#### PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 PAMELA K. DE LOACH ADVOCACY AWARD

Division for Physical, Health, and Multiple Disabilities Council for Exceptional Children



The Pamela K. De Loach Advocacy Award honors individuals or groups who demonstrate strong advocacy on behalf of themselves or others who have physical, health, or multiple disabilities. Up to two recipients (individual or group) are awarded annually. Recipients of the award do not have to be DPHMD members, but the person nominating the individual or group needs to be a member.

#### Pamela K. De Loach



2019 Recipient of the Pamela K. De Loach Advocacy Award

#### Amanda C. Korb



#### About Amanda C. Korb, M.Ed.

- Amanda was born in St. Louis, Missouri and later moved to Marietta, Georgia
- Diagnosed with mild flaccid cerebral palsy at the age of nine.
- Has worked as a teacher of children with severe disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, and as a teacher of children with learning disabilities
- Amanda was re-diagnosed with a potassium deficiency in February 2017

## Amanda C. Korb, M.Ed.

- Educational Background
  - M.Ed. Special Education-Inclusive Education
  - B.S.Ed. Special Education-Mental Retardation
- Professional Experiences:
  - Amanda has experience as a long term substitute and as a caregiver to children, adults, and college students with special needs.
  - Amanda is currently working one-on-one with a preschool student in a local school district.

# Advocacy in Action

- As a student, Amanda consistently advocated for herself and communicated her needs with her professors. This allowed her to actively participate in all courses and in field work experiences.
- Amanda maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout her college career.
- The assistance received throughout her college career inspired her to advocate for her students' success and to teach her own students to become self-advocates.

# Advocacy in Action

- As a classroom teacher, Amanda set up an inclusion program within her school.
  - Activities included visiting another classroom's pet guinea pig, physical education, and greeting others with single switch Assisted/Augmented Communication (AAC) devices. These activities allowed for interaction with typical peers, and promoted the idea that all students should be accepted and valued.
- Amanda consistently seeks low and mid-tech adaptations (some quite creative!) for academic access, health, and behavioral regulation for students. Amanda also ensures that all materials used with students are age appropriate regardless of their cognitive levels.

# Advocacy in Action

- In her various professional roles, Amanda has created and maintained collaborative relationships with service providers and professionals to maximize student success in communication, academics, peer interactions, and self-advocacy skills
- In addition to advocating for her students, Amanda advocates for herself as a professional to demonstrate that despite personal limitations, Amanda has the knowledge and skills to teach students with severe disabilities effectively.

#### Fun facts about Amanda:

- Amanda volunteers twice a month at an organization that provides clothing and toys to children and young adults in the foster care system.
- Amanda was the local CEC's Chapter Member of the Year in the 2004-2005 school year.
- Amanda is a certified Water Safety Instructor who has taught a teenager swimming lessons.
- Amanda enjoys hiking and completed the Canyon Climber's Club for her state in 2015, which included four challenging and beautiful hikes.
- Amanda is an avid Atlanta Braves fan and an avid Nashville Predators fan.
- Amanda is an aunt for the first time! Her precious nephew is four months old ③

# Thank you, Amanda for making a difference in the lives of individuals with physical, health, and multiple disabilities!