2003
- Human Development Center, Inc., Paraeceptor Award. 2002-2003
- CEC Award Tampa Bay Chapter 194, Teacher of the Year. 1996-1997
- State of Florida, Awarded Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Grant, School-wide, Waterford Reading Grant. 1990
- Florida Federation Council of Exceptional Children, Nancy Givens Grants
  - Transportation for Community Based Instruction”, 1993-94
  - C.O.O.K., 1996-97
  - Kids in Technology, 1998-99
- Tampa Bay Chapter 194 Mini Grants
  - Community Based Instruction, 1990-91 and 1993-94
  - Big Books, 1994-95
  - Cooking & Inclusion, 1996-98
  - Kids in Technology,” 1998-99

# Advocate



- In addition to service to DPHMD, Pamela has served as an advocate for individuals with physical disabilities in her own life. Pamela has cerebral palsy. She has served as an inspiration to others by sharing the struggle of how hard she had to fight to become a special educator including helping to develop a CEC Caucus for Educators with Disabilities. This includes publishing her very inspiring story in the DPHMD journal and other publications. Pamela recently was elected to the Board of Directors of CEC. In this role, she will have an even wider ability to advocate for the quality education of students with physical, health and multiple disabilities.



# Leader



- Pamela has been a member of CEC and DPHMD for over 20 years; she has served in DPHMD committees for 14 years and DPHMD leadership for seven years.
- She also has been active in her Florida chapter of CEC serving in every leadership role at some point in time. In DPHMD, Pamela has served as Membership Chair, Vice President, President-Elect, President (twice due to lack of other members willing to serve), Past President and Treasurer.
- When DPHMD leadership almost fell apart, Pamela and a few others held the Division together. She is passionate about the ongoing success of DPHMD and continues to serve as Chair of the Severe/Multiple Disabilities committee, member of the Finance Committee, and in the crucial role of Advisor to the Division.
- Currently, Pam is on CEC Board of Directors

# Pam's favorite roles: Proud mother and doting grandmother!




Pam with her husband, Bob, daughter, Rachel, and new son-in-law on their wedding day



Pam's son, Rob, and grandson, Logan





**Thank you,  
Pam De Loach,  
for your outstanding  
service and for making  
a difference in the lives  
of people with physical  
and health disabilities!!!**