



Circles of Life Conference

*Families and Professionals
on the Path Together*

May 14 and 15, 2026 | Holiday Inn Stevens Point

Conference Awards

Nominations for the 2026 conference awards are being accepted now through **April 1**. If you know someone who you think deserves one of these awards, email your nomination to John Shaw at john@elsieshaw.org.

OUTSTANDING PARENT AWARD – Pam and Paul DeLap Award

The Pam and Paul DeLap Award recognizes parents who have made outstanding efforts to improve the lives of families who have children with disabilities in their community. This award is given in loving memory of Pam and Paul DeLap, who were tireless family advocates and volunteered thousands of hours of their time and energy to this conference. Pam and Paul passed away in the fall of 2023 near their home in Oshkosh and are dearly missed.

OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL AWARD - The Shaw Brothers Award

The Shaw Brothers Award honors professionals who go above and beyond the call of duty to assist families who have children with disabilities. The Shaw Brothers, Barry, Elliott and Richard (Dick) are Elsie's children and are now themselves grandparents and great-grandparents. They have supported the *Elsie Shaw Scholarship Fund* with annual donations for over 30 years. The funds given by the middle brother, Elliott, who lost his battle with cancer in 2001 ensure that families with children who are impacted by cancer are supported by the *Elsie Shaw Scholarship Fund*.

EDUCATOR ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR - The Barb Breen Award

The Barb Breen Educator Award recognizes someone from the education field who has worked to support inclusion and leadership development in schools. The Barb Breen Award honors a long-time advocate who passed away suddenly in 2003. Barb was involved in many activities in the disability community. She was the Statewide WSPEI Coordinator, a Parents in Partnership (PIP) Facilitator and a Special Olympics Coach.