

HIPPY Alabama Presents:
2010 HIPPY Heroes





Ms. Carolyn Akers

Carolyn Akers is a wonderful advocate for children and works tirelessly in the Mobile area to see that "Best Education Practices" are shared and implemented. Under her leadership, The Mobile Area Education Foundation has grown into a well-known and respected force for education. She brought HIPPY to Mobile in 1998 and continued to be a strong HIPPY advocate while the program worked under a different lead agency. HIPPY Mobile is now back under the aegis of the Mobile Education Foundation, and everyone associated with HIPPY appreciates what this means to the program and its future. Carolyn Akers is a strong leader who stands for excellence, and Mobile HIPPY is proud to name her its HIPPY Hero! Thank you, Carolyn!



Mr. Philip Dobbins

Phillip Dobbins has been and continues to be a special blessing to the Montgomery HIPPY Program. He has worked hard to support HIPPY as he has supervised and managed HIPPY's "AmeriCorps Funds", "At-Risk", "Title 1" or the legislated funds since 1995. Over the years, the fiscal problems have been varied and complex, but Philip has never lost patience with us. Sometimes he was asked to rush a Purchase Order through or make a miracle happen in "the blink of an eye", but he never got irritated or lost his patience; he just made it happen.

The following quote from Philip says it best, "I strive to always be fair and honest in all that I do. I feel that honesty is the best medicine as it causes you to admit, correct, and overcome mistakes and problems, while dishonesty looks for blame and prevents individuals from experiencing personal growth and building lasting relationships." Thank you, Philip, for your unselfish and tireless support for HIPPY.



Representative Alan Baker

When given the opportunity to nominate our HIPPY Hero, one person, and one person only, came to mind: Representative Alan Baker. Representative Baker has been our Atmore HIPPY Hero from the very beginning of our journey to become a HIPPY site.

In the midst of proration and economic uncertainties, Representative Baker has provided us monetary support and so much more. He is a very visible presence in and during our activities. Writing a check is easy; becoming involved takes effort. Representative Baker is involved.

He has also met with representatives from HIPPY Alabama. Not out of obligation, but because of his strong belief in the value of HIPPY. As a former educator, Representative Baker is fully aware of the need for HIPPY and its importance to our children, our families, and our communities.

Representative Baker is truly our HIPPY Hero! In though, in word and in deed! We are the ones who are honored, privileged and proud... to name him our Hero, friend and neighbor.



Senator Marc Keahey

Raised in Grove Hill, Marc is a lifelong native of southwest Alabama. He was a baseball player and Academic All-American at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College before going on to earn a business degree from the University of Alabama. He is an avid supporter of the HIPPY Clarke County program and recently secured a Community Service Grant in the amount of \$8,750 for the program. He also supports the program with his attendance at various HIPPY activities and has pledged his continued support of the program in the future.

Senator Keahey has worked to secure funding to start the preschool program known as *Save the Children* in 3 of the 8 counties in Senate District 22. Most recently, Senator Keahey secured \$150,000 in state funding to start the *Save the Children* program at Rachel Patterson Elementary School in Escambia County, which led to a total investment of \$300,000 in Escambia County, totaling approximately \$500,000 secured to implement the program throughout the district during his first term in office. Marc and his wife, Lara, have two children, Marc, II, and Scarlette.



Mr. and Mrs. Larry Keefer

Meda and Larry Keefer have been untiring supporters of HIPPY of Monroe County since its inception. They were both instrumental in organizing the community to fund and support the program. Both serve on the Advisory Board and have work tirelessly for the program. Meda has also served on the Alabama HIPPY Advisory Board and helped with state PR efforts. At last year's graduation, Larry helped robe the kids. When one little boy was shy and afraid, "the ole ball coach" took the child under his wings, turned tears into smiles, and walked with him to get his diploma!

Meda likes to help with group meetings and other special projects. Among the many things she has done has been to write grants and serve on the SAFE committee. The Meda and Larry know the program well because they are such a part of everything and can always be counted on to "make good things happen!" Thank you Meda and Larry Keefer!



Ms. Mona Davis

Mona Davis is the Public Information Manager for Montgomery Public Schools and began her career as a freelance writer for the *Montgomery Advertiser* and a production assistant at WAKA, the local CBS affiliate. Prior to coming to Montgomery Public Schools (MPS),

Her career has been marked by a number of prestigious awards including the Public Relations Council of Alabama's Award of Excellence for special event publications, National School Public Relations Award of Merit for Marketing Materials and NSPRA's Front Runner Award. Mrs. Davis is also active in the community and serves on the boards of SAYNO and Partners In Education. Mrs. Davis is a huge supporter of HIPPY and we thank her!!



Judge Truman Hobbs, Sr.

Judge Hobbs joined the U.S. Navy in January 1942 where he served almost 5 years. His deployments included three invasions in Europe and orders to Okinawa, Japan. Nine months after the end of the war, he returned to the U.S. and attended law school.

Judge Hobbs began his law career by serving as a law clerk for Justice Hugo Black on the United States Supreme Court in Washington, DC for one year. After his clerkship ended, he returned to Alabama to begin private practice in Birmingham and subsequently in Montgomery with John Goldbold.

In 1980, he was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as a U.S. District Judge where he continues to serve with his esteemed colleagues.

Judge Truman Hobbs, Sr. is a credit to the nation and state. He has spent a lifetime serving Alabama to make communities safer and to uphold justice. We are deeply honored to have him looking out for our interests and doing all that he can to safeguard us. He is committed to our state and city and has raised his children to think of others.



Judge Truman Hobbs, Jr.

Judge Truman Hobbs, Jr. is someone who cares deeply about making the world a better place and investing in his community. He has supported HIPPY since its inception in Alabama in 1993, and often his monetary contributions have "saved the day" and allowed the program to continue serving families. He stands for justice and integrity, and HIPPY Alabama is proud to call him a true friend and HIPPY Hero! Thank you, Truman!



Carnella Jarmon

Carnella has led the Birmingham site from its beginning with tremendous tenacity. There has not been any task that she has not embraced with dedication to guarantee that the 3-5 year olds within the Jefferson County area become equipped with the readiness tools needed to become successful butterflies through HIPPY.

Mrs. Jarmon is a graduate of Miles College, with a B.S. in Elementary Education; Masters of Education and Education Specialist from Alabama State University. She is married to Luther Jarmon and has two children Efe' and LaBrun. The lineage of her life extends to her grandson, Javaris. Millions of THANKS to Carnella Jarmon-a true leader and doer for Birmingham HIPPY!



Representative Harry Shiver

District 64 is fortunate to have Harry Shiver represent them for he is a tireless advocate for his region. I first became aware of Representative Shiver's support for HIPPY when he called the HIPPY State Office and asked detailed questions regarding the distribution of HIPPY Funds passed by the legislature; he was deeply concerned that one of his counties, Baldwin, was not getting any of that money. He vowed to do all that he could to change that situation, and I believe that he will! !

He personally supported the cost of reaching out to a HIPPY child in Monroe County and visited their HIPPY Office. He has also supported the Conecuh County You are certainly a HIPPY Hero!