

Press Release

Jessica Hall

The recipient of Maine Administrators of Services for Children with Disabilities for Children's Advocate/Legislator/Parent of the year is Jessica Hall. Jessica resides in Searsport, Maine, where she is the single mother of a child with spina bifida.

While Jessica is not active politically and does not seek public notice or leadership, she is a faithful behind-the scenes supporter of the handicapped on many fronts. She helps with fund raising for Maine Handicapped Skiing and is a volunteer at Freedom Riders, a handicapped horseback riding program. With the help of her extended family she organized the Paddle for Pine Tree Camp event at Swan Lake in 2005 and this locale, of which there were several, raised the most money.

Beyond her efforts for handicapped youth she is an active volunteer in her community for all children. She teaches Sunday School, has a Cub Scout troop, volunteers in the school district for the elementary theater program, fluoride program and in the library. She is a positive role model, not only for parents of children with disabilities, but parents of all children.

All of this is amazing as Jessica is a self-described shy person who dives into all these activities in order to foster her son, Alex's, development and independence. Alex, who is in a wheelchair, is in the fifth grade. He skis, rides horses, lobsters, participates in rowboat races, kayaks, and "walks" .7 miles to school most days with his mother.