

AWARDS &



by Susan Buningh, MRE, and Karen Sampson, MA

INCE ITS INCEPTION TWENTY YEARS AGO, CHADD's annual International Conference on AD/HD has been an occasion for the presentation of awards. Tireless efforts to improve the lives of people affected by AD/HD are made on a daily basis by people from many walks of life—researchers, educators, treatment professionals, volunteers. The conference provides an ideal opportunity to give them recognition.

Hall of Fame inductees

CHADD established a Hall of Fame in 1994 to recognize and honor individuals who have made significant contributions to improving the lives of people affected by AD/HD. Considered one of the most prestigious awards in the mental health community, each recipient comes from the forefront of research, medicine, or education. During the opening plenary session of the Anaheim conference, the two 2008 inductees were introduced.

George DuPaul, PhD, professor of psychology at Lehigh University, focuses on elementary and secondary students affected by AD/HD. His work helps educators to understand the learning patterns of students with AD/HD and to

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identify practical strategies that address obstacles to student success. Currently he is investigating the effects of an early intervention protocol on the short- and long-term behavioral functioning of young children with AD/HD and related behavioral disorders. After expressing gratitude to the mentors, colleagues, and students who have worked with him, DuPaul added, "The people I most want to thank and recognize, though, are all the parents, children, and teachers who agreed to participate in the research studies I've done."

Jeff Epstein, PhD, director of the Center for AD/HD at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, was a coinvestigator on the NIMH Multimodal Treatment Study of Children with AD/HD. He designed an Internet-based system to assist primary care physicians in community settings to implement evidence-based treatment for AD/HD. "We want

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Presentations made during CHADD's 20th Annual International Conference

CHADD's Innovative Program of the Year Award was presented to Brainology. From left to right are Attention advisory board member Mark Katz, PhD; Brainology founder Carol Dweck, PhD, and staff member Eduardo Briceño: and CHADD president Marie Paxson.





George DuPaul, PhD, receives his Hall of Fame award from conference co-chair Sharon Weiss in the photo at left. At right, Bette Sovinee and Natalie Knochenhauer of CHADD Pennsylvania receive the State Advocate of the Year Award from CHADD CEO Clarke Ross, DPA. The newly formed state-level CHADD obtained state legislation within its first six months of operation.

to teach community pediatricians the techniques we use [to help children with AD/HD]," he said. "I think it is a model of care that can be distributed nationally. Now the goal is to get the whole country to use these procedures." Epstein has also been involved in research identifying neuropsychological deficits in both children and adults affected by AD/HD.

Advocacy awards

Presented to recognize national-level efforts on behalf of people affected by AD/HD, CHADD's 2008 Public Policy Award recognized the contributions of Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA). Sen. Durbin has a long record of sponsoring legislation to improve the lives of people with disabilities, including AD/HD. Since 2004, Sen. Cantwell has been the lead sponsor of resolutions to designate an AD/HD Awareness Day each September. Both senators cosponsored the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act in the fall of 2008, and both have exemplary records supporting the civil rights of people with disabilities.

CHADD presented awards for advocacy on the state level to the Honorable Josh Shapiro, a Pennsylvania state legislator, and to CHADD Pennsylvania. Shapiro was recognized with

the State Legislator of the Year Award for his response to an issue brought to his attention by CHADD Pennsylvania. College students with AD/HD often need accommodations to do well, and a reduced course load is one of the most frequent and effective accommodations. In Pennsylvania that quickly results in loss of coverage under family health insurance because most policies only cover full-time students. Shapiro drafted legislation to address the problem and quickly gained 47 cosponsors; the bill remains pending before the Assembly. A powerful CHADD ally, Shapiro serves as Deputy Speaker of the General Assembly and is on three key committees appropriations, finance, and insurance.

CHADD presented its State Advocate of the Year Award to CHADD Pennsylvania. CHADD groups in the state have a long history of activity, but in 2008 Bette Sovinee, Natalie Knochenhauer, Marie Paxson and a dynamic group of dedicated volunteers took it to the next level, forming CHADD Pennsylvania. One of its first activities was the campaign to get state legislators to sponsor a bill to protect college students with disabilities from losing insurance coverage. An Executive Committee has been formed, chaired by Bette Sovinee, and an e-newsletter circulates to all CHADD members in the







(Clockwise, from left top photo) Online P2P teacher Toni Wood (left) receives the Parent to Parent Teacher of the Year Award from Beth Kaplanek (right), one of the program's founders. A special presentation highlighted CHADD's partnership with the National Medical Association. Pictured holding the 1921 NMA convention photograph are (from left to right) Soleil Gregg, MA; Rahn Bailey, MD, and Diane Buckingham, MD, of the NMA's psychiatric section; and Clarke Ross, DPA. CHADD Affiliate of the Year Awards were presented to the South King County Chapter of Washington State and the Metropolitan Philadelphia Satellite of Pennsylvania (photo left).

state. Volunteers work through the Advocacy Committee chaired by Natalie Knochenhauer, the Awareness Committee chaired by Peggy Forte, and the Educator Committee chaired by Elaine Gray-Gorr.

Innovative programs and educators

Brainology, a program founded by Carol Dweck, PhD, a professor of psychology at Stanford University, received CHADD's 2008 Innovative Program of the Year Award. The program was profiled in the October 2008 issue of *Attention* magazine.

The 2008 Educator of the Year Award was presented to David Agler, a dedicated educator who has been with the Child Development Center at the University of California, Irvine, for the past fifteen years. Agler is a role model for teachers serving children with AD/HD and their families.

Volunteers honored at luncheon

CHADD's many volunteers were treated as the stars they truly are during the annual Leadership Appreciation Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. Kim Kensington, PsyD, originally from Hawaii and now an aspiring actress/comedienne in Los Angeles, entertained the luncheon attendees with a mix of humor and understanding that resounded well with her audience.

"It takes a lot of hard work to be a volunteer," remarked Belynda Gauthier, coordinator of Louisiana Capital Area CHADD, as she began the awards ceremony. Gauthier presented the 2008 Volunteer Leadership awards to Pamper Garner Crangle of CHADD of Chattanooga, Natalie Knockenhauer of Metro Philly, and Ed Williams of CHADD Utah. Williams, an elementary school counselor, told the audience that educating parents about AD/HD is paramount. "If you can give them education and understanding about AD/HD, their children's chances of success grow," he said. "It's amazing what can be done when we help these kids and their parents to understand."

The South King County Chapter of Washington State and the Metropolitan Philadelphia Satellite of Pennsylvania received the Affiliate of the Year awards. Pam Glidden, coordinator of the South King County chapter, immediately turned to her volunteers. "Without them we wouldn't have a chapter," she said. "If anyone tells you there is nothing good about AD/HD, let me tell you I wouldn't be here [receiving this award] without my AD/HD. Welcome your meeting attendees like they are in your own home and you will have volunteers, and attendance will not be a problem."

Toni Wood, an online Parent to Parent teacher, was presented with the Parent to Parent Teacher of the Year Award by Beth Kaplanek, one of the program's founders. "We have four hundred families on the waiting list for the online program," Kaplanek said, crediting Wood with its success. Wood accepted the award with a great deal of emotion. "This is not just mine," she said, and thanked her family "for giving me so many useful teaching examples." She also thanked the members of CHADD's national staff for their support.

Motivational speaker Thomas McKee presented two sessions on volunteer leadership and management before and after the lunch. "The

21st century volunteer culture is very different," McKee said, "because of several significant seismic shifts that have changed volunteer management. These shifts have impacted the volunteer organization; therefore, how we recruit and manage the new breed of volunteer requires a whole new set of leadership strategies." Each volunteer leader received a copy of McKee's book, *The New Breed: Understanding and Equipping the 21st Century Volunteer.*

"I'm excited because there is a lot of passion in CHADD," McKee said. "As volunteer work, it's a bit different because the volunteers have AD/HD themselves. When you look at CHADD, it's a volunteer organization. We had a hundred people here who wanted to learn leadership principles, and that excites me."

CHADD presents historic photograph to NMA

A very special presentation took place during the 2008 conference, recognizing a significant national collaboration.

Many years ago, Billy Jack Gregg found an intriguing panoramic historical photograph while perusing an antique store in rural West Virginia. An original, it showed a group of distinguished men in a formal pose, with a caption reading *NMA 1921, Louisville, Kentucky*. Gregg, an attorney, bought the photograph and displayed it on the wall of his office for the next 35 years, until he retired. His wife Soleil, a former member of CHADD's board of direc-

tors and current chair of the editorial advisory board of *Attention* magazine, recognized the gathering as a National Medical Association conference.

CHADD has enjoyed a strong relationship with the NMA leadership for many years. The oldest and largest national organization representing physicians of African descent and their patients, the NMA has focused on health issues related to African Americans and medically underserved populations throughout its history. Its 2005 resolution acknowledging the impact of AD/HD on African-American children was an outgrowth of the relationship between the NMA and CHADD. Currently, two prominent NMA members serve on CHADD's professional advisory board—Diane Buckingham, MD, chair of the psychiatry section, and Rahn K. Bailey, MD, vice speaker of the House of Delegates.

The Greggs decided the photograph might become an expression of the significance of CHADD's collaborative relationship with the NMA. Clarke Ross, DPA, CEO of CHADD, arranged to have the photograph reframed while preserving the original glass. The presentation of the photograph to Dr. Buckingham and Dr. Bailey highlights an important friendship—and the return of a moment in history to a later generation that is carrying on the NMA's vital mission. "We are thankful to have this picture," said Buckingham, "and also for the kind regards of Dr. Ross."