**Press Release:** *Council for Exceptional Children’s Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities* announces 2022 legislative award recipient

(For immediate release)

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The awards committee of the *Council for Exceptional Children’s Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities* announced today that the 2022 Legislative Award will be given to Allison Tant. Ms. Tant is a State Representative to the Florida House and a leader in advocacy for individuals with intellectual disability and their families in Florida. The legislative award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in law and policy that is designed to meet the needs of individuals with autism, intellectual disability, and other developmental disabilities. In addition to recent sponsorship of two impactful bills related to family support and transition planning for individuals with disabilities, Ms. Tant has worked on behalf of students with disabilities through her many endeavors in fundraising, teaching, and leadership. One of her nominators, Dr. Jenny Root from Florida State University, noted that, “Allison Tant has demonstrated tremendous leadership for more than a decade in advocating for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in Florida.” Another nominator, Kristy Ward from Leon County Schools, added that “Allison is dedicated to helping write legislation that will allow students with disabilities to be afforded the same resources as their non-disabled peers.”

This prestigious award is presented by *The Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities (DADD),* a special interest association within the *Council for Exceptional Children*, the largest international professional organization in the world dedicated to supporting the needs of students with disabilities. Originating in 1963, DADD is a leading voice in the field of education for students with autism, intellectual disability, and other developmental disabilities through research dissemination, active participation in the creation of nationally-recognized professional practice standards, and robust professional networking. The award ceremony will take place at DADD’s annual conference in Clearwater, Florida, in January 2022.

For more information, contact: Dr. Jordan Shurr, DADD Awards Chair: j.shurr@queensu.ca

Information on the Division on Autism and Developmental Disabilities: <http://www.daddcec.com/>