



Jan Tennyson honored by Governor Perry



Governor Perry presenting award to Jan Tennyson

Every year, The Governor's Volunteer Awards are presented to Texans who devote their time and talents to serving others. The Governor's Lonestar Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding service of an individual who has impacted the delivery of social services in Texas. Lonestar Achievers have a minimum of 15 years of serving and engaging others, and are those rare individuals who see impossible dreams and make them realities. Governor Perry presented this award in Austin, Texas, to **Jan Tennyson**, who grew up in the foster care system in New York City.

Tennyson, founder of Dare to Dream Children's Foundation, has provided enrichment programs to over 20,000 abused, neglected and foster children temporarily living in group homes, youth shelters, detention facilities in Texas, as well as orphanages overseas. Dare to Dream started on a card table in Tennyson's bedroom in Dallas in 1987, and this year marks a great milestone for Tennyson as she celebrates 20 years of service. This 66-year-old grandmother, who grew up in the foster care system and was placed in the New York Foundling Home

as an infant, is a philanthropist and humanitarian. She collaborates with youth-serving agencies throughout the state of Texas. Most youth she serves are from single-family homes and are fatherless or orphans. In addition, all youth who successfully complete Tennyson's programs are encouraged to become volunteers, become productive citizens and to give back to society. She also networks aggressively to provide donations of clothing, furniture, TVs, appliances and toys to ministries serving the homeless, as well as to parents returning to society from prison. Tennyson partners with life-giving organizations such as Reconciliation Outreach in an effort to provide a safe, loving environment, which provides healing for hurting lives. The end result Tennyson works toward is restored families.

Dare to Dream has received The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence as a result of vigorous review and has been able to certify, document and demonstrate on an annual basis that it meets the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. For more information on Dare to Dream, visit www.daretodream-dallas.org.