

GOLDEN HAMLO



Keynote Speaker - THOMAS L. BIRCH, J.D.

For close to thirty years, Tom Birch has served as legislative counsel in Washington, D.C., to a variety of non-profit organizations, including as director of the policy and advocacy work of the National Child Abuse Coalition. An attorney by training, he came to this work from Congress, having served as legislative counsel to members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives on issues of domestic policy. He is the author of articles on legislative advocacy and topics of public policy, particularly in his areas of specialization in child welfare, human services, and cultural affairs. Birch received the American Psychological Association's 2003 Award for Distinguished Contribution to Child Advocacy, and in 2006 he was honored by Casey Family Programs for his commitment to advocacy for vulnerable children.

Tom was a founding member of the D.C. Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Children's Trust Fund, and has served on the boards of a number of nonprofit organizations, including the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Family Stress Services of D.C., the DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, and American Humane Association. He was a Peace Corps volunteer for three years in Morocco.

In November 2010 Tom was re-elected to a fifth term in public office as neighborhood commissioner in Washington, D.C.