16th Annual

Neighborhood Recognition Awards

Nomination Deadline:
5 p.m. Friday, September 6, 2019

Award recipients will be announced at the 2019 Neighborhoods Conference on Saturday, November 2.

Nominees must be present.
Neighborhood Recognition Awards

The Neighborhood Recognition Awards are given to Hillsborough County neighborhood associations and individual residents who have made positive impacts in their communities in 2018 through leadership, service, or as a result of a new program, project, or special event.

Award recipients will be announced at the Neighborhoods Conference on Saturday, November 2. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Tampa East in Tampa. Conference attendance is mandatory for nominees. Event information and free event registration will be available at HCFLGov.net/Neighborhoods.

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Resident-led and controlled county/city neighborhood organizations recognized by the Hillsborough County Office of Neighborhood Relations are eligible to apply or be nominated for this award. This includes neighborhood associations, neighborhood watch groups, and tenant associations. Neighborhood groups may nominate themselves, another neighborhood, and/or individuals for their efforts to improve the quality of life in Hillsborough County, and the cities of Tampa, Plant City, and Temple Terrace.

The following are required for all award nominations:

1. The project or activity must have been carried out during the 2018 calendar year (Jan. 2018 - Dec. 2018) unless otherwise noted.

2. A nomination form must be completed and submitted by the Friday, September 6, 2019 deadline.

3. A separate nomination form must be submitted for each activity or individual being nominated.

Any additional, award-specific requirements will be noted in the award description.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Complete all required application fields and submit the nomination by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 6. There is no limit to the number of nominations that can be submitted by any one individual or group. Successful nominations will include supporting documentation (such as pamphlets, website links, articles, samples, presentations, photographs, news clippings, letter of support, etc.) that demonstrates the impact and accomplishments achieved by the nominee. Special consideration will be given to programs and initiatives with documented youth involvement. You may attach a maximum of three subsequent pages to the application if additional space is needed. Applications (including supporting material and photos) may be submitted on a DVD, USB drive, by email, or as a hard copy. All photos must be submitted in a digital form (.tif, .jpeg, .png, etc.).

All nominations must be submitted in person, or by email or fax, and postmarked by 5 p.m. Friday, September 6, 2019.

Office of Neighborhood Relations
601 East Kennedy Blvd., 28th Floor, Tampa, Florida 33602

Email: Neighborhood-Relations@HCFLGov.net
Fax: (813) 272-7078, Phone: (813) 272-5860

The Office of Neighborhood Relations

The Office of Neighborhood Relations works to improve the County’s relationship with its neighborhoods and communities by working internally with departments to improve County services, and externally with neighborhood and community groups, municipalities, law enforcement, and other state and local agencies affecting neighborhoods.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sandra L. Murman District 1
Ken Hagan District 2
Lesley “Les” Miller (Chair) District 3
Stacy White District 4
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Kimberly Overman District 7

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mike Merrill
601 E. Kennedy Blvd., 26th FL, Tampa, FL 33602
Neighborhood Communication Award
Recognizes excellence in strategic neighborhood communications for Best Communications Plan Published & Printed by Professional Service, and Best Communications Plan by a Neighborhood/Volunteer in two categories:

- Registered associations of up to 399 households
- Registered associations of 400 or more households

Award Criteria
- Objective is clear (i.e. to increase attendance at meetings or special events, to educate, or inform)
- Content is informational, relevant, and useful for residents
- Overall appearance (such as branding and layout) is professional, reflective of the community, and identifiable
- Results are measured and indicate a positive outcome

Neighborhood Improvement Award
Recognizes innovative projects and activities that have enhanced the neighborhood’s quality of life in two categories:

- Registered associations of up to 399 households
- Registered associations of 400 or more households

Award Criteria
Nominated programs must focus on physical aspects of improving your neighborhood, such as parks, trees, clean-ups, graffiti removal, green spaces, and enhancements. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Volunteer-led community clean-ups
- Recycling
- Renewable energy
- Rain water gardens
- Rain water harvesting

Neighborhood Outstanding Volunteer Leadership Award
The Neighborhood Outstanding Volunteer Leadership Award recognizes an individual who consistently demonstrates outstanding volunteer leadership through service to their neighborhood.

Award Criteria
- Nominees must have served in a leadership role during the 2018 calendar year (Jan. 2018 - Dec. 2018)
- Nominees cannot have been a recipient of this award in the last five years
- A thorough nomination will detail the nominee’s role in advocating for volunteerism in their community, including but not limited to:
  - Effective use of leadership skills
  - Creative utilization of volunteers, resources, and opportunities
  - Ability to assess the needs, skills, and interests of volunteers and inspire them to develop their potential
  - Understanding of organizational needs and goals, and how to achieve them through effectively engaging volunteers
  - Strong sense of professional ethics
  - Participation in other community or volunteer projects outside the nominee’s professional responsibilities

Neighborhood Unsung Hero Award
Given to an individual who goes above and beyond for their neighborhood, this award recognizes someone who has significantly improved their community’s quality of life through service or leadership.

Award Criteria
- You may nominate yourself, a family member, or neighbor who has consistently made noteworthy contributions to improve a neighborhood’s quality of life. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - Volunteer activities
  - Leadership roles
  - Beautification projects
  - Social connections
- Contributions to the neighborhood may have occurred over the course of many years, but special consideration will be given to recent activities.

Neighborhood Youth Volunteer Award
The Neighborhood Youth Volunteer Award recognizes outstanding volunteer contributions by a teen or youth group that positively impacted the lives and living conditions of individuals in their neighborhood.

Award Criteria
- Nominees must be between the ages of 13 and 18, reside within the neighborhood organization boundaries, and be associated with a 501(c)3 nonprofit group in order to be eligible.
Nominees must have either participated in organized volunteer efforts or demonstrated initiative by identifying a need, and/or creating an unpaid volunteer activity to address a specific community concern. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Volunteer at a day camp
- Create and publish a neighborhood youth newsletter
- Assist elderly and disabled neighbors
- Mow lawns
- Participate in neighborhood block cleanups
- Deliver grocery supplies to elderly or disabled residents
- Serve on a safety patrol

Nominated individuals/groups are not required to be formal members of the association/organization.

**Neighborhood-Community Partnership Award**

Given to a registered neighborhood association, this award recognizes excellence in neighborhood-community partnership with a business, nonprofit, institution, or other neighborhood to enhance the surrounding community.

**Award Criteria**

- Nominations may include businesses or other institutions that contributed to improving the quality of life in the neighborhood.
- Paid work is not eligible.
- Contributions to the neighborhood may have occurred over the course of many years, but special consideration will be given to recent activities.

**Neighborhood Arts Award**

The Neighborhood Arts Award recognizes a project or activity that has improved the quality of the neighborhood through art.

**Award Criteria**

Eligible projects include those that have achieved one or more of the following improvements:

- Quality of the arts in the neighborhood
- Character of the community
- Enhancement of neighborhood’s surrounding areas

**Neighborhood Watch/CERT Award**

Given to an outstanding Neighborhood Watch or Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), this award recognizes voluntary service, dedication to protecting lives and property, and remarkable efforts to improve the community’s quality of life in two categories:

- Registered associations of up to 399 households
- Registered associations of 400 or more households

**Award Criteria**

- Resident-led CERT and Neighborhood Watch groups are eligible to apply or be nominated for this award. Neighborhood Watch groups must be recognized by the Hillsborough County Sheriff, Tampa Police, Plant City Police, or Temple Terrace Police to be eligible.
- Nominations must have hosted or participated in an emergency exercise offered by City or County agencies
- Nominations must have a disaster preparedness plan for their community

**Neighborhood “Make It Happen” Award**

The Neighborhood “Make It Happen” Award recognizes residents who developed and implemented a successful turnaround program by revitalizing a distressed neighborhood.

**Award Criteria**

- Resident-led and controlled county/city neighborhood organizations recognized by the Hillsborough County Office of Neighborhood Relations are eligible to apply or be nominated for this award.

**Most Effective Board Award**

This award collectively recognizes boards that demonstrate effective leadership and served to move their neighborhood organization forward in two categories:

- Registered associations of up to 399 households
- Registered associations of 400 or more households

**Award Criteria**

- This award is based on an organization’s by-laws and/or business plan for the 2018 calendar year (Jan. 2018 - Dec. 2018).
- Examples of eligible plans and initiatives include, but are not limited to the following:
  - Mobilize neighborhood membership to further the mission
  - Help the neighborhood organization adapt to change
  - Plan to respond to crisis
  - Identify opportunities for change and growth
  - Succession plan to develop future leaders