New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

Community Building Awards

Honoring Leadership and New IDEAS for Inclusive Communities

When cultivating an inclusive community culture, it is important to provide incentives that further inclusive values. In this spirit the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities established an awards program to encourage more inclusive communities while showing appreciation for exceptional commitment and advocacy.

Timelines

Application Deadline	July 21, 2023
Notification Date	August 4, 2023
Awards Luncheon	September 28, 2023

AWARDS LUNCHEON

The awards luncheon will be held at The Estate at Farrington Lake East Brunswick, New Jersey. Invitations for awardees and guests will be sent at a later date.

DOCUMENTS

One nomination per category, per nominator is permitted. Please use the standard Nomination Entry Form. Send only pages 9 -11 with additional information as required. Entry forms are also available on the Council's website: www.njcdd.org

AWARD CATEGORIES

Colleen Fraser Self-Advocate Award
Elizabeth Boggs Family-Member Advocate Award
Lifetime Achievement Advocacy Award
Distinguished DD Systems Change Award
Access Above & Beyond Award
Exceptional Policymaker Award
Multi-Media Award
Fellowship Inclusive Education Award
The Daniel J. Keating Leadership Award

AWARDS & CRITERIA

1. Colleen Fraser Self-Advocate Award

The Colleen Fraser Self-Advocate Award honors a self-advocate who has shown outstanding efforts in advocating on behalf of themselves and others.

Criteria

Nominees should be leaders in their community who have created, promoted or implemented on-going advocacy activities by taking necessary risks in their community or on the state or federal levels. Nominees should be someone who regularly lends their expertise to improve communities for people with I/DD and their families. Community service, advocacy or volunteer work "above and beyond" expectations is a valued asset.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Describe the nominee's commitment to advocacy and how the nominee has performed "above and beyond" expected levels of performance.
B. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated leadership, creativity and expertise while advocating for individuals and families.
C. Explain how the nominee has demonstrated compassion, integrity and high standards.

2. Elizabeth Boggs Family-Member Advocate Award

The Elizabeth Boggs Family-Member Advocate Award honors a family member of an individual with I/DD who has demonstrated outstanding advocacy efforts in the area of developmental disabilities.

Criteria

Recipient of this award is a family member who has been instrumental in leading or implementing disability advocacy activities in their community or on the state or federal levels. The award recipient should be a family member who lends their

experience and takes the risks needed to improve the community for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Community service or volunteer work is a valued asset for this award. Nominees should be a family member who has worked on disability issues in the following or combination of these areas: education, employment, transportation, housing and other related areas.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Describe the nominee's commitment to advocacy and how they have performed "above and beyond" expected levels of performance.
B. Describe how the nominee demonstrated leadership, creativity and expertise while advocating for individuals and families.
C. Explain how the nominee has demonstrated compassion, integrity and high standards.

3. Lifetime Achievement Advocacy Award

The Lifetime Achievement Advocacy Award recognizes an individual for a lifetime commitment and contributions to inclusive communities.

Criteria

This is the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities' highest honor. It is given only after careful deliberation by the awards committee. This award may be given posthumously.

Individuals must demonstrate exceptional effort, commitment and determination in their professional or personal lives. Nominees can come from an individual or a professional or parent/family group. Nominees must be an exceptional role model for people with I/DD, their families and professionals in community building.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Resume or biography of candidate summarizing work experience; awards received; service at the local, state and national levels;

publications; and service to other grassroots and professional organizations.

4. Distinguished DD Systems Change Award

The Distinguished DD Systems Change Award honors an individual or organization making outstanding contributions during the past year toward real systems change and positive outcomes for individuals with I/DD and their families.

Criteria

Nominees must have demonstrated how modifying, altering, reorganizing, dissolving and/or creating systems or policies have resulted in positive change to support people with I/DD and their families. Systems can be at the local, county, state or federal levels in one or more of the following areas:

Education *(all levels)*
Employment *(all levels)*
Transportation *(availability)*
Housing *(accessibility, affordability and/or availability)*
Health Care *(accessibility and/or availability)*
Child Care Services *(accessibility and/or availability)*
Self-Direction and Personal Choice *(all levels)*

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Describe the nominee's commitment to advocacy and how the nominee has performed "above and beyond" expected levels of performance.
B. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated leadership, creativity and expertise while advocating for individuals and families.
C. Explain how the nominee has demonstrated compassion, integrity and high standards.

5. Access Above and Beyond Award

The Access Above and Beyond Award honors businesses and venues that have surpassed what is required by law for equal access.

Criteria

The Access Above and Beyond Award honors businesses that have gone above and beyond to improve accessibility. The Access Award takes a holistic view of a business. Judges will assess the physical property, while also assessing potential attitudinal barriers including service delivery, and inclusivity.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Describe the nominee's commitment to accessibility.

B. Describe how the nominee has performed "above and beyond" expected levels of performance, for example:

- Arrangements made to enable easy access to facilities
- Assistance with packing when shopping
- Restaurant providing flexible seating
- Staff training in providing assistance to customers with disabilities
- Customer information signs having large clear print in contrasting colors
- One-to-one assistance throughout store shopping.

6. Exceptional Policymaker Award

The Exceptional Policymaker Award honors someone who has made outstanding contributions in public policy, legislation or administration which greatly enhances the lives of people with I/DD.

Criteria

This award will be given to a state or local elected official (including mayors, legislators, and governor) whose exceptional vision and/or action has dramatically expanded or enhanced inclusion for people with I/DD in their local community, state or region. The award recipient should be someone who lends their experience and takes the risks needed to improve the community for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Demonstrated leadership, vision, action and innovation in community inclusion
B. Explain how the person's efforts address key issues and needs facing people with developmental disabilities and their families in New Jersey.
C. Explain the outcome, including real evidence of positive outcomes for people with I/DD and their families in New Jersey.

7. Multi-Media Award

The Multi-Media Award honors media professionals for accurate and inclusive representations of people with I/DD.

Criteria

Entries will be judged by a panel comprised of members of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities and communications professionals on the following:

1. **Journalistic quality:** Display creativity and originality while fostering public understanding of people with I/DD: use of person-first, non-offensive and affirmative language, and maintaining high journalistic and technical standards.
2. **Understanding of people with disabilities:** Demonstrates the accomplishments and contributions of people with I/DD; recognizes the needs and preferences of people with I/DD; positively portrays individuals as valued citizens living

productive lives; having choices; participating in relationships; being involved in integrated settings; in age-appropriate activities and having opportunities to develop and grow.

3. **Depth and continuity of coverage:** Topics apply to the full spectrum of people with I/DD even if showcasing one element or issue; demonstrates consistent and accurate reporting that raises public awareness of those issues.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Sample of the media piece (DVD, audio tape, copy of article, etc.) in a universal format.

B. Recordings should be no longer than 60 minutes in length and contain complete programs or series, or a synopsis of a longer series. If a recording is not available, a program script is acceptable. Television entries must be submitted on PC compatible DVDs. Radio entries must be submitted on CDs.

8. Fellowship Inclusive Education Award

The Fellowship in Inclusive Education Award honors an individual or group of individuals who encourage the inclusion of students with disabilities in all areas of school life, including academic and non-academic activities. The goal of the Fellowship Award is to develop a diverse network of educators who actively embrace the principles of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Criteria

Nominees must engage in educational practices reflecting a commitment to providing children with disabilities access to a meaningful education and relationships with their peers in general education settings.

1. Describe the practice you are nominating, including the length of time the practice has been in place and the number of students with and without Individual Education Plans (IEPs) participating in the program or practice.

2. The practice may not be a separate practice involving students who receive special education services and supports.
3. There must be direct involvement with peers without disabilities.
4. The practice must involve collaboration between general education and special education staff.
5. The practice must be an ongoing inclusive practice, not a single special event.
6. The practice must have its foundation in the general education program.
7. The practice must incorporate long-term goals leading to the achievement of life outcomes.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Administrative support is available for the practice.
B. The practice works from a strengths-based model.
C. Adaptations are the norm, not just practiced for individual children.
D. The practice demonstrates high expectations for achievement for children with disabilities.
E. The practice promotes equal membership.
F. The practice can be replicated in other schools or settings.

9. The Daniel J. Keating Leadership Award

The Daniel J. Keating Award honors an individual who has shown exemplary and compassionate leadership in the disabilities community while protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and/or their families.

Criteria

Nominees should be leaders in their organization who have consistently demonstrated strong and compassionate leadership skills while promoting quality services and supports for people with I/DD and their families.

Additional Information Required for this Nomination

A. Describe the nominee's commitment to effective leadership and how the nominee has performed "above and beyond" expected levels of performance.
B. Describe how the nominee has demonstrated leadership, creativity and expertise while advocating for individuals and families.
C. Explain how the nominee has demonstrated compassion, integrity and high standards.

New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

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Nomination Entry Form

Also available on the website: www.njcdd.org

Award Category: [check only one]

Entry Deadline: July 21, 2023

- ☐ Colleen Fraser Self-Advocate Award
- ☐ Elizabeth Boggs Family-Member Advocate Award
- ☐ Lifetime Achievement Advocacy Award
- ☐ Distinguished DD Systems Change Award
- ☐ Access Above and Beyond Award
- ☐ Exceptional Policymaker Award
- ☐ Multi-Media Award
- ☐ Inclusive Education Award
- ☐ Daniel J. Keating Award

NOMINEE:

Contact Person *(if organization)*

Nominee Address:

City: State: ZIP:

Nominee/Contact Phone Number:

Nominee/Contact E-Mail:

Title/Role: Owner/Manager

Maximum of one nomination per category, per nominator.

Please attach Additional Information for the Award Category to this form.

NOMINATOR: _____

Nominator Address:_____

_____

City:_____State:_____ZIP:_____

Nominator Phone Number: _____

Nominator E-Mail_____

Relationship to Nominee: _____
(professional, family, etc.)

Signature

_____ Date_____

Mail Entries to:
NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities
P.O. Box 700
20 West Street- 6th Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0700

Email Entries to:
NJCDD@NJCDD.org

By Courier:
NJ Council on DD
20 West State Street – 6th Floor Trenton,
NJ 08608
609-292-3745

Inquiries to:
NJCDD@NJCDD.org

PLEASE SEND ONLY PAGES 9 -11 and required Additional Information

ABSTRACT

Provide a brief summary of why you have selected this nominee. Use additional paper if needed.