

UPDATE FROM MISSY & DON



MAY - 2008

NVF BOARD MEMBER and ADVISOR CELEBRATED



Dr. Josh Alexander, NV Board member, and Dr. Jake Lohr, husband of Missy and Chief of General Pediatrics at the UNC-CH Medical School, have been recently named one of the "Best Doctors in America," a list put together by an independent organization dedicated to providing consumers with the information they need to find the best health care. Congratulations to both.



LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE

Reps. Verla Insko and Senator Bob Atwater have introduced companion bills H 2584 and S 2089 in the 2008 short session of the NC General Assembly. They have passed first reading. If they pass, funds will be allocated to the NC Dept of Public Instruction to establish a regional fund for the public schools in the "New Voices Region" (Durham, Chatham, Orange, Wake and Chapel Hill / Carrboro) as well a pilot assessment program in the Center for Literacy and Disability Studies at UNCCH. Funds would be for one year at the level of \$200,000.

Friends of New Voices are encouraged to let triangle area legislators know about the importance of this regional pilot project to provide assessment services for children with communications and mobility challenges who have good academic potential

PAT PORTER RECEIVES PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Dr. Pat Porter received the President's Award during the recent Annual Convention of the Association of Self Advocates of North Carolina. This is the highest honor of the ASANC, the largest association in the southeast of adults with developmental disability. She was recognized for her "commitment to allowing persons with disabilities to have a voice in the determination of what they want their lives to be and her support of each of us to achieve our dreams"

Advisor of the Month - BILL McNEAL



New Voices Advisor of the Month is Bill McNeal, Executive Director of the North Carolina Association of School Administrators. Bill was an original member of the Triangle New School Planning Council in 2006 and now is a member of the Professional Advisory Council of New Voices Foundation. A former Superintendent of Wake County Public Schools and National Superintendent of the Year in 2005, Bill continues to be a valuable resource for the New Voices program as it develops.