



2026 Chiles Advocate Award

Nomination Deadline
Friday, November 21, 2025

What is the Chiles Advocate Award?

The Chiles Advocate Award is named in honor of the former three-term U.S. Senator and two-term Florida Governor Lawton Chiles, and his influential First Lady, Rhea. This award is presented each year to a Floridian who has dedicated their time, energy, and resources as an advocate on behalf of young children, teens, and families and has inspired significant, positive changes at the state or national level.

Past recipients have been recognized for their legacy of work promoting policies and programs that enhance a child's future, record service in a volunteer capacity, or a career dedicated to a related profession.

Who is eligible to receive this award?

- Anyone can submit a nomination; you may nominate yourself.
- Nominees must be well recognized, known for their leadership, and demonstrate a commitment to advocating for public policies that improve the lives of Florida's young children, teens, and their families. Legislators or elected officials currently in office are not eligible for this award.

When will you announce the 2026 Chiles Advocate Award recipient?

The 2025 recipient will be honored on **Monday, February 23, 2026**. The public announcement will take place during our annual Children's Week FL Advocacy Dinner and Awards Ceremony. The recipient will be invited to take part in various activities and speaking engagements throughout next year's Children's Week Florida events in Tallahassee, FL.

Who selects the recipient?

- Nominations are reviewed by the Children's Week Florida Advocacy Awards Committee, which is composed of former award recipients, community partners, and dedicated advocates. All nominations will be pre-screened to ensure eligibility. If a nominee's qualifications align better with a different award category (Chiles, Impact, or Youth), the nominator will be contacted regarding any recommended changes.

What if I don't want to fill out the online form?

- Please submit this completed PDF packet and photo of nominee via USPS or email using one of the options below.

Mail a hard copy:

Children's Week Florida
Attn: Advocate Awards Committee
1650 Summit Lake Drive, Suite 210, Tallahassee, FL 32317

Send an email:

info@childrensweek.org with the subject line: [Nominee Name - Award Title]
For example, "Jessica Johnson - Chiles Advocate Award"



**2026 Chiles Advocate Award
Nomination Form (Self-Nominee)**

Nominee Information

What is your first and last name?

What organization do you currently work for? If not applicable, what organization did you most recently work for?

What is/was your role at this organization? Please provide your position or title.

Please provide your contact information.

- Phone:
- Email:
- Mailing Address:

Tell Us About Yourself

What role have you played in advocating for others? This may include advocacy for public policy changes or programs that improve the lives of young children, teens, and families. *[250-500 words]*

Was this advocacy at the state or national level? *[select one]*

State

National

Both

How have you demonstrated strong leadership skills? Please provide examples demonstrating how you lead as a positive example to others. *[500-750 words]*

Are you involved in philanthropic endeavors that aim to improve the lives of young children, teens, or families? If yes, please give examples. *[500-750 words]*

Is there anything else we should know about you? *[500-750 words]*

Submit a high-quality headshot or photo of the nominee (no group pictures/photos) *[png or jpeg]*

Please agree to the following statement: *By submitting this nomination, I attest that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. My submission confirms my consent and permission for the sponsoring organizations (Children's Week Florida and Children's Forum) to publish items within this nomination package in any related communications and promotions.*

Signature:

Date:



CHILDREN'S WEEK FLORIDA

Because Every Child Matters

For additional information, contact the Children's Week Florida
Planning Team at info@childrensweek.org or 850-487-6300