

The following person will be the main contact if your city's nominee is selected as a finalist.

Please print or type.

Name Renee Jean

Title Public Affairs Manager

Government City of Hollywood, FL

Address 2600 Hollywood Blvd., Room 419, Hollywood, FL 33020

Telephone Number 954-921-3201 Fax 954-921-3314

E-mail Address rjean@hollywoodfl.org

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed 
City Clerk

The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Please include a word count: 642
Number of words

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 10, 2007:**

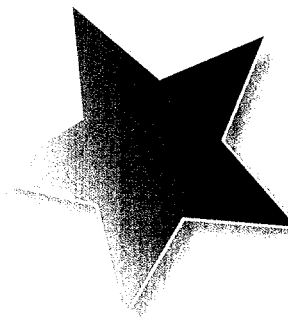
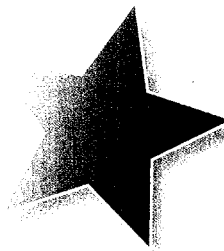
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)

P.O. Box 1757

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757



2007 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Municipality Nominated City of Hollywood, FL
Nominated Project Progress in the Park Annual Back to School Parade/Rally
Nominated by Renee Jean
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Title _____ Department _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

2007 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program

Category:

City Spirit Award

Event:

City of Hollywood, FL

Progress in the Park Annual Back to School Parade and Rally

1. Why was the project needed?

The Progress in the Park Annual Back to School Parade and Rally took place in the heart of a low-income neighborhood where the children are considered at risk. Many of these families do not have the means to supply their children with the adequate school supplies and immunizations. Progress in the Park was coordinated to make sure the youth of the community get a head start with the necessary resources to enhance their academic success by increasing school readiness.

2. How is this program innovative?

The year 2007 marks the second annual Progress in the Park event. The United Churches of Liberia started this annual tradition six years ago with a school bag give-away project. Each year the event significantly grew and continues to reach over 2,000 youth in the community.

A time of year once dreaded and feared by children of low-income families is now celebrated with a parade, laughter and school supplies. This gesture has shown

the level of commitment from all of the partners to the youth and future of this community. This event is innovative because of the strong collaboration between the City of Hollywood, City of Dania Beach, United Churches of Liberia and other community leaders who unite for the betterment of children and share a commitment for helping youth. In addition to promoting the importance of education and community harmony, free services such as immunizations were provided to youth participants.

3. How did the program positively affect your municipal residents, pull citizens together, strengthen government relationships and inspire city employees?

Children and parents from Hollywood and Dania were able to receive free book bags filled with school supplies, receive free immunizations, blood and glucose screenings, register for school, network with area churches, and see the after care programs offered in the areas at one centralized location. This event was one stop shop for all school and childcare needs.

4. Who benefited? Did it meet your objectives? How will the project impact your city in the future?

The entire community benefited from this event. Our objective was to provide these services to over 2,000 residents of the community. We not only met this objective but we exceeded it as well. The project will impact our city in the future by reducing the need of school supplies and immunizations in low-income underserved populations and increasing the availability of school supplies and academic readiness among community youth. This event will continue to assist

parents by alleviating their financial burdens and encouraging community collaboration, pride and spirit.

5. How much did it cost/save? Was the program cost effective?

This event was cost effective on many levels. Local partners donated numerous school supplies. City staff, City Officials, Broward County School Board Representatives, United Churches of Liberia members, Broward County Health Department and community volunteers participated in making the event a success. Over 2,000 youth received services and supplies FREE of charge. The total project cost was approximately \$5,500, averaging \$2.75 per child, making the event extremely cost effective. The event collaborators provided each child with a backpack filled with school supplies, as well as, free immunizations, free refreshments, free entertainment and a grand parade.

6. Can it be adapted for use in other cities?

Yes, the program is easily adaptable. The community partnerships and commitment to the betterment of youth are truly the unique aspects and backbone of the Progress in the Park event success. We at the City of Hollywood find there is no better reason to get together and celebrate **Citywide Spirit** than to provide essential, cost effective and innovative programs and services for our youth.

642 total words

Event Supportive Materials - please see attached.