The New England Center for Children Announces Megan Coughlin as 2019 Maria Felix Lonergan Memorial Award Recipient

Award Recognizes Outstanding Contributions in Mentorship, Advocacy, and Professionalism

SOUTHBOROUGH, Mass. (PRWEB) October 10, 2019 -- The New England Center for Children® (NECC®), a global leader in education and research for children with autism, announced today that Megan Coughlin has been named the 2019 Maria Felix Lonergan Memorial Award recipient. The award is presented annually to an individual at NECC for outstanding contributions in three areas: mentorship, advocacy of effective education, and professionalism.

Ms. Coughlin is a day and education coordinator at NECC and a graduate of Hamilton College in Clinton, NY. She began her career at NECC through the Cooperative Education Program established between NECC and Hamilton in 1999. The program has brought 70 Hamilton students to NECC since its inception as well as 31 summer interns.

This year’s award nominees included Amanda Bickum, Liz Chapin, Amy Posocco, Lauren Shostek, and Melissa Swisher.

“Congratulations to all our nominees, and to Megan on receiving the Maria Felix Lonergan Memorial Award,” said Vincent Strully, President and CEO of The New England Center for Children. “All of us at NECC admire the compassion, care, and commitment she demonstrates to both students and staff. We know that Megan has a successful career ahead of her making a difference in the lives of children with autism.”

About the Award

Maria Felix Lonergan was a dedicated professional during her 20-year tenure at NECC. She was an exceptional employee who was especially committed to NECC’s mission to transform the lives of children with autism worldwide. A licensed special educator and Board Certified Behavior Analyst, Maria worked across many of NECC’s programs, as a teacher, case manager, academic specialist, program specialist, and education administrator. The award is presented annually to an individual at NECC for outstanding contributions that reflect Maria’s lifework.

About The New England Center for Children

The New England Center for Children® (NECC®) is an award-winning autism education center and research institute. Our community of teachers, researchers, and clinicians have transformed the lives of thousands of children with autism worldwide through education, research, and technology. The Center provides comprehensive services to maximize independence: home-based, day, and residential programs, partner classrooms in public school systems, consulting services, the ACE® ABA Software System (www.acenecc.org), teacher professional development, and research on educational best practices.

NECC is committed to staff professional development, partnering with local colleges to provide on-site graduate training and degrees at little to no cost to the NECC teacher. The result is a growing pool of exceptional teachers trained in best-in-class methodologies, whether they continue their careers at NECC or
move on to public schools or private agencies. The New England Center for Children is based in Southborough, MA, and operates a center in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Learn more at www.necc.org.
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