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# LAREDO AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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*Inspired by Generosity, Empowered by Giving*

March 5, 2021

To: Non- Profit Organization

From: Candy Hein, President

It's that time of year when the Laredo Area Community Foundation (LACF) and the Laredo Morning Times (LMT) honor your non-profit organization's Volunteer of the Year.

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We encourage you to participate in this fitting tribute to one of your finest volunteers. Enclosed you will find an application that can be used to nominate a volunteer from your organization. Complete the form and return to the Laredo Morning Times or email to: [bill@lmtonline.com](mailto:bill@lmtonline.com). A recent head shot of the nominee and your organization's IRS 501c3 letter must also be included. Deadline for the application is March 19.

To aid in the process, we offer the following suggestions:

- 1. Tell the story of your recipient in the most compelling and interesting way.**
- 2. Get the judges' attention in the FIRST few sentences.**
- 3. Share how your recipient began and any extraordinary obstacles they may have had to overcome.**
- 4. WOW the reader with your nominee's impact & "DO THE MATH."**
- 5. Share how the nominee has changed the community.**

After much evaluation and consideration, we are prioritizing our partners, recipients, and volunteer's health and safety. The circumstances surrounding COVID-19 continue to make large gatherings unsafe. Therefore, these years recipients will be honored on an online celebration in April here in Laredo. In 2020 the national organization created a meaningful and inspiring Jefferson Awards experience using the magic of modern technology and inspired us to do the same.

Each recipient will receive a plaque for valuable and selfless commitment to his/her cause in our community. Then the LMT/LACF combined committee will select a winner from the Volunteer of the Year pool for the Jefferson Acorn Award and the Laredo Morning Times nominee will participate in June at the national level for the Jefferson Award with hundreds of other local winners from throughout the country.

The uniqueness of this event not only honors and encourages public service, but also benefits your charity. The Jefferson Award recipient's non-profit organization receives an endowed \$2,500 Acorn Fund. The winning charity will have 5 years to fulfill the terms of an Acorn Endowment Fund of reaching a balance of \$10,000. After three years of investment with the Foundation, the non-profit will receive 4% annually the value of the Fund. If the charity already has an endowed fund with LACF, then the \$2,500 will be deposited into their established endowment.

Join us for this annual event and help us honor your outstanding member!

*Serving Laredo and South Texas since 2005*