



**HEALTHY MOTHERS,
HEALTHY BABIES**

Coalition of Georgia

2018 Inspiring Mothers of Georgia

Faye Montgomery – Savannah, GA



Faye Montgomery is the mother of four children, Olivia, Jackson, Josephine, and Ingrid, and wife to William Baird. When her daughter, Olivia, was killed in an accident in 2014, Faye made a promise to Olivia that she would continue fighting for disability justice in Olivia's legacy. In 2014 Faye became the Advocacy Director at The Matthew Reardon Center for Autism in Savannah, GA. The Matthew Reardon Center provides advocacy and support for families and individuals throughout the coastal Georgia region. Faye is a graduate of Partners in Policymaking, and a graduate of Social Role Valorization. Through her work at the Matthew Reardon Center she fights for disability justice and meaningful inclusion in her community.

"I am honored and humbled to be nominated for this award. I am but ONE mother out of MANY mothers, and fathers, in Savannah who every day takes up the fight for equality and justice for our kids. I hope that we can all celebrate this hard work together."

From her Nomination: "She is fierce in fighting for the rights of children with disabilities and to make sure they have access to the services and support they deserve to access an educational system designed for children without disabilities. She works relentlessly to understand the law and advocate for children, chipping away at the "tyranny of low expectations". Mothers often bear the heavy burden of working with IEP teams at school and studies show that moms of disabled children suffer from the sustained burden of stress and grief. Faye is by your side and she understands because she has been there. She listens, supports, advises and in my case, talks you down from the ledge. Her generosity of spirit has saved me and made me feel like I was not alone."