



Early Intervention Family Alliance



www.EIFamilyAlliance.org

Family Involvement Advocacy Award

The EIFA would like to announce the opening of nominations for the **2011 EIFA Family Involvement Advocacy Award**. It is the intent of this award to honor professionals who do not have a personal and/or family experience with Early Intervention service; but have provided outstanding support of meaningful family involvement on behalf of infants and toddlers and their families. Last year, the award was given to Meg McSweeney from Michigan. The award will again be presented at this year's OSEP National Early Childhood Meeting, which is part of the OSEP Leadership Mega Conference, July 31-August 3, 2011.

Nominations need to be received for this award by 5-27-11. Letters of nomination and accompanying letters of support need to be submitted electronically to: eifamilyalliance@aol.com.

To be eligible for this award, individuals or organizations must have engaged in activities that result in the following outcomes:

- ✓ The promotion of family involvement in local, state, or national Part C policy/program level activities.
- ✓ The engagement of family members in personnel preparation or collaborative training activities at the local, state, or national level that insures that providers understand and implement Part C family rights, understand and support the development of children, and participate fully and as equal members on their IFSP team.
- ✓ The promotion of family involvement in advocacy at the local, state, or national level that supports change in public policy which strengthens family involvement in Part C, increases or preserves funding, enhances service delivery, and/or improves public awareness of the needs of families and children enrolled in Part C.

To submit a nomination, please submit a letter containing the following information:

- ✓ Name, address, phone number, and email address of person submitting nomination
- ✓ Name, address, phone number, and email address of individual or organization being nominated. If an organization, please provide a primary contact name.
- ✓ Outcome which best matches the reason the individual or organization is being nominated
- ✓ Description of specific activities which resulted in significant family involvement in Part C.
- ✓ Letter of support for the nominee from at least one of the following:
 - A family that was supported through the individual or organization's efforts
 - A member of the state ICC or other Part C advisory entities that can speak to the effects of the individual or organization's efforts

For more information on the EIFA award, contact: Roxane Romanick by [email](mailto:) or phone 701-258-7421