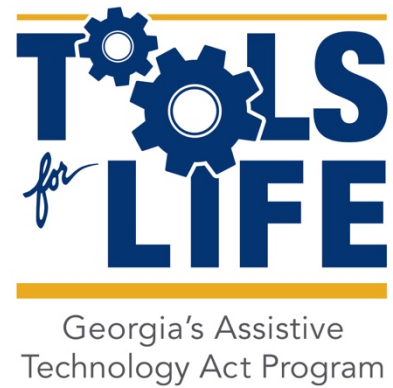


AWARD PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Members of Cherokee County School District Assistive Technology Team Win Tools for Life Excellence in AT Service Delivery Award During Annual IDEAS Conference

St. Simons Island, Georgia | June 18, 2019 – Members of the Cherokee County School District Assistive Technology Team was awarded the prestigious 2019 Tools for Life Excellence in AT Service Delivery Award on June 6, 2019. The team won the prize over other nominees throughout the state of Georgia.

The Tools for Life Assistive Technology Awards Ceremony has been a tradition within Georgia for over 20 years. The Tools for Life Excellence in AT Award recognizes an assistive technology (AT) team at the local or statewide level that involves two or more professionals or entities that promote or facilitate the development of AT integration in a classroom, school, school system, workplace or community. This award was created by Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, to honor excellence in the provision of effective AT services to Georgians.

Two members of the Cherokee County School District AT team received the Tools for Life Excellence in AT Service Delivery Award during the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference. This annual conference is attended by more than 1,000 educators and AT professionals from across the state of Georgia. Members of the team include LaToya Gray, Hollis Grabrovac and Debbie Brineman.

The team rose above the other nominees for a variety of reasons. Gray is the Special Education Supervisor over the AT program for Cherokee County School District who works closely with curriculum to make sure the AT Team has the information needed to make materials accessible and has supported collaboration opportunities with teachers of the Blind and Visually Impaired, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Orthopedically Impaired. Grabrovac serves as a Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Mentor and coordinates with the district technology team to set up and deliver AAC devices to the students who need them. Brineman's expertise is in adaptive access and academic and learning aids. Her experience

coordinating with other therapists and working with students with disabilities to help them build independence to participate, access curriculum materials, and achieve has been invaluable.

Each member of the Cherokee County School District AT Team will receive a unique handcrafted bowl created exclusively for the Tools for Life Assistive Technology Award winners by Georgia artisans *In the Woods, LLC*. These beautiful pieces serve as a reminder of the knowledge, skills and abilities that overflow from each person's "bowl" as he or she assists students and other individuals with disabilities in achieving their educational and lifelong goals.

About Tools for Life:

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they may be able to live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Visit www.gatfl.gatech.edu for more information.

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