Cooperman-Bogue KidsFirst Awards for 2004, at a Ceremony Held on 2005 : 03 : 29

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.
2004 Cooperman-Bogue Award Winners

First Quarter Winner, Vonnie Klein...
Is a Para Professional with Florida First Start, Pinellas County Schools for almost 13 years. She provides home visits to low-income families with children birth-to-five who are at risk of future school failure. Vonnie believes that every person is important and that self-esteem of parents and their children is important. She answers the phone 24/7 to help a family who is frustrated or in need, and regularly works with families after the workday and on weekends. What Vonnie does will have a life-long benefit for the children and families of Pinellas County.

Second Quarter Winner, Kelly Ogles, MSW...
Is a Teen Parent Social Worker with Pinellas County Schools at PTEC, and has been with the School System for 13 years. Kelly is responsible for providing support, counseling, and referrals to outside resources to the students who are in the teen parent program. She models behaviors and decision-making processes that students need to learn. Kelly is warm and caring, makes students feel unique and valuable, and keeps them motivated toward high school graduation. She does not work to make students dependent on her, but rather to help them be self-sufficient and learn to expect success.

Third Quarter Winner, Erma Campbell...
Is a Match Manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Pinellas County, where she has been employed for 4½ years. Erma screens, interviews, and matches big brothers/sisters with little brothers/sisters. She is consistently the highest performing team member in the agency in number of interviews and matches, and often meets with volunteers, parents, and children on her own time. The numerous children Erma has matched experience the benefits of a relationship with a caring adult, including improved and enhanced self-esteem, and personal growth.

Fourth Quarter Winner, Deborah Dodson...
Is a Therapeutic Family Child Care Provider providing care to special needs children in her home. Debbie never gives up on a child, even difficult children with behavior problems. When she sees a need, such as a child growing out of shoes when the parents are financially stressed, she supplies the shoes. Debbie attended a sign language class to communicate with one child in her care, and is teaching all of the children signs for better communication with that one child. She is an inspiration to others by being positive about childcare challenges. To Debbie, the glass is always half full.

Program

Social Hour ......................... 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Welcome ............................ 7:00 p.m.
    Van Sayler, Chair
    Juvenile Welfare Board

    James E. Mills, ACSW
    Executive Director
    Juvenile Welfare Board

Dinner

Program

Emcee:
    Mike Deeson
    Senior Reporter

Special Performance:
    Gibbs High School Students of
    Pinellas County Center for the Arts

Video Presentation:
    2004 Award Winners

2004 Awards Presentation:
    Thomas R. Moriarty
    Former JWB Member and
    President, InterSecurities, Inc.
    A subsidiary in the AEGON family of companies