

2012 Call for Nominations For the Carolyn Grossman Award To Honor Extraordinary Commitment to Parents of Young Children

Purpose:

The Carolyn Grossman Award honors individuals who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to strengthening families and helping parents prepare young children for success in school and in life. Award recipients all share the conviction that parents are their child's first and most important teacher.

As a longtime kindergarten teacher at Taylor Elementary School in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, Carolyn knew that parents make an enormous difference in their child's ability to learn and grow. Recognizing that parents often need support in preparing their young children physically, intellectually and emotionally to learn in school, Carolyn Grossman and Barbara Soules co-founded Heights Parent Center in 1975. Carolyn's children established this award in her honor in April 2003.

Family Connections of Northeast Ohio is eager to carry on the tradition of paying tribute to Carolyn Grossman. Heights Parent Center merged with Family Connections on August 1, 2010, because both organizations share the belief that additional resources are needed to educate parents, provide support and help them help their children be successful in school. The Carolyn Grossman Award pays tribute to this vision.

Criteria for Nomination:

Nominees for the Carolyn Grossman Award should demonstrate as many of the following values as possible in their work with families and children:

- Empower parents to build on their strengths and develop their capacity to nurture their children
- Help parents foster their children's success in school and in life
- Demonstrate innovation, creativity and resourcefulness in supporting parents and children
- Respect cultural, ethnic, religious and family diversity
- Respond to the changing priorities and needs of families and children

Nomination Process:

- Nomination forms are posted on our website www.familyconnections1.org or can be requested by calling 216-321-0079 or 216-921-2023.
- Anyone is eligible to nominate an individual for the award. Current staff or members of the Board of Family Connections are not eligible to be nominated.
- **All nominations must be submitted in writing** to Family Connections, 19824 Sussex Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44122 **and received by February 17th**. Nominations may be mailed, faxed to 216-283-3580 or emailed to jfederman@familyconnections1.org or sfc01@sbcglobal.net.
- The Selection Committee is made up of the Executive Director of Family Connections, one member of the Family Connections Board of Trustees, and Carolyn Grossman's children. The deliberations of the committee are confidential and final.
- The Award will be presented at Family Connections' Annual Benefit on May 12th, 2012.