

Interagency Transition Council Award 2008

~Cobb/Marietta/Douglas Interagency Transition Council~

Nominated by: Karla Stone Mantooth, Ph.D.

Presented by: Touch the Future/Transition/SERID Awards Committee

This Interagency Transition Council (ITC) has been in existence only two years, but in that short amount of time they have achieved a great deal. The 60+ members meet monthly during the academic year and are guided by this mission statement:

The mission of this Interagency Transition Council is to advocate together to provide resources for parents and teachers to support transitioning students in moving forward to achieve their highest level of independence.

This mission is achieved in three ways:

- Through informational meetings spotlighting agencies and initiatives serving the community
- Through an annual transition information event called "Looking Toward the Future." The 2008 event was held on a Saturday and more than thirty (30) vendors shared information and resources, participated in panel discussions, and embraced the needs of more than 200 self advocates, parents, and educators.
- Through a referral system for transitioning students for whom traditional pathways to success are not readily apparent. Referrals to this ITC benefit from the synergy of dedicated professionals who come together to explore creative solutions to challenging situations.

The professionals who constitute this ITC deserve this award because of their unfailing dedication to the self-advocates and families of the disability community. Their efforts in education, service and outreach are truly heroic. It is therefore our pleasure to award this award to the Cobb/Marietta/Douglas Interagency Transition Council for 2008.