**

**Harris County Department of Education**

**Center for Afterschool, Summer and Enrichment for Kids**

**2021 Spirit of Excellence Awards and Recognition Program**

**To recognize the spirit of excellence in the out-of-school time field, Harris County Department of Education’s Center for Afterschool, Summer and Enrichment for Kids, or CASE for Kids, presents its annual award and recognition program. These awards will honor the dedication and commitment to professionalism, quality and excellence within the afterschool profession. All awards and recognition will be presented at the *CASE for Kids 2021 End of Year Celebration e*vent on April 30, 2021.**

**Nominate yourself, your program or a colleague to recognize outstanding achievements and commitment to the field.**  **Click** [**here**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScTCt3JdFiU_5xt-bHW7RU8yFuFA8_C3x-HtHUnv7mRXrxVAQ/viewform) **to access the form or visit** [**www.afterschoolzone.org**](http://www.afterschoolzone.org)**, under Opportunities. Nominations must be submitted by February 12, 2021.**

**SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE AWARDS:**

**Outstanding Leadership by an Afterschool Site Coordinator**

An afterschool director or site coordinator who supervises a comprehensive afterschool program and front-line staff and who excels in fostering high quality programming

**Outstanding Achievement by an Afterschool Frontline Staff Member**

A front-line staff member who demonstrates extraordinary dedication to positive youth development

**Outstanding Leadership by an Afterschool Provider Supervisor**

An afterschool provider supervisor who supervises instructors and who excels in fostering high-quality programming

**Outstanding Achievement by an Afterschool Provider Frontline Staff Member**

A front-line instructor who excels in providing high-quality, challenging learning experiences in the areas of academics, health and wellness, arts and creativity or positive youth development

**Outstanding Leadership by an Afterschool Administrator**

An administrator who demonstrates commitment to the afterschool field and promotes the importance of high-quality programs

**Community Connection Champion**

An afterschool program that utilizes community members or organizations in a meaningful way to improve the quality of the out of school time program

**Innovative Practices Champion**

A program that is implementing cutting-edge programming to encourage deeper learning and to challenge young people to act as scientists, inventors, collaborators and problem-solvers

**RECOGNITION OF MERIT AWARDS:**

**Professional Development**

* Completed 5 hours or more of professional development via CASE for Kids Training Series
* Completed 10 or more hours of professional development via CASE for Kids Training Series
* Completed 20 or more hours of professional development via CASE for Kids Online Training
* Completed 36-hour afterschool certificate course via CASE for Kids Online Training

**Quality Improvement Merit**

* Participated in continuous quality improvement project (YPQA)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For more information about the awards, please contact Kathy Evans via email at kevans@hcde-texas.org or 713-696-1369.