



City of Port St. Lucie



N.I.C.E. Awards Nomination Form

Applications can be submitted from June 1 - November 30 every year.

Instructions:

- Please complete the entire form to the best of your ability.
- You can find more information about the N.I.C.E. Awards online at www.cityofpsl.com/nice
- You may attach any supporting documentation such as a resume or statements, but the document must be all encompassing – only one document per nominee – preferably in PDF form. We cannot accept multiple separate documents.
- You must submit a separate form for each nomination and for each category nominated.
- You may submit the nomination form online by email to NICE@cityofpsl.com or in person/ by mail to: City of Port St. Lucie c/o Neighborhood Services - City Hall
121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd. PSL, FL 34984.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL NOMINEES MUST BE EITHER: PSL RESIDENTS, PSL BUSINESS OWNERS, EMPLOYED WITHIN PSL CITY LIMITS OR VOLUNTEER FOR AN ORGANIZATION WITHIN PSL CITY LIMITS.

If you have any questions about who can qualify please contact the Neighborhood Services N.I.C.E. Office at 772-871-7395 or by email at NICE@cityofpsl.com.

Information on Nominee "Who is being nominated?"

Full Name (or organization): Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County Date: 12/7/2021
Last First M.I.

Address: 546 NW University Blvd, Suite 201
Street Address Apartment/Unit #

Port St. Lucie FL 34986
City State ZIP Code

Phone: 772-408-1106 Email: info@cscslc.org

(Fill in as much contact information as possible.)

I am nominating this
person or organization
for (pick one): _____



City of Port St. Lucie

Outstanding Neighbor of the Year ☐

Outstanding Neighborhood of the Year ☐

Contributor of the Year ☐

Community Involvement Award ☒

Information on Nominator "Who is nominating this person or organization?"

Full Name: Ashley Mock Organization: CSC
Address: 546 NW University Blvd, Suite 201, Port St. Lucie, FL 34986 Phone: 772-359-9682
Email: amock@cscslc.org

References

Please list any other references for this nominee (if available).

Full Name: Will Armstead Organization: Boys & Girls Clubs
Address: 3104 Avenue J, Fort Pierce, FL 34947 Phone: 772-460-9918
Email: warmstead@bgcofslc.org

Full Name: Elizabeth Barbella Organization: Community Foundation
Address: 851 SE Monterey Commons Blvd, Stuart Phone: 772-288-3795
Email: elizabeth@tcfmsl.org

Full Name: _____ Organization: Community Foundation
Address: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Why are you nominating this person or organization?

The Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County (CSCSLC) has been a dedicated community resource for families in the City of Port St. Lucie and surrounding areas for more than 30 years. In the wake of the recent pandemic, CSCSLC found strategic ways to support families to keep their children healthy, safe and strong.

Attach a separate sheet if necessary.



City of Port St. Lucie

Please give a concrete example or share a story of how this person or organization contributed to strengthening our neighborhoods or went above and beyond to bring positive change to our City or worked towards making our neighborhoods more “vibrant”?

See attached.

Attach a separate sheet if necessary.

All nominations are due by November 30 at 5:00 p.m. (every year)

Disclaimer and Signature

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in disqualification.

Signature: Ashley Mock Kidd
2021.12.09 13:47:31 -05'00'

Date: 12/5/2021

Please give a concrete example or share a story of how this person or organization contributed to strengthening our neighborhoods or went above and beyond to bring positive change to our city or work towards making our neighborhoods more vibrant.

The Children's Services Council has been in existence in St. Lucie County since 1990, supporting programs in both Port St. Lucie and Fort Pierce. As the City of Port St. Lucie has grown, the CSC has working to also expand the services and resources available within the city limits and to educate the residents about the programs available to them. While some of the programs who receive support from the Children's Services Council may be well known, the actual work of the CSC is not. Many of the organizations and most vital programs and resources that have helped families survive the difficulties of the past two years would not have been able to sustain without the support of CSC and their efforts to help local families.

At the start of COVID, as schools and offices began to shut down, the programs funded by CSC quickly realized that some families would not be able to manage the new virtual school requirements. Working with afterschool and summer program providers, CSC was able to invest funding to allow those organizations to open their doors for "Learning Launchpads" – or virtual learning hubs – offering 450 students a safe place to complete their virtual school work while still allowing their parents to work. This model was expanded by an additional 300 seats for an especially important group of parents deemed essential workers, who were needed to continue serving the community.

Additionally, as part of a local funding collaborative, CSC was able to purchase PPE for funded program partners as well as the families they were serving. Through this collaborative group, CSC was also able to provide funding for agencies that excelled in providing basic needs to our community – food, diapers, etc. as well as providing for agency purchases of technology equipment that allowed them to transition to tele-health services. During the peak of the crisis, CSC funded more than \$200,000 in PPE and related items that also leveraged an additional \$200,000 from other funders.

COVID was also hard on our local eateries who relied on families to dine-in or pick up food. In an effort to encourage continued patronage of small businesses, CSC partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to organize the Small Business Challenge. Participating businesses, nominated by the Chamber, were matched with one of CSC's non-profit partners for a specific challenge day each week. On that day, CSC donated an amount equal to the selected business' revenue (up to \$1,000). Anecdotally, we know that some of these challenge days kept these small businesses afloat during their most difficult times. The challenge is still happening one day each month and supporting restaurants throughout our community.

Outside of the COVID response that was directed to families in our community, the Children's Services Council has also worked directly with the City of Port St. Lucie to expand our St. Lucie Reads initiative. Several public-facing City departments host Little Libraries, where members of the public can pick up and/or read a book with their child while waiting for city staff. With the help of the CSC Community Engagement Coordinator, several city departments have also hosted book-drives to help supply the Little Libraries within their departments.

Newly in 2021, CSC also became a part of City University, offering participants a close look at the inner workings of the Children's Services Council and how the needs of the community were met through our funded program partners.