

Contact Information:

**Tools for Life – Georgia’s Assistive Technology Act Program**

**Georgia Institute of Technology | AMAC Accessibility Solutions**

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**Tracy Rackensperger** wins the **2016 Tools for Life Leadership Award** at the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference

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**St. Simon’s, Georgia | June 2016 – Tracy Rackensperger, disability advocate,** was presented with the prestigious **2016 Tools for Life Assistive Leadership Award** on **June 7, 2016**. Tracy Rackensperger won the hotly contested prize over other nominees throughout Georgia.

The **Tools for Life Assistive Technology Awards Ceremony** has been a tradition within Georgia for the last **20** years. **The Tools for Life Leadership Award recognizes and honors individuals who have been a catalyst for positive change through proactive leadership skills by using or promoting assistive technology for living, learning, working or playing.** This award was created by Tools for Life, Georgia’s AT Act to promote creativity and encourage AT and universal design principles for equal access of all people.

**Tracy Rackensperger accepted the Tools for Life Leadership Award in person in front of 800 educators and assistive technology professionals from throughout Georgia at IDEAS.** Tracy Rackensperger rose above the other nominees for a variety of reasons; including her ability to advance understanding, access, and acquisition of assistive technology.

Ms. Rackensperger received a unique hand-crafted bowl created exclusively for the Tools for Life AT Award Winners by Georgia artisans, In the Woods Studio, LLC. These beautiful pieces serve as a reminder of the knowledge, skills and abilities that overflow from Ms. Rackensperger’s “bowl” as she assists students and other individuals with disabilities in achieving their educational and lifelong goals.

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice. Find out more at [www.gatfl.gatech.edu](http://www.gatfl.gatech.edu).

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