

CORNERSTONE AWARD HONOREE

Cindy Herndon, is the Special Education Services Supervisor for the Gahanna-Jefferson District. Herndon has served the district for 18 years and has been in education for a total of 23 years.

Receiving a B.A. degree in 1974 from Miami University, Herndon continued her studies and obtained a Masters in Guidance and Counseling in 1979 and her Supervision Certification in 1992, both from The Ohio State University.

She has received formal recognition most recently from the City of Gahanna, and also awards from the Syntaxis Organization and the Magellan Program. Her work with students in the Buckeye Ranch programs, the former Eagle's Nest program, and the special programs at the career centers and in alternative programs outside of the district, has been outstanding and highly respected by staff and administrators associated with the programs.

Herndon is known for her organization, supervision and planning of in-district alternative programming for Gahanna-Jefferson students with Individual Education Plans. She has worked with district administrators to create and build unique programs from the ground up for students in the district with some of the most challenging needs.

Mark Semer, Gahanna-Jefferson director of special education services, stated, "The most telling tributes to Mrs. Herndon's care and effort with students are the notes and personal comments she receives at the end of the year. Each year students and their parents make sure she knows their success is due directly to her efforts; that the students wouldn't have made it without her."

The list of Herndon's efforts and accomplishments are extensive, but the most outstanding aspect of her commitment to students is her "heart." She cares about the students personally, emphasizing their strengths, and never stops trying to find ways to help and support them.