

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Achievement Centers for Children's Koss to Receive Professional Excellence Award

Presented at 14th Annual Milestones Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference June 16-17

CLEVELAND, OHIO – Mary Beth Koss, Director of Education and Achieve Consulting at Achievement Centers for Children, will receive the Professional Excellence Award at the 14th Annual Milestones Autism Spectrum Disorder Conference. Presented by Milestones Autism Resources, the conference takes place June 16-17 at Landerhaven. With 75 workshops, more than 100 speakers, and more than 40 exhibitors, this must-attend autism event serves family members, educators, administrators, therapists, clinicians, and individuals with autism. Scholarships and continuing education are available. For more information, visit milestones.org.

“Let your passion and commitment to make a change in the lives of a child on the autism spectrum drive you to continuously learn more, embrace challenge as an opportunity to further enhance a child’s life, and make a difference – not only for the individual with autism, but for our greater community,” said Koss.

Other 2016 honorees and their respective awards include:

- Daniel Hahn and Kelly Florian from Playhouse Square – Community Innovator Award
- Shari Goldberg – Parent Tribute Award (Outstanding Mom)
- Keith Bambic – Parent Tribute Award (Outstanding Dad)
- Evan Burg, Sari Gonick, Adam Freireich, Brittany Lieberman from JFSA Transitions – Personal Achievement Award
- Alexandra Wiskes – Teen Trailblazer Award

“Milestones Autism Conference offers the entire autism community an opportunity to learn about evidence-based treatment options for all ages and ability levels and to network with each other,” said Ilana Hoffer Skoff, co-founder and executive director of Milestones. “With 75 workshops offered at the conference, there is something of interest for every member of the autism community.”

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About Mary Beth Koss

Mary Beth Koss, M.Ed., has had a large impact on the autism community. Actively involved with many autism organizations, Koss has been on the staff of Achievement Centers for Children for 20 years. Koss has increased the knowledge base of teachers and paraprofessionals, helping them to provide best practice, evidence-based programming for students with autism in public school settings. She developed a preschool specifically for children with autism in 1998 that now extends through eighth grade. Through Achieve Consulting, Koss provided school consultation to facilitate inclusion of students with autism in the classroom and other school/community activities. She has lead the management of the



Achievement Centers' Technical Assistance Program that provides ongoing consultation, support and training for child care providers to ensure that children with disabilities are successfully and safely included into existing child care programs.

About Milestones Autism Resources

Founded in 2003, Milestones Autism Resources improves the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum throughout Northeast Ohio by educating, coaching, and connecting the autism community with evidence-based information. Milestones is the first call for help at each transition of an individual's life. Milestones envisions a community in which individuals on the autism spectrum reach their full potential as contributing members of society, recognized for their strengths and supported in their challenges. Each year, Milestones serves more than 2,400 parents, professionals, and individuals of all ages and abilities through an annual conference, trainings, and coaching services. The website, milestones.org, connects 58,000 unique visitors to more than 1,000 autism resources.