

View results

Respondent

2

Anonymous

42:02

Time to complete

Nominee Details

1. Name of Nominee *

Jenny Hobbs

2. Name (as you wish it to appear on award) *

Jenny Hobbs

3. Home Address *

4452 Lochurst Drive

4. City *

Pfafftown

5. Zip Code *

27040

6. Phone Number *

256-503-2455

7. Email Address *

jhobbsfamily6@gmail.com

8. The nominee is a/an... *

- Family member of a person with an intellectual or other developmental disability
- Volunteer (non-professional)

Listing of Qualifications

9. Please provide a brief description (maximum 300 words) of the qualifications of the nominee for this award. Give specific information about the nominee's activities in improving the lives of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities, including examples of significant contributions and leadership.

Please include the following:

- List nominee's advocacy experience
- Areas of strength/experience/achievements in the field of intellectual or other developmental disabilities.
- List nominee's volunteer experience

*

Jenny has been a strong advocate in the world of medically fragile children for well over 20 years. She has always been a wonderful resource for families who need information about what services their child might be eligible to receive and what steps families should go through to meet the medical, emotional, and financial needs of the child and family. She has helped countless families learn about grants and organizations that can help bridge the gap that is often left between what insurance covers and what medically fragile children and adults need to remain safe in their home and community. She has done this for family after family after family for years and years as people have referred families to her when they need help. Recently she started a nonprofit organization, Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC, so that she could share all the knowledge that she has gathered from countless resources across the years in a centralized location where anyone in our state would have instant access to that knowledge. People who need help can now access all the resources and answers she has worked tirelessly to get for her family and many other families across the state in a centralized location. Now that information can be easily distributed and accessible by many more families. In addition to seeking out answers that families desperately need, she volunteers on multiple state leadership boards working in conjunction with Medicaid and other agencies that serve our population to make sure that the voices of the people being served are heard. More than that, she gives so many hours reading through proposed policy changes and breaking those changes down into easy to read and understand views of what those changes mean. Families can now read a breakdown of proposed policy changes in a few pages of simple English instead of hundreds of pages of legalese. This allows families to write and reach out to Medicaid and be heard. She also reaches out to legislature and advocates for change and alerts policy makers to the unintended consequences of their actions. Most recently she did this by explaining what the proposed new masking law would mean for immunocompromised patients and families. She was able to get language added to the bill to at least give some level of protection back for those of us who rely on masking to avoid life threatening diseases. She volunteers as a Guardian Ad Litem. She volunteers as my daughter's advocate and helps my adult daughter who is blind and has a cognitive disability be able to manager her own waiver services as her own EOR. She does all of this while still being an incredible advocate for her children and herself. I and so many other people are incredibly thankful for the work she does every day to help us all be able to remain active and safe at home.

Supporting Information

Identify **three (3) individuals** who have knowledge of the efforts of the nominee.

NOTE: It is encouraged that individuals submit a short statement (maximum 300 words) in support of the nominee. Statements should include specific examples of work the nominee has done to influence positive change in the lives of people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

10. **Individual 1** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

Please see next question for short statement submission.

*

Kristi Shields
101 Beacon Ridge Drive
PO Box 469
West End, NC 27376

11. **Individual 1** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the Jack B. Hefner Memorial Award. (300 words)

*If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Hefner Award Documents - John Doe) **

Emailing response to you.

12. **Individual 2** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

Please see next question for short statement submission.

*

Christy Koury
317 Minden Lane
Matthews, NC 28105
(704) 321-5621
christy@kourydesign.com

13. **Individual 2** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the Jack B. Hefner Memorial Award.

*If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Hefner Award Documents - John Doe) **

Hello,

I am writing to submit my supportive statement for the nomination of Jenny Hobbs for the Jack B. Hefner Memorial Award:

I met Jenny Hobbs almost 20 years ago through the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation. Jenny and I both have mitochondrial disease and have children affected by mitochondrial disease. Many children, including my own, have autism and developmental delays as a symptom of their mito.

Initially, Jenny helped me guide families who needed intense support but were waitlisted for CAP-MR/DD slots through their US Senators' offices to get help. Over the years, Jenny continued to help me advocate for my children and others in NC until she naturally migrated into a case management job where she could help kids professionally with advocacy and CAP-C and Innovations waiver services.

When Jenny's medical situation worsened, she stopped working, but she did not stop advocating. She and another woman formed a Facebook group called Advocates for Medically Fragile Kids NC and shared helpful information with NC families there. Eventually, they formed a non-profit group of the same name.

Strictly out of the goodness of her heart, Jenny began speaking to state representatives, sitting in on committee meetings, and gathering information which she shared with her online group. She also organized parents to lobby for needed changes in the waivers as well as for other issues that affect our children, like protecting our rights to wear masks in public because of our medical fragility.

Most recently, she and her non-profit partner put together an absolutely amazing website, fragilekidsNC.org. I encourage you to check it out, keeping in mind that this was built by a handful of mere volunteers, spearheaded by Jenny Hobbs.

In short, Jenny Hobbs has worked tirelessly for almost two decades to bring information to and to advocate for families of disabled and developmentally delayed children in North Carolina. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of the Jack B. Hefner Memorial Award.

Thank you for your consideration.
Christy Koury

14. **Individual 3** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- City
- Zip
- Phone, and
- Email Address

*Please see next question for short statement submission. **

Elaine Nell
130 Cinnamon Way
Clemmons, NC 27012
(336) 409-7763
emtnell@gmail.com

15. **Individual 3** - Please provide a short supporting statement of why this nominee should be the recipient of the Jack B. Hefner Memorial Award.

*If sending an attachment via email, please write "Sending supporting documents via email" in the text box. Please submit your supporting documents by July 10, 2024 to awards@nccdd.org and include the name of the Award and Nominee in the Subject Line (Example: Hefner Award Documents - John Doe) **

Will submit via email.

Personal References

Identify three (3) individuals as personal references who may be contacted to help evaluate the qualifications of the nominee.

16. **Individual 1** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

*

Cindy Shields
(704) 733-0605
cindyshields185@gmail.com

17. **Individual 2** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

*

Lucy Shell
(980) 525-2506
lucy.shell@icloud.com

18. **Individual 3** - Please provide the following information:

- Full Name
- Phone
- Email Address

*

Margaret Moore
(412) 354-1553
margaret.moore@umdf.org

Nominator Information

19. Full Name *

Kris Shields

20. Title/Relationship to the nominee *

friend, former coworker, Jenny is currently my daughter's advocate (volunteer)

21. Email *

kris2public@gmail.com

22. Organization (if applicable):

23. Street Address *

101 Beacon Ridge Drive - Box 469

24. City *

West End

25. Zip Code *

27376

26. Phone Number *

(704) 733-0605

27. Email Address *

kris2public@gmail.com

28.

I've read and followed the submission guidelines for my application to be considered for the 2024 Advocacy and Leadership Awards. I understand my application will not be considered if the following documents are not completed or submitted to NCCDD by July 10, 2024.

- Section 1: Completed Nominee Information
- Section 2: Completed with Listing of Qualifications
- Section 3: Completed with Short Statements of Support
- Section 4: Completed Personal References
- Submitted ON OR PRIOR TO, Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

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- Section 1: Completed Nominee Information
- Section 2: Completed 'Listing of Qualifications'
- Section 3: Completed 'Short Statements of Support' (emailed to awards@nccdd.org)
- Section 4: Completed Personal References
- Submitted on or Prior to Wednesday, July 10, 2024