

HEALTHCARE

Louisiana's Premier Healthcare Publication HIGHLIGHTS

Lafayette Healthcare Professional of the Month Claudia B. Laborde, Occupational Therapist

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS NOT EXPERIENCING A higher level of functioning after one enters through the door of the *Laborde Therapy Center in Lafayette*. Claudia B. Laborde has been owner and manager of this practice specializing in occupational and physical therapy for 21 years. Her goal is to assist patients and staff members in their efforts to attain a superior degree of physical or spiritual healing, in addition to enhancing personal skills.

A 1980 graduate of the LSU Medical Center School of Occupational Therapy, Claudia has practiced for a total of 25 years, beginning in the Burn Unit of Baton Rouge General Hospital. With previous rehabilitation experience in brain injury and pediatrics, she is a specialist focusing on the upper extremities with certification as a hand therapist.

With the ability to recognize an individual's greatest level of potential and beyond, Claudia focuses on motivating and inspiring others to do what they think they cannot do. Giving up and not experiencing life to the fullest is not an option. The excitement generated throughout the Laborde Therapy Center is geared toward creating an atmosphere dedicated to beating the odds.

Because of this highly successful approach, Claudia Laborde was recognized for excellence in her field by the National Federation of Business and Professional Women (1985). She was also named Small Business Person of the Year (District IV) in 1999.

Claudia encourages all of those who are referred to her clinic to "learn to take care of yourself before you have to." She stresses the importance of practicing good posture, maintaining a schedule of regular exercise, and activity tolerance.

In professional practice, those values taught by her parents are key: hard work, humility, service and commitment to others, and doing what is right. Claudia believes that the influence of Christ in her life is her prime motivation for giving her life for others.

Healthcare Highlights congratulates Claudia B. Laborde, O.T., for being the February/March 2005 Lafayette Healthcare Professional of the Month. You can schedule an appointment with the Laborde Therapy Center, 2727 Kaliste Saloom Rd., Lafayette, LA 70508 by calling (337) 981-4053.

Nominate your outstanding healthcare professional today by telephone, fax or email NLT March 1, 2005. Please include your reasons why the individual deserves this recognition. If your nominee is selected, you will win a \$20 gift certificate from a local restaurant.

