

The Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award

The 2006 One Goal Summer Conference Planning Committee is seeking nominations for the *Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award*. An individual will be recognized for efforts to foster and maintain collaboration among programs and services for all children including children with disabilities and their families.

THE AWARD

Nancy Duran Thomas was the driving force behind many collaborative efforts. A graduate of Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, and Rutgers University where she received a Masters of Education degree, Nancy was a lifelong educator. She began her professional career as a preschool teacher. In 1973, she and her family moved to Florida where she became the Executive Director for the Ridge Area Association for Retarded Citizens. In 1974, she joined the School Board of Highlands County as a curriculum consultant and later served as the district's coordinator for exceptional student education. Nancy began her employment with the Department of Education in 1979 when she became a consultant for preschool programs for children with disabilities. She was named Director of the Office of Early intervention in 1986. During her tenure in that capacity, Nancy's leadership guided the implementation of Florida's Prekindergarten Early Intervention Program for infants and toddlers with disabilities. Until the time of her retirement in 1997 from the Department of Education, Nancy continued her efforts to provide programs for preschool children with disabilities.

Nancy was steadfast in her commitment to high quality programs for all young children including children with disabilities and their families. She was an individual of great personal integrity, with strong convictions and principles. She was known and loved by many early childhood professionals and advocates around the state, and her memory lives on in continued collaboration efforts. It is an honor for the One Goal Summer Conference Planning Committee to recognize Nancy D. Thomas with this award.

To nominate an individual:

- Complete the Nomination Information Sheet.
- Include a statement of the nominee's collaboration effort(s) using the Required Criteria on page 4. This section should not exceed 5 pages. The name of the nominee must appear in the upper left corner at each page. Pages must be numbered.
- Include a "Statement of Support" completed by a person or group impacted by the collaboration activities of the nominee. This statement shall not exceed one (1) page.
- Include a "Statement of Support" completed by a person or group knowledgeable of the state level impact of the collaboration activities of the nominee. This statement shall not exceed one (1) page.
- Mail the nomination packet to: Frankie Allen, Conference Coordinator, One Goal Summer Conference, P. O. Box 91005, Miccosukee, FL 32309-0005. **All nominations must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2006 to be considered.**

Please print or type. Only one nomination per form.

The award recipient will be recognized at the One Goal Summer Conference.

Final selections will be made by the One Goal Summer Conference Planning Committee, and the Committee reserves the right to defer the award if no nominees meet the award criteria.

The Nancy D. Thomas Collaboration Award

NOMINATION INFORMATION SHEET

Person/Organization Making Nomination (please print or type):

Name & Title: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Address (street, city, zip): _____

Telephone _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Nominee

Name & Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address (street, city, zip): _____

Telephone _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT
by a Person or Group Impacted by Collaboration Activities

Name of individual or group completing the statement:

If group, name and title of contact person: _____

Address (street, city, zip): _____

Telephone _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT
by a Person or Group Addressing State Level Impact
of Collaboration Activities

Name of individual or group completing the statement:

If group, name and title of contact person: _____

Address (street, city, zip): _____

Telephone _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

REQUIRED CRITERIA

Use these criteria as an outline to prepare a description of the nominee's collaboration efforts. This section of the nomination packet should not exceed five (5) pages. Please place the name of the nominee in the upper left-hand corner of each page and number the pages.

- I. Description of innovative collaboration efforts on behalf of young children including children with disabilities and their families**
- II. Evidence of sustained personal commitment and dedication**
- III. Evidence of sustained collaboration efforts on behalf of young children including children with disabilities and their families**
- IV. Evidence of collaborative leadership**
- V. Evidence of statewide impact**

One Goal Summer Conference

P.O. Box 91005
Miccosukee, FL 32309-0005