



19TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT

POLICY, RESEARCH & PRACTICE : 40 YEARS OF CAPTA

New Orleans | **APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2014**

Louisiana's Nominations Are Open!

19th Annual Commissioner's Awards

This year's Conference theme is *Making Meaningful Connections*. As we gather together to strengthen the connections that help energize us and build new knowledge, skills and abilities, we will also celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). We know we must learn from our shared past, including the rich history of 40 years of CAPTA, in order to build our shared future. The National Conferences on Child Abuse and Neglect are sponsored by the Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

You are invited to nominate a colleague, friend or co-worker for this award to represent the state of Louisiana. The nominee should be someone who has gone above and beyond for children and families.

Our Louisiana nominees should reflect the complexity of the field and the spirit of interdisciplinary cooperation. We want to recognize them on their achievements and encourage them to continue to make major contributions to the cause of protecting our nation's children from abuse and neglect. Our nominees are a special group of people: advocates and leaders in their field. They may have worked to change laws governing child maltreatment. They may be innovators who have started new programs and changed the service delivery systems in their communities. Or they may have excelled in the direct service and support they provide to children and families in need.

Our nominees are truly outstanding in their field: dedicated, honorable, committed, skilled, compassionate, forward-thinking, creative, brilliant, and genuine are words that could be used to describe nominees. Some very basic criteria for a nominee include:

- Notable efforts to prevent or respond to child abuse and neglect
- Significant voluntary efforts in the community to address the problems of child maltreatment
- Outstanding contributions to improving the lives of abused or neglected children

Over the years, recipients of the Commissioner's Award have represented both the public and private sectors and have included social workers, attorneys, health care professionals, community advocates, law enforcement professionals, educators and others.

Here are some of the award recipients who have represented Louisiana in the past as Commissioner Award recipients:

- Dr. Geoffrey Nagle, Tulane Institute of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health
- Kären Hallstrom, Deputy Judicial Administrator for Children & Families, Louisiana Supreme Court
- Dr. Stewart Gordon, Pediatrician, LSU Center for Health Sciences
- Dr. Larry J. Hebert, Pediatrician, Founder of Louisiana Children's Trust Fund and Past Director/Chief Health Officer for the State of Louisiana
- Judge Richard Ware, Past Chair Louisiana Children's Trust Fund and Juvenile Court Judge
- Brenda Kelley, Past Secretary, Louisiana Department of Social Services
- Dr. Scott Benton, Past Medical Director at Audrey Hepburn CARE Center/Children's Hospital in New Orleans

Deadline for Nominations is October 31, 2013. Forms may be faxed or emailed.

Fax to: 985-778-0058 or send your information via email to susan@teamdynamicsweb.com

The Process: A panel from several different organizations and fields will review the nominations. The final selection will be made from the recommended candidates by Suzy Sonnier, DCFS Secretary. The selected candidate's information will then be sent to Governor Jindal to sign the official nomination papers.

Person making nomination: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship to Nominee: _____

I hereby nominate the following candidate for the 2014 Commissioner's Award – Representing the State of Louisiana:

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: LA Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Please attach a brief narrative that explains why this person should be nominated for this award.

Tips for your narrative: Include information on what their accomplishments are, what have they done to protect children, how have they made a difference, how long have they been actively involved in advocating for children and families, how long have you known this candidate, etc. What about their community connections, such as volunteering and creating partnerships?

Technical Tips: All narratives should be 500 words or less. Please type or use a word processor for the attachment page. It should be double-space and use 1 inch margins. Please use Arial or Times Roman font and the font size should be 11 or 12 point. We ask that you do not submit a handwritten nomination.

THANK YOU!

We appreciate your time and effort to recognize and honor a champion for children!