

2015 Phil Pickens Leadership Award Nominee



Cheryl Benefield Parent Mentor, Haralson County

««Leadership Accomplishments

- Served as GraduateFIRST team leader for Haralson County Middle School
- Presented on Haralson county successes at local, regional, and state meetings and conferences
- Chosen by National Council for Behavioral Health as one of only 35 National Quality Evaluators for Youth Mental Health First Aid

««Modeling Collaboration and Partnership

- With school administrators and staff, formed one of the first fully functioning middle school C.A.F.E.s in the state
- Helped develop the NW Georgia Transition Alliance
- Assisted DBHDD to develop curriculum for training Parent Peer Support Specialists
- Served on Haralson County Judicial Stakeholders Committee

««Building Home/School/Community Partnerships

- Worked in-depth with Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Family and Children's Services, and DBHDD
- Served on LIPT committee and named 2014 LIPT Chairperson for Haralson County
- Assisted Northwest Regional System of Care to expand access to mental health services for youth
- Helped establish onsite mental health services at Haralson County schools

««Leadership and Involvement with GaPMP

- Unique and varied opportunities as a Parent Mentor in a small district, including Special Education Facilitator
- Family and community Engagement Specialist for Georgia Project AWARE at GaDOE, looking forward to supporting the Partnership in the future



Georgia
Parent Mentor
Partnership

