



#Georgiagathering2017

# The 8th Annual Georgia Gathering for Person Centered Practices

“Journey through a Meaningful Life”

*The Dottie Adams Direct Support Professional Award for  
Excellence in Person Centered Practice*

Dottie Adams devoted much of her life to supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. She was a friend, mentor, and guide for many who work daily to support people and communities.

The Georgia Learning Community was blessed to call Dottie a founding member of our group. Her vision and dedication to person centered practice led us throughout our inception and young history. Dottie’s commitment to person centered practice spanned her entire life and career. She worked quietly, but diligently, to assure people who weren’t typically listened to found their voice and their rightful place in their community.

The GLC is committed to keeping Dottie’s legacy alive. Toward that end, our organization is initiating the Dottie Adams Direct Professional Award for Excellence in Person Centered Practice. The award includes a scholarship to the Georgia Gathering including registration, room and meals.

**The Georgia Learning Community Board will determine the winner from the pool of nominations for this great honor. Nominations must be received by August 6, 2017.**

## **Who to Nominate**

To further understand Dottie’s Legacy on the next page you will find Dottie’s One Page Description. As you read through the Description consider the Direct Support Professionals you work with or know, and determine if they should be nominated for this award and scholarship based on the characteristics Dottie embodied.

## **How to Nominate**

Complete the attached Dottie Adams Direct Support Professional Award Nomination Form, and send it to Lisa Sammons, Hope Haven, 795 Newton Bridge Road, Athens, GA 30607. Deadline is August 6, 2017. Complete the contact information section below for yourself, so you can be reached for additional information as needed.

Name	
Agency Affiliation	
Daytime Phone	
Email Address	

## Dottie's One Page Description



### WHAT WAS IMPORTANT TO DOTTIE

- ✚ Her sons and their families especially her grandchildren
- ✚ Doing the right thing
- ✚ Families of people with disabilities
- ✚ Never giving up
- ✚ People feeling known and welcome
- ✚ Staying focused on what really matters
- ✚ Always being there for those she called friends
- ✚ Project Search was her heartbeat
- ✚ The Learning Community as a touchstone for gathering with like-minded people

### THINGS WE LOVE AND ADMIRE ABOUT DOTTIE

- ✚ She was a Great mentor and friend
- ✚ She shared her creativity through her quilts, her poetry, her graphics
- ✚ Dottie made everyone feel loved
- ✚ Just Dottie's presence made someone feel welcomed, appreciated, a sense of pure love
- ✚ She was a great listener; listened with her heart
- ✚ Dottie brought the best out in everyone
- ✚ Dottie captured group conversations through graphics and color coded notes
- ✚ Dottie had a servant's heart
- ✚ Dottie had a will of steel
- ✚ She had a heart for people
- ✚ Dottie held a vision of how things should be-made a path to get there for us to follow
- ✚ Dottie was a life changer
- ✚ She had a quiet presence
- ✚ Dottie is a true definition of a friend
- ✚ Dottie was an attractor who brought peace and calm just by sitting beside her
- ✚ She was an amazing storyteller

### Dottie's Core Gift

*"My core gift is protecting people's hearts and spirits. I do this by accepting people for who they are, spending time with people in good times and bad, by listening, and storytelling."*

Dottie Adams

Please feel free to attach additional information as needed.

**Dottie Adams Direct Support Professional Award for Excellence in  
Person Centered Practice  
Nomination Form**

Nominee's Name	
Organization/Affiliation	
Address Email Address	
Contact Information Phone	

Give an example of a time(s) the Direct Support Professional advocated for a person supported and/or family to help the person reach their dreams?
Explain how this nominee engaged the supported person's community to welcome them.
How might people being supported and their families describe the Direct Support Professional being nominated?
Give examples of how the Direct Support Professional "listens with their heart"
What else might you say about this nominee that exemplifies Dottie's spirit and commitment to person centered practices?

Nominations Must Be Received By  
August 6<sup>th</sup>.

Please feel free to attach additional information as needed.