



Below is a sample of a winning nomination for the Nancy Jamison Fund for Social Justice. Identifying information has been redacted.

[Nominee]

Nominator: Anonymous

Affiliation, if any: [Community Affiliation in San Diego]

What social justice impact does the nominee’s work have in the community?

The nominee is a deeply rooted community organizer who has dedicated their life to advancing social justice in San Diego. They joined the staff of [Community Affiliation] in [year] and are now celebrating their [year]th year with the organization. Over the decades, they have become a revered and respected leader whose work continues to shape and strengthen the community.

Born and raised in the projects of [community] neighborhood, the nominee’s early experiences laid the foundation for a lifetime of advocacy. As an adolescent, they became aware of the Civil Rights Movement unfolding across the country and recognized that their own community—then referred to as “Mexican-American”—was also awakening to the injustices it faced. In a published article, [Nominee] recalls the local community center as a hub for rallies and dialogue in the 1960s and 70s: “I remember playing marbles at the park listening to Cesar Chavez rallying farm workers that lived in Tijuana and in the nearby border communities. I had no clue who Chavez was until I heard my Tio talking about him.”

As a young teenager, [Nominee] and their friends overheard a group of older teenaged activists who called themselves the Local chapter of the Brown Berets. They were planning to go to Logan Heights to support another chapter over a dispute with the city of San Diego. Nominee decided to join. Having never been north of Chula Vista, they naively hopped on their bicycle and arrived three hours later at Chicano Park on what happened to be Day 2 of the historic takeover of Chicano Park in April 1970. Since then, [Nominee] has remained a steadfast advocate, known for their integrity, vision, and unwavering dedication to community empowerment. Their impact has been profound, not only through tangible improvements in people’s lives but also through the legacy of leadership they continue to build.

This is just the beginning of their story. Please see the next section for their specific accomplishments in moving the needle on social justice issues impacting the community of San Diego.

Please share how the nominee has exercised leadership in the community or with other people?

The nominee is a respected member of several boards and committees, including [community affiliation], [community affiliation], and [community affiliation], which they chaired for five years. They are also a founding member of [community affiliation] and currently serve as a founding board member as [organization] transitions into 501(c)(3) status.

They have served as a spokesperson on cases of international significance originating in San Diego County, including incidents involving excessive use-of-force by Border Patrol agents. Their work with the families of victims—both killed in acts of targeted violence—has been marked by deep sensitivity and care. [Nominee] continues to guide efforts to address the systemic causes behind these tragedies.



In [year], they organized a press conference with dozens of community members to oppose proposed border wall prototypes in [community] and collaborated with local government officials to draft a resolution opposing further border wall construction in the region.

Currently, the nominee is leading a pilot program of educational presentations for migrants in shelters in [community]. This first-of-its-kind initiative provides critical information about constitutional protections, how to identify different types of immigration enforcement agents, and strategies to reduce the risk of being targeted. These workshops are informed by years of experience conducting similar sessions in San Diego, where interest has grown in response to threats of mass deportations by the incoming administration.

Widely recognized for their expertise, the nominee is regularly invited to speak at seminars and conferences on complex global issues. Recently, they served as an international expert consultant to the [community affiliation] and the [community affiliation], contributing to a high-level dialogue on xenophobia. Their insights helped shape the Committees' joint General Comment and Recommendation to the United Nations.

What motivated you to nominate this individual? If self-nominated, why you?

I have had the privilege of working alongside the nominee in community organizing and advocacy efforts since [year]. Over the years, I've come to know them not only as a dedicated advocate for justice but also as a deeply compassionate individual whose care for people has made them a central pillar in our community.

I was motivated to nominate this individual for two key reasons:

First, they are an exceptional community leader whose passion for social justice is grounded in lived experience and an unwavering commitment to collective well-being. Their work has led to tangible, material improvements in the lives of thousands of immigrants and refugees across San Diego. At the same time, they are building toward a broader vision—one in which the root causes of inequity are dismantled, and the need for community affiliation services is eliminated. While I've witnessed their impact firsthand, much of their work happens quietly and without fanfare. It deserves recognition.

Second, I know that any recognition or resources awarded to this nominee will ripple outward. Their commitment to justice is not about personal accolades—it's about community empowerment. They consistently reinvest in others, ensuring that any support they receive strengthens the collective. For this reason, I see them not only as a singular leader but as a powerful representative of our community's values and aspirations.