



BARC Developmental Services Noreen Coleman EI Peer Recognition Award Nomination Ballot

The Noreen Coleman Early Intervention Peer Recognition Award honors Noreen Coleman, who dedicated 25 years to the BARC Developmental Services (BARC) Early Intervention Program. Noreen was known for her kindness, dedication to children and strong commitment to families. Winners of this award is an Early Interventionist, who contracts directly with BARC, who reflect these same values while providing supports and services to children.

To nominate someone for this award, follow these steps.

1. Complete this ballot, describing examples of collaboration, compassion, and professionalism. Include any specific moments or stories that capture the nominee's impact. Include a brief quote or note from a family (if applicable). Additional pages may be submitted if you require more space than provided below.
2. Submit your ballot to the Director of Early Intervention at karen.brownstein@barcprograms.net no later than September 1, 2026.
3. Make sure your name and signature appear on the ballot.
4. You may be called for a more detailed explanation of why you feel your nominee deserves to be considered for this award. Examples are important.

My Nominee: _____Katie Mill_____

I nominate this Interventionist because ...

I am honored to nominate Katie for the EI Peer Recognition Award. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Katie for over two years, and I can truly say that she is a "Sunshine Girl." She has an incredible ability to light up a room, or a family's home the moment she walks in. Katie is a phenomenal Special Instructor who brings creativity, compassion, and dedication to every child and family she works with. She is constantly coming up with creative ways to engage children, whether it is turning a simple container into a new toy, creating visual supports, or developing individualized pictures and activities that families can easily use at home. One example that really stands out is a family we shared this past year. When the mother asked for individualized pictures for specific activities, toys, and routines, Katie took the time to create over 20 pictures and organize them into an easy-to-use, child-friendly bag. She truly listened to what the family needed and went above and beyond to make it happen. Katie is also a wonderful teammate. When I have an idea for a visual or sensory support, I can say, "Katie, what do you think?" and her response is usually, "I'm on it!" She is always willing to help, solve problems, and do whatever she can to support a child and family. What makes Katie so deserving of this award is that she consistently gives more than what is expected. She goes the extra mile for her children and families and puts her whole heart into her work. She is willing to spend extra time creating materials, problem-solving with families, and finding ways to make each child more successful. Even when families reach out outside of typical work hours, Katie takes the time to respond and provide the support they need. I feel very fortunate to have her as a colleague and I truly believe she is very deserving of the EI Peer Recognition Award.

From families she is working with or had worked with: *Katie has been such a gift to our family and has made an incredible difference in our twin boys' lives over the past year and a half. She has supported them with so much patience, love, and creativity, and it is amazing to see how far they've come. Their daycare teachers constantly rave about Katie and how much she has taught them, not only about our boys but about how to engage, connect, and play with all of the children in their classroom. She has truly gone above and beyond, and we feel so lucky that our boys have Katie cheering them on and helping them grow. We are very thankful for all that Katie has done to support their development.*

Katie has been such an incredible support for my son. She thoughtfully plans each session to his needs and makes each one fun! Our son would not be where he is today without her. Thank you for all you do Katie!

I wanted to take a moment to reach out and share how incredibly grateful I am for the care, support, and thoughtfulness she has shown my son and I through the process of early intervention.

I also wanted to acknowledge something that I think can easily get overlooked. So often, people take the time to write when they are unhappy, frustrated, or have had a negative experience. I felt it was equally important to take the time to recognize when someone is doing an exceptional job. Her hard work and the effort she put into helping my son have not gone unnoticed. She truly goes above and beyond in every aspect.

The actual sessions have been wonderful, but what has stood out to me just as much is everything that happens around those sessions—the communication, the thought that goes into our conversations, the additional supplies/support and the effort she makes to reach out and follow up between appointments. It is clear to me that she genuinely cares about him and is invested in understanding him as an individual, not simply treating the hour that she is with him.

I appreciate the time, attention, patience, and consideration she puts into her work with him. As a parent, knowing that my child has someone who understands him, and puts this much thought and effort into supporting him means more to me than I can really put into words.

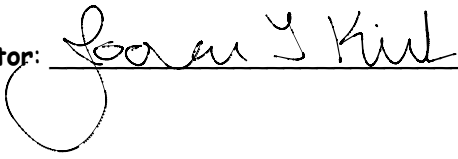
Thank you for everything she does—for the sessions themselves, for the communication in between, for the thoughtfulness you bring to every interaction, and most importantly, for the care she shows my son. I am truly grateful that he has you in his corner.

Nominator: _____Joann I Kirk_____

Relation to Nominee: _____Peer/Colleague_____

Phone: _____215-582-5398_____ **Best times to call:** _____any time after

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Signature of Nominator: __________