



NABWIS Thomas P. Golden - Distinguished Service Award 2022 Annual Nomination Form



PURPOSE

To recognize outstanding service to the benefits and work incentives counseling (also known as benefits planning) community and furtherance of the profession of work incentives counseling. This award was established in 2021.

BACKGROUND

In 2020, NABWIS and the disability community lost Thomas P. Golden, a leader that truly exemplified the word "service."

Thomas was a founding member of the National Association of Benefits and Work Incentives Specialists to promote work incentives counseling and informed choice for Americans with disabilities who receive public entitlement. He was an active member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, National Council on Rehabilitation Education, National Consortium of State Rehabilitation Councils, Association for Persons in Supported Employment, Consortium of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation, National Consortium for State Rehabilitation Councils, and other national organizations supporting employment for people with disabilities. He is recognized for international comparative policy work most recently with the Government of Ireland, the International Labor Organization, and the United Kingdom. He managed to secure, directed and managed over \$270 million in international, federal and state sponsored initiatives. His favorite professional title was that of professor while also performing his duties as Executive Director at Cornell University's Yang Tan Institute on Employment and Disability.

Thomas was devoted to a lifetime of learning, was an incredible disability advocate, and a leading practitioner and coach in the area of Vocational Rehabilitation and disability policies.

The award winner will be provided:

- recognition at the 2022 NABWIS conference
- free admission to the 2023 NABWIS conference

ELIIGIBILITY

Any individual who:

- Is a NABWIS member
- Exhibits the spirit of leadership in the area of benefits and work incentives counseling. Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - The belief that work incentives counseling is a necessity for beneficiaries returning to work,
 - The expression, through action, that benefits and work incentives counseling needs to be recognized as a valuable and true profession,
 - The willingness to act on the behalf of all beneficiaries by commenting on SSA proposals as well as legislative activities by provide educational information as to how proposal impact beneficiaries,
 - By educating others in their communities as to how benefits and work incentives counseling matters.

Thomas P. Golden NABWIS Distinguished Service Award

Deadline: August 31, 2022 by email to NABWIS@gmail.com

SUBMITTED BY:

Name of person making the nomination

Mailing address

City, State, Zip

Area code and daytime phone

Relationship to Nominee

Email Address

Are you a NABWIS Member?

NOMINEE:

Name of Nominee

Area code and daytime phone

Title

Company

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip

Email Address

Is the Nominee a NABWIS member? ***(MUST)*** be a member to be eligible)

EVALUATION (Supporting Information) - Attach separate sheet of paper if necessary

1. Please list all organizations, action group(s), or legislative bodies the individual has been actively involved with during his or her career, with an emphasis on the last five years. *(Please note they do not have to be related to benefits and work incentives counseling, but should relate to promoting employment for persons with disabilities)*

2. Briefly describe the leadership activity(ies), process, and/or action(s) the individual has accomplished to promote benefits and work incentives counseling for persons with disabilities and the name of the organizations that are directly associated with these efforts. This could include, but is not limited to:

- active with legislative issues
- contact their legislators on regular basis
- community access projects

3. Describe how this individual inspires others and builds partnerships to advocate for community employment.

4. All nominations must attach at least one letter of support from at least one of the following individuals:

- Project Director/ Manager/ Supervisor
- Community partner (e.g. VR Counselor, Employment Specialist, Case manager)
- Coworker/peer

DEADLINE

Complete this form and submit with the letter of support by **August 31, 2022**

Submit nominations and questions to: NABWIS@gmail.com

THANK YOU!
Nominations and the winner will be recognized
during the October conference.