CPD’s Judith Holt Honored With Life Time Service Award

Center for Persons With Disabilities

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Dr. Judith Holt has been awarded the Life Time Service Award at the Brain Injury Association of Utah's Annual Conference on October 5, 2010.

Dr. Holt was honored for her "outstanding achievements and commitment towards improving supports and services for children, youth, and adults with disabilities and their families. Throughout her career, she has been a strong advocate for consumer direction and choice and has extensive experience in designing, implementing, and evaluating systems of support."

Dr Holt earned her B.A. in English and Psychology and her M.A. in Counseling and Guidance at Brigham Young University. She later attended the University of Texas at Austin where she received her Ph.D. in Special Education. She served as the Interdisciplinary Training Director with the University of Arkansas's Medical Sciences, and later served as an Associate Director for their Department of Pediatrics.

In 2000, Dr. Holt returned to Utah where she was appointed the Division Director of the Interdisciplinary Training Division at the Center for Persons with Disabilities. She also serves as the Co-Director for the Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (URLEND), and is the Director of the Interdisciplinary Disability Awareness and Service Learning Project (IDASL). Dr. Holt is the Principle Investigator and Project Director for numerous other projects at the CPD that involve designing, implementing, and evaluating supports and services for children, youth, and adults with disabilities and their families.

Dr Holt is also serving as an Associate Professor for the Department of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services at Utah State University and is an Adjunct Professor for the Department of Pediatrics with the University of Utah Medical School Health Sciences Center.

Since 2001, Dr. Holt has directed USU's portion of four Traumatic Brain Injury grants in the state of Utah. She and her staff have conducted two statewide needs assessments and developed and piloted TBI curriculum for state agencies and providers including Mental Health, Division of Services for People with Disabilities, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Juvenile Justice. Through these grants, three community work groups were supported and program evaluations were completed.

As the Life Time Service Award stated, "Dr. Holt is a scholar of excellence with extraordinary talent, insight, and energy...She is a visionary whose innovative approaches have given way to improving needed supports for individuals across a broad spectrum and has personally championed individuals to succeed where most might not have been given the opportunity to utilize their skills."

We congratulate and honor Dr. Holt on her life time of dedication and commitment to helping improve the lives of others.