NC Council on Developmental Disabilities

Helen “Holly” Riddle Award Selection Committee

July 4, 2024

Dear NC Council on DD Award Review Committee:

I am pleased writing in strong support of the nomination for Pam Shipman to be this year’s recipient of the Helen “Holly” C. Riddle Award.

When PBH began operations under the new name Cardinal Innovations Healthcare, Pam was the person sending the message responsible for making sure it was heard and understood in the way it was meant, sums up Pam Shipman. To make the greatest impact, each member of the team came together like a fist, unified in mind and body. Pam believed it was much more important to set a standard of excellence. Her hunger is not for success, it is for excellence.

Leadership wasn’t about a flowchart or report or algorithm or a committee, it’s about giving people room to grow because everyone changes on your team, even when it’s the same people.

Her mindset is about using powerful new strategies, skills, and scaffolds that support another human being in reaching his or her greatest potential and accomplishments. Her inclusive approach is derived from her philosophy that everybody is equal.

She truly deserves this honor for this award and I wholeheartedly recommend Pam Shipman for this lifetime achievement – AND… I can honestly say that Pam’s work has improved the quality of life for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities to achieve the highest level of independence possible – all with the intention for a better life in the community where people with disabilities and their loved ones live and each person is welcomed, respected and valued…

Bob Crayton

– NC State CFAC past Vice-Chair; NC Collaborative for Children, Youth & Families; Elite Advocate, Family Partner, Nate’s Uncle, Family Caregiver for Loved One with IDD and Complex Needs; and Individual IDD Lifelong Learner…