



2017 MARFY
Youth Achievement Awards

Nomination Information

The MARFY Youth Achievement Awards have been a special tradition for provider agencies and their families and youth for many years. In a field that is often focused on the challenges of our youth and work, it is an evening to celebrate hard work, success and growth. Whether you have young people who have achieved major goals, or youth whose accomplishments are more personal and extraordinary for them, we want to acknowledge it and all they have had to rise above to get there. Please help us make this year's reception a success by helping us reach the following goals:

- 1. At least 20 youth being nominated for an award and having staff, family and others there to celebrate. To help make this happen:**
 - We have a great program, focused on the youth.
 - We have a beautiful location in Howard County.
 - We have promotional information that can be shared.
- 2. To create an atmosphere of celebration.**
 - We have planned a slide show of award winners to help the program to go smoothly.
 - We are encouraging appropriate reception dress.
- 3. To increase the positive exposure of our programs and youth with community and other stakeholders.**
 - We will have accomplished individuals to make remarks to the youth.
 - We plan to have dignitaries there – member agencies can help by inviting legislators/media in their area.
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- 4. To have this event serve as one way that we accomplish our strategic goal to give voice to children and families.**
 - a. We are giving the youth the opportunity to identify a caregiver who has made an impact on their life and acknowledging that person with a certificate.
 - b. We have asked the youth to share their words of wisdom and will display their responses in a slideshow.
 - c. We will follow up with the youth and their families to gather their stories and get their input into how the system of care can be improved.



EVENT DETAILS

When: Thursday June 22, 2016 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Where: *The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Pl, Columbia, MD 21045*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who is eligible to receive a MARFY Youth Achievement Award?

All youth from provider agencies are eligible this year. Supporting Affiliate, Corporate, and Individual Members are excluded from making nominations. The nominees must also meet the criteria addressed in the next section.

How do we nominate a youth and how are they selected?

Nominations for the MARFY Youth Achievement Award and the Kate Snyder Achievement Award must be made using the attached Nomination Form. Each child nominated for the MARFY Youth Achievement Award WILL RECEIVE THIS AWARD. Only two children will receive the Kate Snyder Achievement Award. Each child who is nominated will receive a complementary ticket to the Reception.

Nomination forms will be accepted and award winners will be selected without regard for race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.

What are the responsibilities of the nominator?

- Each award nomination must be made on behalf of the nominating agency by staff personnel committed to performing the duties of the Nominator, which are as follows:
 - Serving as the contact person for all matters concerning the award nominee; and
 - Being responsible for making sure the nominee arrives at the Reception on time and escorting the nominee throughout the Award Winner Processional entrance.

What is the deadline for submitting nominations/purchasing tickets to the event?

Award nominations must be received in the MARFY office by close of business on **May 19, 2017** by email ONLY in a WORD DOC to manager@marfy.org

All ticket purchases must be made online at www.marfy.org/events by **June 9, 2017**.

Who can attend the Reception and how can tickets be purchased?

The award nominees, the nominator, the nominee's family and friends, Board Members and staff of the nominating agency, placement agency caseworkers, and other children from the nominating agency, and anyone else important to the nominee are welcome and encouraged to attend the Reception.

Tickets for the MARFY Youth Achievement Award winners and the Kate Snyder Award winner are complimentary. All other attendees must purchase tickets online at www.marfy.org/events. **Ticket Registration deadline is June 9, 2017.**

Ticket Prices:

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|---------------------------------|----------|
| Individual (Member Agency) | \$50.00 |
| Table of 8 (Member Agency) | \$360.00 |
| Individual (Non-Member Agency) | \$55.00 |
| Table of 8 (Non- Member Agency) | \$400.00 |



How can my agency prepare youth who are attending the reception?

Help us prepare the slide show for the Awards Ceremony by:

- **Sending pictures of the youth to catherine@buildingfamiliesforchildren.org**
- Encourage and assist the children and guests attending the reception to dress nicely for the evening (outdoor wedding attire). If this is not possible, please note that the evening's official attire is "business" and so we ask that no denim, torn clothing, or t-shirts are worn.
- Be sure to discuss with your nominee and other youth guests the expectations for the evening, with proper respectful behavior and sportsmanship being at the top of the list.



What is the Award Nominee criteria?

MARFY Youth Achievement Award (a certificate and \$50.00 monetary award will be given to each nominee).

Nominees for this award must meet the following criteria:

- CEO or Regional Director of the agency has authorized (via signature on the nomination form) this child as the sole nominee from that member agency for this award. Each provider agency is only allowed to nominate ONE child to receive this award;
- He or she has made extraordinary achievements in the past year by meeting and/or surpassing many of the goals set by the agency, FOR EXAMPLE:
 - He or she shows concern for others and is kind and courteous in most situations; and
 - He or she has made significant academic or career progress in the last year.

Kate Snyder Achievement Award (for MARFY members only) A certificate will be given to each nominee. Actual winners will receive a certificate and a \$500.00 monetary award. This award is made possible through the kind donation of an anonymous donor.

Each member agency may nominate one person to receive the Kate Snyder Achievement Award; the nominee may be the same child nominated for the MARFY Youth Achievement Award or the nominee may be another individual. If the child is the same child, only one monetary award will be given, although the child will be recognized for both Awards. If the Nominee for the Kate Snyder Award and the Youth Achievement Award are different, only the winners will receive the \$500.00 monetary award. All others will receive one \$50.00 monetary award. Nominators of the winners for the Kate Snyder Achievement Award will be informed on Monday, May 30, 2015. At that time, we ask that Nominators keep the winners a secret. More detailed information will be provided once the selection has been made by the MARFY Special Events Committee. Nominees for this award must meet the following criteria:

- Any youth from a Maryland agency serving children who have been impacted by the child welfare system;
- CEO or Regional Director of the agency has authorized (via signature on the nomination form) this child as the sole nominee from that member agency for this award. Each member agency is only allowed to nominate ONE child to receive this award;
- He or she exemplifies the idea of “giving back to others in need” by participating in charity projects/activities or otherwise giving back to his or her community.



Nomination Form

Nomination Deadline is May 19, 2017 at close of business via email at manager@marfy.org

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Name of Nominee: | Age of Nominee: |
| Name of Nominating Agency: | |
| Name of Nominator: | |
| Agency Address: | |
| Nominator Phone Number: | Nominator Fax Number: |
| Nominator Email Address: | |
| Nominator Relationship to Nominee: | |

AWARD NOMINEE CRITERIA STATEMENT

Please make an X next to the appropriate reward(s) to inform the Committee of which award you have nominated the youth for. Note: you may submit one nominee for each of the awards.

() MARFY Youth Achievement Award

please use the space on the next page to compile a brief explanation of how the Award Nominee meets the following criteria: He or she has made extraordinary achievements in the past year by meeting and/or surpassing goals set by the agency.

() Kate Snyder Achievement Award

Please use the space on the next page to compile a brief explanation of how the Award Nominee demonstrates the generosity, time, and energy to give to others, despite the difficulties in their own lives. If your Kate Snyder Award nominee is also your MARFY Youth Achievement Award Winner, please add this paragraph to the Nominee Criteria Statement requested above.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES

| | | |
|--|---|------|
| Printed Name of Nominator | Signature of Nominator* | Date |
| Printed Name of CEO or Regional Director | Signature of CEO or Regional Director** | Date |



NOMINEE QUESTIONS & DESCRIPTION

Please list the youth's answers to the following questions: (these will be on the slide with their name/age, agency's name, and photo)

What staff person or foster parent has had the most impact on your success?

What brief (1-2 sentence) "words of wisdom" would you offer to those at the reception?

Make an X next to the appropriate award to indicate what the description below is a representation of. Thank you!

Note: If you are nominating two youth (one for each award) please fill out two separate forms.

MARFY Youth Achievement Award Kate Snyder Achievement (MARFY members only)

