



afterschool champions

2014 Afterschool Champions Recognition

Friday, April 25, 2014

11:30AM

Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center

Recognition of the 2014 Outstanding Afterschool Student

Katie Foley, Des Moines, Iowa

Katie was nominated by Community! Youth Concepts (CYC) of Des Moines, who said, "Katie is an extraordinary young woman. Her professionalism, communication skills, and confidence continue to grow as she challenges herself within afterschool programming. She is hard-working, diligent, responsible, and able to prioritize her afterschool, work and academic commitments. Katie truly appreciates the power of afterschool opportunities to help her achieve what she wants to achieve in life."

"Last summer, Katie applied for and received a grant from Youth Service America to serve as Child Ambassador for the state of Iowa. In this role, Katie identified the need to increase resiliency among middle school youth and then worked with CYC to develop a peer leadership afterschool program. Over the past year, Katie's excitement has grown as she invests her time building relationships with middle school students twice a month and role models confidence, positivity, and healthy coping strategies for stressors among youth. Katie encourages students to serve as positive role models among their peers and to help promote resiliency among their school community."

Afterschool Champions Awards

Designed, produced, and presented by youth from P.I.E.C.E.S., Burlington

Advocate of the Year: Mary Daily Lange, United Way of Central Iowa

The Advocate of the Year is the single individual or organization that has been the most active and vocal advocate for afterschool and out-of-school time over the past year. Ms. Daily Lange, through her work with the United Way of Central Iowa OST Literacy Initiative and other initiatives, has brought a critical voice to the discussion of learning in out-of-school time. Because of Ms. Daily Lange's previous experience as a school improvement leader, business executive, and United Way volunteer, her advocacy brings credibility and weight to the underlying idea that learning must be supported in time spent outside of the school day. Ms. Daily Lange's efforts have raised awareness among elected leaders and other critical stakeholders that state and local policies must encourage such activities through increased funding and technical support of programs.

Previous awardees include Vic Jaras of the Iowa Department of Education and Loras Osterhaus of Clinton Community Schools.

Afterschool Innovator: Stepping Stones, Davenport Community School District

This award recognizes programs that have implemented innovative practices to support children, youth, and/or families in Iowa communities through out-of-school time.

21st Century Community Learning Centers grants provide funding to serve high-need students often unable to pay for fee-based afterschool and summer services. However, sometimes this leads to differentiation of programming based on ability to pay and the eventual challenge to program sustainability once grants have ended. In Davenport, the Stepping Stones program has worked to braid funding streams within the school district to better align programming available within the school building and community. Although this effort is not without its challenges, Stepping Stones has ensured that afterschool and summer service delivery within the Davenport community is seamless and inclusive to students in the district at each elementary school building.

Previous awardees include United Way of Central Iowa and Holmes Junior High School, Cedar Falls.

About Burlington P.I.E.C.E.S. – Maker of our Champions Awards

The mission of PIECES is to provide a positive influence for the youth of Burlington. The purpose of this influence is to work in coordination with the families, schools, and community members in the area to provide a whole-person education for all children. This includes academic support, character development, and promotion of healthy life choices. Participants in the program have the willingness to set high goals for themselves and have the determination to accomplish them. The overall goal is to help Burlington youth reach their full potential and to be strong contributors to their community.

Collaboration Award: Boys & Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley

This award recognizes organizations that exemplify community and school partnerships that are so critical to student success in school and life. Organizations recognized for collaboration are a model for communication among diverse stakeholders, commitment to serving children and youth, and a willingness to partner.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Cedar Valley wanted to expand its outreach and services to more teens and to establish a stronger connection to the Cedar Falls, Iowa, community. Holmes Jr. High School in Cedar Falls was a logical choice in schools to partner with because of the connection to North Cedar Elementary School, which has had a Club site located there for several years. The club sought out a school setting to allow easier access for students and the ability to share resources between the school and club. The Club was nominated by Holmes Jr. High School principal Dave Welter and afterschool activities director Dan Bower because of the exemplary collaboration that has developed between the school and the club.

Previous awardees include Siouxland Human Investment Partnership of Sioux City, Iowa, and the Cedar Rapids Afterschool Alliance.

Friend of Afterschool: Representative Ron Jorgensen, Sioux City, Iowa

The friend of afterschool is the elected official who has been most influential in advancing afterschool issues in public policy. This year, legislation moved forward to fund an extended learning pilot program through the Iowa Department of Education. These pilots will provide additional time for learning to reinforce skills and knowledge for high-need students. Individuals previously recognized include Representative Kevin Koester of Ankeny, Iowa, and Representative J. Scott Raecker of Urbandale, Iowa, who is currently with Character Counts! in Iowa.

Additional Recognition

Iowa Afterschool Alliance Board

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|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| » Margaret Borgen | » Terry Hernandez | » Leslie Stonehocker |
| » Sam Carrell | » Joe Herrity | » Jacalyn Swink |
| » Amy Croll | » Vic Jaras | » Keli Tallman |
| » Chad Driscoll | » Kevin Koester | » Catherine Wedgewood |
| » Dennis Haney | » Steve Michael | » Dave Welter |

Impact After School Planning Committee

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|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| » Eric Billiet | » Chad Driscoll | » Leslie Stonehocker |
| » Heidi Brown | » Michael Elston | » Jacalyn Swink |
| » Yharnet Browne | » Dennis Haney | » Keli Tallman |
| » Deb Campobasso | » Joe Herrity | » Jodie Warth |
| » Angela Cardamon | » Vic Jaras | » David Welter |
| » Tracie Clanaugh | » Jenna Meyer | » Barb Winters |
| » Erin Clancy | » Geri Pohlkamp | » Mary Zastrow |
| » Amy Croll | | |