

Innovation Award Nomination Guidelines

Award Description: Innovation Award – Presented to a group(s) that through innovation or an implemented idea has led to positive change in how the philanthropic sector operates, thinks, or impacts communities. Types of innovation can include, forming a public/private partnership, implementing a unique grantmaking strategy, leveraging resources, engaging in creative funding, or investing strategies, or developing a new collaboration.

Nomination Process:

- ✦ Group(s) may not nominate themselves.
- ✦ Nominees will receive a recognition letter from CFAAC upon receipt of the nomination form. The letter will include information on the nomination and selection process.
- ✦ A selection committee, to include local nonprofit and community leaders, will review all nominations and select the awardee.
- ✦ Following the selection, and prior to the public announcement, nominees will receive a letter notifying them of the results.

Nomination Narrative: Provide a written statement that includes specific information illustrating how the innovation or implemented idea has made a positive change on Anne Arundel County communities. Include evidence and clear examples of what makes the change so exceptional. **Nominations should be limited to 500 words and include no more than three supporting documents.**

Start with a clear, direct, and specific statement of why the group deserves recognition. Include enough information for the selection committee to become familiar with the details of how the project, partnership, strategy, or collaboration has taken actions to make a positive change. List the most important information in the first few sentences and then elaborate, as necessary.

Provide specific examples that address the award description and elaborate on why the nominee's accomplishments are worthy of the award. Examples should include the activities and qualities that make this group outstanding, and that are clearly relevant to the Innovation Award description.

- WHAT did the nominee do?
 - Projects and/or activities
- HOW did they do it?
 - Initiative and/or leadership
 - Teamwork
 - Creativity and/or innovation
- WHAT were the results and/or impact?
 - What did the nominee's efforts accomplish?
 - Are there specific benefits that have derived from those efforts?

Be thorough in including all organizations that benefit from the nominee's support. This will enable the selection committee to fully understand the nominee's involvement in the community and breadth of impact. The best way to ensure that you have included everything is by asking your nominee for input!

How to Write a Winning Nomination

- Share the big picture – collaborate with other individuals and organizations to tell your nominee’s story.
- Determine who can write the best letters of support.
- Talk with your nominee, their family, and friends. Collect as much information as possible.

2020 Innovation Award

Nominee:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

List of Nonprofits Supported by the Nominee: _____

Nomination Submitted by:

Contact Name: _____ Title: _____

Nonprofit/Organization (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Deadline for entries is Friday, August 7, 2020.

Assemble your nomination materials, including:

- Nominee’s Contact Information
- Nominator’s Contact Information
- List of Nonprofits Supported by Nominee
- Nomination Narrative – The written statement is limited to 500 words.
- Letter(s) of Support - Up to three letters of support are welcome in addition to the written statement.
- Nomination must be submitted in its entirety by the deadline to be eligible.

Email completed form, written statement, and supporting documents to Amy Francis at amy@cfaac.org.