



2020 Family of Distinction Application

IACAA appreciates the time and effort that each agency puts into nominating a “Family of Distinction” each year. In order to streamline the process and make it easier for all parties involved, we have created a new application process.

Please use the attached application to answer all of the questions as thoroughly as possible. It is imperative that all questions on the application are answered. Please use complete sentences in the short answer sections of the application.

Families of Distinction Criteria

Purpose:

To recognize and honor a family or individual who has made significant progress towards stability and self-sufficiency with the assistance of a Community Action Agency. While every agency is eligible to have a family or individual honored as a Family of Distinction; IACAA will recognize six families, at the FoD event, who demonstrate the best of Community Action, using the National ROMA Stability Indicators as a guiding principles:

Selection Criteria

The family or individual must embody many of the characteristics of stability, including:

- Employment – living wage job/promotion/benefits
- Education and Cognitive Development – degree, GED, certifications leading to employment
- Income and Asset Building – savings, increase in wages, bank accounts
- Housing – housing of choice in safe community (self-defined)
- Health and Social/Behavioral Development – apparent use of health care/physical and mental, overcome a significant health issue
- Civic Engagement and Community Involvement – registered voter, active community volunteer, classroom volunteer

Ideally, a candidate family or individual must meet at least 3 of the 6 areas of stability to be considered as a Family of Distinction. (See measurement tool).

While all nominated FoD families will be acknowledged with an award at the FoD event, six (6) families will be selected to represent the following areas of achievement:

- Workforce Award
- Achievement in Education
- Financial Success
- Housing Stability
- Wellness Award
- Community Engagement

FoD Nominations Due No Later Than February 14, 2020. Please Submit Nominations to FOD@iacaanet.org

| Benchmarks | Employment | Education and Cognitive Development | Income and Asset Building | Housing | Health and Social/Behavioral Development # | Civic Engagement and Community** Involvement |
|------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| Thriving (9-10) | Full time work at or above living wage* with employer provided benefits. Unlimited access to transportation. | Education and/or training level allow for opportunities. | Income adequate to cover all expenses. Assets through savings and investments. Retirement plan participation. Excellent credit score. (200% or above)of poverty) | Safe non-subsidized housing of choice: Rental or Owner. | Demonstrates wellness in life choices. Declared compliance with medications. Declared interest in health outcomes. | Active and regular volunteer. Attends community meetings. Organizes events. Registered and active voter.*** Actively pursuing citizenship. |
| Safe (8-7) | Full time work above minimum wage without employer benefits. Most transportation needs met. | Education and/or training level causing no problems. | Income adequate to cover expenses. Savings account and IRA. Good credit score. (176% - 200% of poverty) | Limited Choice of Housing – non-subsidized. | Physical and mental health causing minimal problems. Access to health care. Access to food. | Volunteers occasionally. Interested in community events. Registered voter or other indicator (library card, State ID card). |
| Stable (5-6) | Full time work at minimum wage without employer benefits. Some transportation needs met. | Education and/or training level causing minimal problems. | Income covers most expenses. Savings account minimally used. Moderate credit score. (125%-175% of poverty) | Safe and secure Section 8. Safe and secure subsidized rental or public housing. | Physical and mental health causing moderate problems. Access to health care. Access to food. Self-reported inconsistency with medications. | Interested in community events. Registered voter or other indicator (library card, State ID Card). Active in neighborhood. |
| PREVENTION LINE | | | | | | |
| Vulnerable (3-4) | Part time employment with or without benefits. Limited access to transportation | Education and/or training level causing moderate problems. | Income does not cover expenses. Dependent on credit cards for everyday purchases. Payday loans used. Little or no savings. Poor credit score. (100%-125% of poverty) | Temporary housing or at risk of losing housing Safe and secure transitional housing Living with others – temporary Unaffordable housing or rental | Physical and mental health causing serious problems. Limited access to health care. Self -reported non-compliance with medications. Minimal access to food, routine use of food pantries. | Registered voter. |
| In-Crisis (0-2) | Unemployed with little or no work history and skills. No access to transportation. | Education and/or training levels causing significant problems. | Zero or minimal income (50% - 100% of poverty) Poor/no credit score | Dangerous housing Notice of foreclosure Unsafe housing Homeless | Physical and mental health causing debilitating problems. No access to health care. Inadequate access to food. | Disengaged from community. Not registered to vote. |

*Contingent upon service area living wage calculations

**Community definition as city, neighborhood, group with common interests.

***Not all eligible families/individuals may be U.S. citizens

#Customer reporting and intake observation



Family of Distinction Nomination Application

FoD Nominations Due No Later Than February 14, 2020. Please Submit Nominations to FOD@iacaanet.org

| | |
|---|--|
| Family Name: | |
| City where the family currently resides: | |
| Head of household: | |
| Spouse/Significant other: | |
| Children: | |
| Stability Category: (See selection criteria below) | |
| In 500 words or less, please list the accomplishment of the family or individual as a result of the services that they received. | |

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|--|--|
| Agency: | |
| Family Development Specialist who assisted the family in their success: | |
| In 500 words or less, please list the Agency Actions (What did your agency do to ensure that the family or individual was successful?): | |
| Inspirational quote from the family/individual or Family Support Specialist: | |
| Phone: | |
| Email: | |

***PLEASE NOTE: Upon submission of this documentation, your family will need to be notified that they will be receiving an award at the 2020 Families of Distinction Banquet. We would love to have each family in attendance.**