

# Children's Bureau Champion Awards



## Nominations Packet

Nominations due by  
**November 12, 2018**



Sponsored by the Children's Bureau  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services





# Children's Bureau Champion Awards

## THE AWARDS

The Children's Bureau Champion Awards honor those working to improve the overall health and well-being of our nation's children and families. The Children's Bureau (CB) is committed to refocusing our nation's child welfare system on strengthening families' capacity to care for their own children; reducing the numbers of children traumatized by abuse and neglect; and breaking the inter-generational cycle of trauma and maltreatment. Achieving these goals is only possible through the hard work and commitment of many partners across the country.

The CB will honor agencies, community-based organizations, businesses, courts, individuals, parent leaders, or others who have made an exceptional contribution to promoting the health and well-being of children and families. Awardees will be publicly recognized at the 2019 National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect for their contributions to ***Strong and Thriving Families***, the theme of the 2019 conference. Awardees will also be recognized on the official website of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), social media, and other CB information dissemination channels. In addition, they will receive a commemoration of their award in the mail.<sup>1</sup>

## AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards will be given in five areas:

- **Preventing Child Maltreatment.** Nominations in this category will have demonstrated a commitment to prioritizing families and focusing on primary prevention activities that, through flexible funding and community-based services, strengthen the protective capacities of all parents and help all families thrive. This could include efforts to reach out and engage families before they come to the attention of child welfare, to address the structural issues that place families under stress, or to change community norms and practices around supporting families.
- **Reshaping Foster Care as a Support for Families.** Engagement with the child welfare system should have positive impacts on children and families—equipping parents and caregivers with enhanced protective factors, skills, and supports to safely care for their children and improve child well-being. Even when parents are unable to keep their children safe at home, children need to feel connected to their parents, siblings, and relatives. Nominations in this category will have demonstrated a commitment to keeping families meaningfully engaged and connected, even when out-of-home care is necessary. Contributions could be in such areas as support to birth parents to address the stressors that brought them to the child welfare system; kinship care; promoting healthy relationships between birth and foster parents; providing timely and successful reunification; and reducing unnecessary removal and trauma.

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<sup>1</sup> There is no monetary component to the award.



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- **Promoting Child and Family Well-being.** Supporting the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of all children and families is a priority. Nominations in this category will have demonstrated a commitment to promoting the social, educational, economic, behavioral, cognitive, and relational well-being of children and families, including addressing trauma, strengthening protective factors, and building resilience.
- **Building Community Capacity.** A wide array of stakeholders and systems must work together, guided by the communities they serve, to build programs and systems that get needed supports to families where they are and when they need it. Nominations in this category will have demonstrated a commitment to initiatives that leverage diverse community-based partnerships to better serve children and families, including those that reach rural communities, engage non-traditional partners, or move beyond traditional services.
- **Supporting the Workforce.** To serve families well, we must have a strong, competent, and healthy workforce. An effective child welfare system requires social workers, attorneys, and other service providers to have adequate supports and supervision, manageable workloads, and the skills needed to do their work well. Inspired, competent leadership can garner the support of community partners, staff, and families on the path to meaningful and sustained improvement. Nominations in this category will have demonstrated a commitment to supporting the workforce in ways that enhance workers' effectiveness and well-being.

## ELIGIBILITY

Nominees may be either individuals or groups such as child welfare agencies, community-based organizations, businesses, government agencies, or other collaborations or partnerships. The CB encourages nominations representing a diversity of backgrounds, communities, and perspectives, including: diverse professions or fields of practice; urban, suburban, and rural areas; racial and ethnically diverse populations; and involvement at the national, state, and local levels. Parent leaders and others with experience in the child welfare system who are working to make a difference in the field are encouraged to apply. *Please note that Federal staff and Federal contractors are not eligible for the awards.*

## SUBMITTING A NOMINATION

Nominations should be submitted using the online [CB Champion Award Nomination Portal](#). Nominations for the Champion Awards will be accepted beginning Monday, September 10, 2018, and NO LATER THAN 11:59 p.m. on Monday, November 12, 2018. Anyone may nominate one or more candidates. Self-nominations are welcomed. Only material submitted through the online portal will be considered.

The online nomination form requires a detailed description of why the nominee deserves to receive a Champion Award. To the best of your ability, respond to each of the selection criteria for the awards. You may be as creative as you wish in conveying the information, but please be specific and provide clear examples.



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Please present the information as if the reviewer knows nothing about the nominee. Supplemental or supporting material that demonstrates the impact of the work, including articles, letters of support, and website and video links, etc., may also be submitted through the portal.

## NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

To submit nominations using the online award nomination portal, you will need to create a nominator account and complete the form following the instructions below.

### Step 1: Create your credentials:

- At the bottom of the page, click on "Don't have an account?"
- Complete the sign-up sheet and create your password.
- Choose "Authors/Submitters" as your sign-up type.
- Click "Sign up."

### Step 2: Select "I am a Nominator," then "Submit Nomination" on the side menu.

### Step 3: Click "Add Nominator" to provide your contact information (so we can follow up as needed):

- Your Name
- Your Organization
- Your Phone Number
- Your Email Address

### Step 4: Provide contact information on your nominee:

- About the nominee:
  - Name
  - Address, City, State, Zip Code
  - Phone Number
  - Email Address

### Step 5: Select the nominee type (individual or agency, community-based partner, or other group).

### Step 6: Provide a brief description of the nominee (who they are, what they do).

- **Select an award category:**
  - Preventing Child Maltreatment
  - Reshaping Foster Care as a Support for Families
  - Promoting Child and Family Well-being
  - Building Community Capacity
  - Supporting the Workforce
- **Tell us more:** Describe for us the nominee's exceptional contribution to the health and well-being of children and families. Please be specific and provide clear examples.

### If you are nominating an individual, please address the following criteria:

- **Overall Contribution(s):** How does this work contribute to the health and well-being of children and families in ways that relate to the award category?
- **Uniqueness/Innovation:** How are these contributions unique or innovative?
- **Leadership/Collaboration/Involvement:** How has the individual inspired others, built partnerships, or raised awareness in ways that have convinced others to take an active role in supporting families and promoting well-being?

### For agencies, community-based partners, or other groups, please address the following criteria:

- **Overall Contribution(s):** How does this work contribute to the health and well-being of children and families in ways that relate to



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the award category? Describe what is being done and what has been accomplished thus far.

- **Innovation/Uniqueness:** How are these contributions unique or innovative?
- **Leadership/Collaboration/Involvement:** How has this work inspired others, built partnerships, or raised awareness in ways that have convinced others to take an active role in supporting families and promoting well-being?
- **Accountability:** Is there a demonstrated commitment to measuring outcomes, impact, and continuous improvement? Describe results to date.
- **Sustainability/Replication:** How will the work be sustained and expanded over time?

## Step 7: Upload supplemental information.

If you want to add any supplemental information to support your nomination, click on the "Upload File" button.

## Step 8: Submit your nomination.

- When all the mandatory nomination fields have been filled out, click the "Submit" button at the bottom of the page. Please note that you must have text in each of the required fields before your information can be submitted. You may edit your submission and/or submit additional material at any time prior to the deadline.

If there is a problem with your submission, you will be notified either by an alert box indicating the problem or one of the fields will be highlighted.

If there were no problems with your submission, you will be brought to the "View My Nominations" page where you will find all of your submissions, including the new one. You can get to the page by selecting the menu item "I am a Nominator," then "View My Nominations."

## Additional Information

**Check your submission for accuracy.** Please check your nomination and ensure that all of your information is complete and correct. The information you have provided will be used, as you have submitted it, to create our awards program. It is your responsibility to address any questions or make any requested changes by the deadline date of November 12, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact us at [CB Awards@impaqint.com](mailto:CB Awards@impaqint.com).

**Changes/Edits to Your Nomination.** If you need to edit your nomination at any time prior to the deadline, simply go back to the nomination site and log in with your email address and the password you selected. Select the "Action" button next to the nomination you would like to edit and choose "View." You will be able to make your edits on the next screen. Changes may not be made once the deadline for submissions has passed.



Support for the Champion Awards is provided by the Child Abuse and Neglect Technical Assistance and Strategic Dissemination Center (CANTASD), a service of the Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. <https://cantasd.acf.hhs.gov>