

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TAMPA, FL. (Tuesday, February 5, 2013)

CALLING ALL HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS AND TEACHERS

The Human Development Center, Inc. (HDC) is proud to announce that the 18th Annual Praeceptor Awards competition has officially begun. The nomination packet, as well as a letter of support from Hillsborough County Public Schools Superintendent MaryEllen Elia, has been mailed to all principals. Nominations are also available for download at www.hdcinc.org.

The Praeceptor award is presented to a Hillsborough County teacher who follows the principles of behavior analysis and the Center (HDC) in teaching children with special needs to achieve as much independence as possible, and who challenges such students to attain their highest level of personal success. Any Hillsborough County teacher actively engaged in the teaching of Exceptional Student Education is eligible to win. **First place is \$5,000** in cash and the coveted Praeceptor Iceberg Trophy. **Nominations are due to HDC by 04/01/13.** We strongly encourage all special education teachers to nominate themselves or for their peers, students and parents to nominate them.

Established in 1978, HDC is dedicated to providing life skills, educational and employment training and services to adults diagnosed with intellectual disability, autism, and mental health disorders. HDC is a private, non-profit state designated behavior intensive organization dedicated to promoting independence in the lives of adults with disabilities.

The Praeceptor Award, initiated in 1996, is HDC's method of recognizing and acknowledging the challenges and rewards of working with this population. "These teacher's unique dedication and ability to motivate and captivate their students is worthy of this award and much more", says Nicole Smith Development Coordinator at HDC.

The 18th Annual Praeceptor Awards will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 from 6:30PM-8:30PM at The Hollywood Venue located at 9210 Anderson Road in Tampa. The evening will consist of dinner and the presentation of awards.

This event is proudly supported by Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union's- Suncoast for Kids Foundation, and Publix Super Market Charities. Sponsorship opportunities are available; please contact Nicole Smith at nsmith@hdcinc.org or 813-872-6250, ext.106 for more information.