

Champions for Children

Sherri Hous



has been selected to receive the Division of Specialized Care for Children's Outstanding Healthcare Professional Champions for Children Award on July 19, 2007. This award recognizes individuals working in community agencies who have had a positive impact on children with special health care needs by partnering collaboratively with DSCC.

For nearly 70 years, DSCC has served over one million families in Illinois. During this time we have had the privilege of working with many individuals who have been strong advocates for children with special needs. The Champions for Children Award is being given to Ms. Hous to recognize her for her many outstanding contributions and commitment to children with special health care needs.

Though extremely busy with her caseload, Ms. Hous routinely makes home visits, helping parents identify specific targets and outcomes while challenging them. She knows the children and families well. Sherri makes a consistent effort to be at DSCC orthopedic clinics, though that requires travel and sometimes occurs when school is out.

Not only is her input helpful professionally, she is a familiar face and reassuring presence to the children. Quick to advocate for the needs of clients, Sherri tackles difficult issues in a way that encourages team-building, dialog and problem-solving. She goes the extra mile coordinating with DSCC, and has made dozens of referrals for core services, ensuring communication remains open between school, medical professionals and agencies. Sherri's good-natured "can do" attitude gives her the exceptional ability to challenge her students while helping them enjoy the process. As a leader in the community, Sherri manages the local United Way's Cerebral Palsy Clinic on Monday evenings. This selfless effort alone should qualify her for this award, since transportation and availability of services prevent many from seeking outpatient therapy.

DSCC is honored to present Ms. Hous with a certificate recognizing her commitment and dedication to children with special health care needs. Her name will be placed on a plaque that is displayed in the reception area of the DSCC Central Office in Springfield, IL representing the 2007 Outstanding Healthcare Professional for the DSCC Champions for Children Award.